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Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 026
27 March 2020

For: **Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister**
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Schools District Supervisors
Regional and Division DRRM Coordinators
Regional and Division IT Officers
School Heads
All Others Concerned

Subject: **LETTERS TO COVID-19 FRONTLINERS**

Frontliners (medical professionals, health workers, safety and security personnel and essential services workers) serve as first responders to the COVID-19 pandemic. As frontliners, they are more exposed not only to contracting the virus, but also to the stress that may be caused by long working hours, fatigue, and stigma.

The Department of Education (DepEd) can play a big role in preventing overreaction, panic, hysteria, and media frenzy. Stigma and bullying are high risks. A way to prevent this is to promote solidarity/oneness with all our health workers. Children writing letters to the DOH, to doctors and nurses will be a good way of developing empathy to prevent bullying and stigma that can happen with quarantines and lockdowns.

We are also encouraging children to write letters of support to the doctors, nurses, and health workers of San Lazaro Hospital, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM), their local hospitals and the Department of Health (DOH) to thank them for taking good care of everyone. In short, create a culture of caring among everyone instead of creating fear about the virus.

Apart from our health workers, the letters are also intended for:

- Police and military peace officers
- Sanitation workers (janitors, custodial workers and garbage collectors)



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[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers' Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: +63286337203, +63286376207
Email: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depedtayo

- Essential service providers (employees in the supermarket, food service, and banks)
- Submit all digital letters and artwork via the link bit.ly/DepEdLetterofGratitudeandHope. Letters and art made by hand are also welcome, provided they are scanned first.

For more information or suggestions, please contact Joan Llamado of DRRMS through mobile number 0977-277-5126 or email drmno+covid19@deped.gov.ph, and Rego Tumaneng at pas@deped.gov.ph and mobile number 0906-712-3909.

Thank you in anticipation for your active participation.



ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary
Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19
Member, IATF-MEID



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