FEEDING PROGRAM AMID COVID-19

by: Menardo E. Cabang
Teacher III, Asuncion Consunji Elementary School

The intention of School Feeding Program is to relieve or at least to lessen short-term hunger, as well as to promote nutrition and cognition of children (Jomaa, Met al., 2011). From the peer-reviewed journals from the past 20 years, positive reflection of effects has revealed towards school enrollment and attendance of the participating children as compared to non-participants.

In the Philippine educational system, School-Based Feeding Program runs over several years up to this time. As stated from the Department Order series, it is consistent on its goal, primarily to arrest malnutrition and secondarily to increase the classroom attendance by 85% to 100%. In addition, it also aims to improve children’s health and nutrition values and behavior.

Meanwhile, Pollett et al (2011) on their study on the feeding program benefits, said that provision of breakfast may both benefit the learners emotionally and enhance the capacity to perform on school tasks.

Today that pandemic arises, The Department of Education shall continue its started annual 120-day School-Based Feeding Program. According to Sevilla (2020), schools, particularly teacher and parents, will no longer to cook while learners are eating in school. Instead, it will be delivered to their homes, depending on the public health situation of the schools.

In this period of crises, well source of good health is important. Now that education continuous, it must also continue the department’s movement towards learners’ welfare.
References:


Educational benefits of the United States school feeding program: a critical review of the literature. E Pollitt, M Gersovitz, and M Gargiulo. Published Online: October 07, 2011

Feeding program for students to continue amidst Covid-19 threat- DepEd. September 01, 2020 - Available at https://www.issuesph.com/2020/09/feeding-program-for-students-to.html?fbclid=IwAR1oxPB9N52vsUi11v07TU_F8VDpcX7VsRgHmEBkexwAu4TjYpJ49Z5w-s

https://www.deped.gov.ph/category/issuances/deped-orders/