RECLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS IN THE CENTRAL LUZON

by:
Loreta Michelle W. Bamba, Ed. D
SP II, Limay National High School

Reclassification is the process of upgrading one’s own item. In reclassification of position, the teacher competes with himself/ herself. The aspirant would be reclass based on merit and accomplishment as stated in various mandates.

There are several issuances from the Department of Education (DepEd) Central Office with regards to Reclassification of position. Some of these were MEC Order No. 10, 1979 and DepEd Order No. 97, s.2011. MEC Order No. 10, s 1979 specifically deals with reclassification to Master Teacher position while DepEd Order No. 97, s 2011 includes the reclassification to Head Teacher and Principal positions.

To facilitate and speed – up the reclassification of position in Central Luzon, DepEd Regional Office (RO) 3 issued Regional Memoranda (RM) No. 57, s. 2016 and 58, s.2017. RM No. 57, s. 2016 is specifically intended for Head Teachers I, II and III reclassifications. Due to the observations during the evaluation of the documents forwarded to RO3 for reclassification of teachers and other positions, RM No. 58, s. 2017 is issued as the regional mandate for the reclassification of positions.

Other than MEC Order No. 10, 1979 and/ or DepEd Order No. 97, s.2011. MEC Order No. 66, s 1977, RM No. 58, s. 2017 reiterated that reclassification of the following positions specifically in the secondary level of the Basic Education:

For Teachers to be Reclassed to Head Teachers and/ or Master Teachers

1. All teachers whose subject area will be reclassed should be teaching just one subject area and should be full loads. Full load means with a six(6) - hour teaching load per day. In the K – 12 Curriculum, this is equivalent to seven
(7) loads in the case of English, Filipino, Science, Mathematics and MAPEH. This may also be the same as teaching a subject for 6 sections or more grade level plus special assignment or assignments. One or more special assignment is the same as or is equivalent to one load (DepEd Order No. 16, s. 2009).

2. The teachers who will take part in the reclassification process should only be included in one subject area.

School heads requesting for reclassification of their teachers to Head Teachers and/or Master Teachers should ensure that that the requirements enumerated in the DOs and RMs are met. In this case, no reclassification of positions will be disapproved. Time and effort could also be saved because the documents will not be returned for completion and correction.

**For Reclassification of Principals**

The school principal being reclassed should be in the school where the plantilla item is placed/ included. A school principal who serves in another school and not where his item is cannot be reclassed.

In the Schools Division Office (SDO) of Bataan, most school heads in the secondary are assigned to schools that it is not where their plantilla item is. This is a sad reality for those aspiring and/or recommended to be reclassed to a next higher position. Whether they have several accomplishments and have met all the requirements in DO No. 97, s.2011, they cannot be reclassed if this is the situation they are into.

What shall we do? What should the authority do to help these school heads? Is there a way to justify the situation at hand? Or should the school heads be brought back to the schools where their plantilla item is?
References:

MEC Order No. 10, 1979. Reclassification Guidelines for Master Teachers

DepEd Order No. 16, s. 2009. Addendum to DepEd Memorandum No. 291, s. 2008

DepEd Order No. 97, s.2011. Revised Guidelines on the Allocation and Reclassification of School Head Positions

RM No. 57, s. 2016.

RM 58, s. 2017.