RISKY, BUT WE SHALL ENDURE!

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The threats and dangers of the COVID 19 Pandemic are still creating panic and stress among people. Communities are still placed under different quarantine classifications depending on the impending risks and situation in the locality.

In the Department of Education, various risk mitigating steps and precautions are undertaken to ensure that school personnel – administrators and teachers are all safe as they continue to work at this time of the Pandemic.

School officials (administrators and teachers) are provided with webinars, trainings and workshops on psychological first aid to at least prepare them mentally and emotionally in handling “might-be” stressful situations and occurrences as they deliver services to learners and the community.

Also, schools maximize their resources for the strict adherence of the health and safety protocols as implemented by the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) and the Department of Health (DOH)

Schools are instructed to run in an Alternative Work Arrangement (AWA) while the Pandemic situation is still uncontrollable, in effect, Work from Home (WFH) scheme is adapted where teachers and administrators do and accomplish schoolwork and tasks at home. However, at times when work is not really possible to be accomplished at home, the teacher or administrator may go to school but subject to the safety and health procedures by the IATF and DOH.
Another measure to ensure the safety of all school personnel is to allocate fund for the purchase of COVID essential items like surgical gloves, masks, face shields, and even personnel protective equipment (PPE’s) for the teachers, administrators and other staff. This is now an allowable expense in the school’s Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) as per DepEd Order No. 15, s. 2020.

And since schools will be implementing the modular print delivery, disinfection process of self-learning modules (SLM’s) will be ensured through the fabrication of quarantine and disinfection facility as well as the regular sanitation and disinfection of schools especially those frequently touched surfaces and objects and frequently visited spaces and areas in the school.

The distribution and retrieval of SLM’s will also be done with full measure of safety and health plans, practices and standards to lessen the exposure of personnel and minimize physical contacts.

At this time, everything seems to be challenging and risky. Nevertheless, schools are making all ends meet just to ensure that teachers and other school personnel are safe and protected.

Yes, work may be risky, but teachers shall endure!

References:

Division Memo No. 190, s. 2020

Mitigating Risk for Teachers During the Distribution and Retrieval of Self-Learning Modules