

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON



1 April 2024

Regional Memorandum
No.233 s.2024

**ADOPTION OF MODULAR DISTANCE LEARNING AND
PREVENTIVE MEASURES DURING EXTREMELY
HIGH TEMPERATURE**

To: **Schools Division Superintendents**

1. To avoid putting the learners' and teachers' health at risk, this office strongly reiterates the directive under the Deped Memorandum docketed as OASOPS No.2023-0771 regarding the Implementation of Modular Distance Learning (MDL) pursuant to Deped Order No. 037, s. 2022 (Cancellation or Suspension of Classes in the Event of Natural Disasters, Power Outrages, Power Interruptions, Other Calamities and Human-Induced Hazards).
2. Along this vein, school heads are reminded of their authority and responsibility to suspend in-person classes (F2F) and automatically implement modular distance learning in cases of unfavorable weather and environment, particularly where there is an extremely high temperature reaching the heat index of 40 degrees Celcius and above as provided by the Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAG-ASA) or as issued by the concerned Local Government Unit. It may be worth mentioning that the Regional Management Committee has unanimously agreed that 40 degrees Celcius is the minimum threshold for the suspension of face-to-face classes and the eventual adoption of MDL.
3. In extreme circumstances, however, if the temperature becomes unbearable and poses a health risk even without reaching the threshold, the school head may suspend the face-to-face classes and advise the adoption of MDL subject to the condition that a report be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent.
4. As part of preventive measures, school heads are advised to do the following in addressing and mitigating extremely high temperatures in the classrooms:
 - a. Ensure that classrooms are adequately ventilated;
 - b. Provide access to potable drinking water throughout school premises and encourage learners and teachers to bring water provision in tumblers or other appropriate containers;
 - c. Create shaded areas in outdoor spaces where learners and teachers can seek refuge from the sun during breaks;
 - d. Consider adjusting schedules, if applicable, such as starting classes early and having shorter outdoor activities;




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- e. To allow lighter clothing during hot weather, ensuring learners and teachers are comfortable inside the school;
 - f. Monitor weather forecasts and heat advisories from appropriate government agencies and take appropriate measures based on the severity of the conditions;
 - g. Coordinate with Local Government Units for emergency plans and ensure access to support and resources; and
 - h. Other relevant measures applicable in their local contexts.
5. Strict compliance with this Memorandum is expected.


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Regional Director 