Unnumbered Memorandum

DIVISION-BASED TRAINING FOR MULTIGRADE TEACHERS

To Schools Division Superintendents
(Antipolo City, Batangas City, Batangas Province, Cavite Province
Laguna, Quezon, Rizal and Tayabas)

1. Pursuant to Joint Memorandum from Undersecretary of Finance and Asst.
Sec/OIC Office of the Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching, dated
April 18, 2024, this Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management
Division (CLMD), announces the DIVISION-BASED TRAINING FOR
MULTIGRADE TEACHERS to be held on July 22-26, 2024, at the venue to
be announced by the concerned SDO on a separate issuance.

2. The main objectives this training is for Multigrade Teachers to:
   a. receive specialized training to effectively cater to the diverse academic
   abilities, values and learning styles in their classrooms
   b. acquire skills and strategies necessary to navigate the complexities of
   a multigrade classroom
   c. gain professional growth and development as substantial investment
   not only for benefits of teachers but also enhances the learning
   experience for learners.

3. Annex A presents the number of participants allotted per SDO and Annex B
   the Matrix of Activity.

4. Accommodation, travelling and other incidental expenses shall be charged
   against the downloaded PSF for Multigrade Schools for Calendar Year
   2024 and Local Funds in case of deficiencies in the downloaded funds,
   subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

5. For inquiries and concerns, contact the Regional MG Coordinator, EMELIA P.
   CRESCINI, Education Program Supervisor at clmd.calabarzon@deped.gov.ph

6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
Regional Director

02/ROC4

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Telephone No.: 02-8682-2114
Email Address: region4a@deped.gov.ph
Website: depedcalabarzon.ph
DIVISION-BASED TRAINING FOR MULTIGRADE TEACHERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SDO</th>
<th>Number of Teachers-Participants</th>
<th>Trainers</th>
<th>Host SDO with Downloaded Funds</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quezon Province</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Quezon Province (1,333,400.00)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cavite Province</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Antipolo City</td>
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<td>-</td>
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<td>10</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Batangas Province</td>
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<tr>
<td>Laguna</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rizal</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tayabas City</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
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</table>
### Annex B Program Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>July 21, 2024 (Sunday)</th>
<th>July 22, 2024 (Monday)</th>
<th>July 23, 2024 (Tuesday)</th>
<th>July 24, 2024 (Wednesday)</th>
<th>July 25, 2024 (Thursday)</th>
<th>July 26, 2024 (Friday)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. MOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CHECK-OUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>OPENING PROGRAM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CLOSING PROGRAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❑ MATATAG Curriculum An Overview</td>
<td>❑ Daily Lesson Plan (DLP)</td>
<td>❑ Designing MG-LP vis-à-vis the MATATAG Curriculum</td>
<td>❑ Group Management</td>
<td>❑ Instructional Strategies</td>
<td>❑ Differentiated Instruction</td>
<td>❑ Home Sweet Home</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>❑ Science of Reading</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JOINT MEMORANDUM

TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS
     SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

ATTENTION : REGIONAL AND DIVISION MULTIGRADE PROGRAM
             COORDINATORS

FROM : ANNALYN M. SEVILLA
       Undersecretary for Finance

       ALMA RUBY C. TORIO
       Assistant Secretary
       Officer-in-Charge
       Office of the Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching

SUBJECT : GUIDELINES ON THE RELEASE, UTILIZATION,
          MONITORING, AND REPORTING OF PROGRAM SUPPORT
          FUNDS FOR MULTIGRADE SCHOOLS FOR CALENDAR YEAR
          2024

DATE : April 18, 2024

In line with its continuous efforts to provide equitable and quality basic education in
the last mile multigrade (MG) schools, the Department of Education (DepEd) has
issued the enclosed comprehensive guidelines for the Release, Utilization,
Monitoring, and Reporting of Program Support Funds for Multigrade Schools
for the Calendar Year 2024. These guidelines are designed to provide clear
directions to the Central Office (CO), Regional Offices (ROs), and Schools Division
Offices (SDOs) on the efficient and effective use of Program Support Funds for
multigrade schools.

The funds are specifically allocated to support the implementation of the MATATAG
Curriculum in the last mile MG schools. The primary goal is to address the distinct
challenges that hinder access to equitable and quality multigrade education by
continuously enhancing the capacity of teachers and school heads in MG schools.
This is to empower them to create a more inclusive and supportive learning
environment and to ensure that multigrade learners receive the quality education
they deserve.
For inquiries, all concerned regions and schools divisions may contact the Multigrade Program Team of the Teaching and Learning Division-Bureau of Learning Delivery, Department of Education Central Office through email multigrade@deped.gov.ph or at telephone numbers (02) 8687-2948 and (02) 8638-4799.
GUIDELINES ON THE RELEASE, UTILIZATION, MONITORING, AND REPORTING OF PROGRAM SUPPORT FUNDS FOR MULTIGRADE SCHOOLS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2024

I. Rationale

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) is currently dedicated to strengthening the implementation of the Multigrade Program in Philippine Education (MPPE) as part of its continuous efforts to support the implementation of the MATATAG Curriculum in the last mile multigrade (MG) schools. This goal will be achieved by addressing the unique challenges that significantly affect access to equitable and quality multigrade education. By addressing these challenges, DepEd will guarantee that every learner in multigrade schools is provided with equal opportunities to succeed in their education.

2. Supporting multigrade education requires a substantial investment in the professional growth and development of educators. Teachers in multigrade classrooms must receive specialized training to effectively cater to the diverse academic abilities, values, and learning styles in their classrooms. Continuous support through workshops, seminars, and mentoring programs provides teachers with the skills and strategies necessary to navigate the complexities of a multigrade classroom. This investment not only benefits teachers but also enhances the learning experience for learners.

3. Over the past three years (FY 2021, 2022, & 2023), records indicate that only 1,880 teachers nationwide have undergone national training in multigrade teaching out of a total of 20,446 multigrade teachers. This accounts for a mere 9.19% of the total number of teachers. The low number of trained teachers can be attributed to the inadequate budget allocated to the program during the specified fiscal years. It is evident that a significant portion of teachers still lack the essential knowledge and skills required for multigrade teaching. Therefore, there’s an urgent need to prioritize and expand training initiatives in this area. By promoting a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in teaching, DepEd ensures that our multigrade schools remain at the forefront of educational excellence.

4. Multigrade classes consist of learners of varying ages, abilities, and learning styles. A one-size-fits-all approach to teaching and learning resources does not adequately meet the specific needs of each learner. This customized approach ensures that learners receive the learning support and materials they need to succeed academically. It is imperative that teaching and learning resources for multigrade classes are customized. By empowering teachers to develop customized resources, they can adeptly address the diverse learning needs in multigrade classrooms. While prototype multigrade instructional resources have been created for use in multigrade classrooms, these materials need to be revised to align with the MATATAG curriculum.
5. Strengthening the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the performance of multigrade schools is crucial for improving multigrade education. Currently, there are approximately 6,000 school principals and head teachers managing multigrade schools across different regions. Records show that only 770 out of these 6,000 school principals have received nationally funded training in instructional leadership and management specifically designed for multigrade schools. This represents about 13% of the total number of school principals and head teachers. The scarcity of trained school administrators is due to the inadequate budget allocated for the program in recent fiscal years. Insufficient funding has impeded the delivery of essential training for school administrators. To address this issue, it is imperative to prioritize the continuous capacity building of school administrators to be able to effectively evaluate the progress and performance of multigrade schools. This, in turn, will enable DepEd to uphold high standards of education in these schools.

6. The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the efficient and effective utilization of financial support allocated for multigrade schools in 2024. The funds will be used primarily to improve the professional growth and development of multigrade teachers and school heads, monitor the implementation of training activities at the region and divisions, and evaluate the application of training gains at the school level.

II. Scope of the Policy

7. This policy guidelines serves as a directive for the Central Office (CO), Regional Offices (ROs), and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) regarding the allocation, utilization, monitoring, and reporting of the implementation of Multigrade Program Support Funds at the region and division levels in Calendar Year (CY) 2024.

III. Definition of Terms

8. For purposes of this policy guidelines, the following terms are defined as follows:

   a. Pure Multigrade School is a school that has pure Multigrade classes, which consist of two (2) or more grades per class.

   b. Mixed Multigrade School is a school that consists of a cluster of classrooms, some of which are multigrade due to low enrollment, while others are single grade.

   c. Multigrade Teaching refers to an educational approach in which a single teacher teaches learners from different grades in the same classroom. This method is often used in small schools where there may be limited resources or a small number of learners.

   d. Customization of Learning Resources refers to the process of adapting teaching and learning resources to effectively meet the diverse learning needs of multigrade classes.
e. **Expenditure Matrix** is a prepared document that outlines the allocation of program support funds to each implementing office. This document is created using the template generated by the Program Management Information System (PMIS).

**IV. Policy Statement**

9. The Department of Education hereby establishes guidelines for efficient and effective utilization of Financial Support for Multigrade Schools. These guidelines cover procedures for the release, utilization, monitoring, and reporting of accomplishments for the Calendar Year 2024.

**V. Procedures**

**A. Release and Utilization of Funds**

10. A total of **Ninety-seven Million Four Hundred Ninety-eight Thousand Seven Hundred Pesos** (P97,498,700.00) has been allocated under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for the Multigrade Education Program for the Calendar Year 2024. This amount will be distributed to the DepEd Regional Offices. The breakdown of allocations based on the number of targeted multigrade schools in each division can be found in Enclosures 2, 3, and 4. It is imperative that priority be given to multigrade classes in the last mile multigrade schools to ensure that they benefit from the support funds.

11. To facilitate the release of funds, the DepEd Central Office will issue the Sub-Allotment Release Orders (Sub-AROs) to the Regional Offices through the Budget Division of the Finance Service. The BLD-TLD will then send advance copies of signed Sub-AROs to the Regional Offices via email.

12. Upon receipt of the Sub-AROs, each Regional Office will begin the process of downloading them to identified divisions. These divisions are specifically responsible for coordinating the division-based training for teachers. In instances where the training is supervised by the region, only transportation expenses of participants and funds for monitoring and evaluation activities will be downloaded to the division.

13. Upon receiving the Sub-AROs from the Regional Office, the Division Office will request the DBM Regional Office to issue a Notice of Cash Allocation (NCA) to cover the cash requirements of the Sub-AROs.

14. The Division Office will prepare an Expenditure Matrix which will then be uploaded into its respective Program Management Information System (PMIS).

15. The Sub-ARO will serve as the authority for the RO and SDO to incur obligations not exceeding the specified amount allocated for the execution of the following activities:
   a. Division-Based Training for Multigrade Teachers
   b. Regional-Based Training for Multigrade School Heads
   c. Monitoring and Evaluation of Training Program Activities
   d. Monitoring and Evaluation of the Effects of Training in Multigrade Schools
16. Any excess funds from the allocated budget for each operating unit will be utilized to cover expenses associated with Multigrade Program activities for the designated year.

B. National Orientation Workshop on the Use of Multigrade Training Resource Package and LAC Resource Materials for Multigrade Teachers

17. The Bureau of Learning Delivery-Teacher Learning Division (BLD-TLD), in collaboration with the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP) will conduct a national orientation workshop focused on the utilization of Multigrade Training Resource Package (MG-TRP) and the LAC Resource Materials for Multigrade Teachers. The main goal of this orientation workshop is to provide regional and division trainers with a comprehensive understanding of the contents and features of both training materials. The trainers will be introduced to the resources and tools contained in both packages, enabling them to effectively incorporate these materials into their local training sessions. The orientation will serve as a valuable platform for trainers to enhance their expertise in utilizing the training materials effectively with teachers and school heads in the divisions.

C. Five-Day Division-Based Training for Teachers and School Heads

18. To ensure the effectiveness of the training programs for teachers and school heads at the division level, a strategic approach will be implemented. Trainers who have completed a national orientation workshop will automatically become part of the division training team. This team is responsible for managing and facilitating training activities in close partnership with the regional or division NEAP. Through this collaborative approach, the team will be able to elevate the quality and effectiveness of the training programs.

19. In adherence to DepEd policy, training sessions for teachers should not be conducted during regular school days to ensure that teachers are fully dedicated to the teaching and learning process in the classroom. It is strongly recommended that the training be conducted on teachers' vacation breaks. The training team is tasked with designing a training program activity and timetable. The training program must be carefully crafted to address the specific needs and requirements of teachers. It must be approved by the Regional Director or the Schools Division Superintendent. This is to ensure that the program aligns with the educational goals and objectives set by the DepEd at the regional and divisional level.

20. To efficiently facilitate the management of training activities, a clustering system can be implemented for teachers across schools divisions. This approach aims to optimize the utilization of resources and expertise of trained trainers who will collaborate in teams for simultaneous training activities to be supervised by the region and division. The clustering strategy provides flexibility for the region to adapt according to the specific needs and circumstances of the divisions. In cases where training needs to be conducted at the division level, only schools divisions with 80 or more participants are permitted to host the training sessions in their own locality.

21. In order to create a more engaging and productive learning environment, it is recommended that concurrent training sessions be held in smaller classes of 40 to 50 participants. This smaller size allows for increased interaction among participants,
ultimately leading to a more effective learning environment. The BLD-TLD will provide the SDO with digital copies of the MG-TRP and LAC Resource Materials to be utilized in the training sessions.

22. The training of school heads should focus on enhancing knowledge and skills in school management, supervision, and instructional leadership. The training will be managed by the regional office. It should be conducted within the 3rd quarter of the year. It is highly recommended that the Philippine Multigrade School Monitoring and Evaluation System (PMS-MES) manual be used as a reference in prioritizing the topics to be covered. A copy of the manual can be accessed through this link: https://tinyurl.com/MGMEMANUAL.

D. Reporting

23. The Multigrade Program Teams of CLMD and CID are responsible and accountable for the disbursement and liquidation of funds for eligible activities covered by these guidelines. To meet the set deadlines, both implementing offices should exercise due diligence to ensure that funds are fully obligated, utilized, and liquidated in accordance with budgeting, accounting, and auditing rules and regulations and procurement guidelines.

24. The CID is required to submit the Accomplishment Report on the Use of Funds to the RO through the CLMD not later than October 31, 2024. The report must adhere to the format outlined in Enclosures 5a, 5b, 5c, & 5d and should include a narrative report following the format in Enclosure 6.

25. Subsequently, the CLMD will consolidate the accomplishment reports submitted by the CIDs. This consolidated report must then be submitted to BLD-TLD, 4th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, via email at multigrade@deped.gov.ph by November 15, 2024.

VI. Monitoring and Evaluation of Training Programs

26. To ensure compliance with guidelines and timely implementation of activities, monitoring and evaluation will be conducted by the BLD-TLD Education Program Specialists in collaboration with the Regional Offices. This partnership will significantly enhance the overall effectiveness and success of the training programs.

27. The Regional Office holds the responsibility of supervising and evaluating the implementation of training activities within their respective divisions. The main objective is to identify any constraints, obstacles, or concerns that may arise during the training process. This will facilitate prompt corrective actions, thereby, ensuring the smooth progress of the training activities. Furthermore, the Region will organize meetings and workshops with the Divisions to discuss and strategically plan the school-based monitoring and evaluation activities to be carried out by the Divisions Monitoring and Evaluation Team (DMET).

28. The DMET is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the application of teachers’ learning in their respective schools. Their main responsibilities include evaluating the effectiveness of teachers in applying the knowledge and skills acquired
during the training sessions. This evaluation process is essential in gaining valuable insights into the impact of the training and identifying areas for improvement in the multigrade teaching and learning process. The number of sample schools to be monitored in each division can be found in Enclosure 4.

29. Funds are allocated to regions and divisions to cover the expenses for monitoring and evaluation activities. In cases where the allocated funds are insufficient to fully support the required activities, the region and division are authorized to charge additional costs to their Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE).

VII. References

30. These guidelines are formulated in reference to the provisions stipulated in the following issuances:

a. DepEd Order 36, s. 2021, “Guideline on the Release, Utilization, Monitoring, and Reporting of Program Support Funds for Multigrade Schools for Calendar Year 21”
c. DepEd Order No. 21, s. 2019, “Policy Guidelines on the K to 12 basic Education Program”
d. DepEd Order No. 08, s. 2018, “Guidelines on the Utilization of the 2018 Financial Support for Multigrade Schools”
e. DepED Order No. 36, s. 2017 Amendment to DepEd Order No. 21, s. 2017 (Guidelines the Utilization of the 2017 Financial Support for Multigrade Schools
f. DepEd Order No. 21, s. 2017, “Guidelines on the Utilization of the Financial Support for Multigrade Schools”
g. DepEd Order No. 64, s. 2016, “Guidelines on the Utilization of the 2015 and 2016 Financial Support for Multigrade Schools”
h. DepEd Order No. 30, s. 2014, “Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Guidelines on the Utilization of the Financial Support for Multigrade Schools”
i. DepEd Order No. 52, s. 2012, “Guidelines on the Utilization of the Financial Support for Multigrade Schools”
j. DepEd Order No. 81, s. 2009 Strengthening the Implementation of Multigrade Program in Philippine Education

VIII. List of Enclosures

31. The following enclosures are included in this policy:
   a. Breakdown of Allocations by Region for the Training of Teachers (Enclosure 2)
   b. Breakdown of Allocations by Region for the Training of School Heads (Enclosure 3)
   c. Breakdown of Allocation by Region and Division for the M&E Activities (Enclosure 4)
   d. Physical Accomplishment Report (Enclosure 5a, 5b, 5c, and 5d)
   e. Narrative Accomplishment Report (Enclosure 6)