Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Region III
Schools Division Office
SCIENCE CITY OF MUNOZ
Tel No. (044) 806 -2192 | Fax No. (044)456-5103

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 44, s. 2020

TO : **ASSISTANT SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**
CHIEF EDUCATION SUPERVISORS
EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPERVISORS
UNIT HEADS
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS
TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL

FROM : **DANTE G. PARUNGAO, CESO VI**
OIC-Schools Division Superintendent

DATE : **February 3, 2020**

SUBJECT : **PREVENTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE POSSIBLE SPREAD OF 2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCOV ARD)**

1. The World Health Organization (WHO) today declared the novel coronavirus acute respiratory disease (2019-nCOV ARD) health event as a public health emergency of international concern after an emergency committee convened on January 30, 2020 in Geneva, Switzerland.

2. Coronavirus comes from a family of viruses identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness first detected in Wuhan, China that can cause various diseases, characterized by cough, colds, fever, difficulty of breathing and shortness of breath that can lead to mild to serious infection, acute respiratory syndrome, pneumonia, kidney problems and even death.

3. Transmission is mainly person to person spread via respiratory droplet produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

4. There is currently no vaccine to prevent 2019-nCOV infection. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, everyday precautionary measure to help prevent the spread of respiratory virus is highly recommended as follows:

a. Observe proper hand washing technique or alcohol based hand rub.
b. Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with tissue or flexed elbow then throw tissue into closed bin after use and wash hands with soap and water or disinfect hands with 70% isopropyl alcohol.

c. Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms and clean hands when caring for the sick.
d. Thoroughly cook meat and eggs.
e. Wear protective gears such as face mask and gloves if you are a health worker and attending to individuals with respiratory symptoms.
f. Wear mask if you have respiratory symptoms- cough, difficulty of breathing
g. Protect yourself from getting sick by avoiding unprotected contact with sick people including touching one's eyes, nose or mouth and with live farm or wild animal.
h. Maintain a healthy lifestyle and a clean environment and avoid crowded places.
i. Take 8 to 10 glasses of water daily.
j. Take vitamin C supplements and vitamin C- rich fruits and vegetables should be taken daily.

6. Moreover, with the re-emergence of Polio in the country, all government agencies including the Department of Education must respond and address the Polio Outbreak thru advocacy on the benefits of Oral Polio Vaccine on children under 5 years old.

5. Attached herewith is the OUA Memo 08-0120-0598 on the subject of Department of Education on Health Problems due to Coronavirus and re-emergence of Polio in the Philippines.

6. Immediate and wide dissemination of this memorandum is earnestly desired.

DEP - ED
SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ
RELEASED
FEB 03 2020
By:

SGOD/SHNS/MCC

Republika ng Pilipinas

Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

OUA MEMO 08- 0120 - 0598
MEMORANDUM
24 January 2020

For: **Regional Directors**
Minister for Basic, Higher and Technical Education, BARMM
Schools Division Superintendents
Principals / School Heads
All Others Concerned

Subject: **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S RESPONSE ON HEALTH PROBLEMS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS AND RE-EMERGENCE OF POLIO IN THE PHILIPPINES**

In view of public health concerns brought about by the spread of novel coronavirus in China, parts of Asia, and the rest of the world, this Memorandum is issued to alert all school personnel and learners to take precautionary measures against the possible spread of the virus.

Coronavirus comes from a family of viruses that can cause various diseases characterized by cough and colds, fever, difficulty in breathing and shortness of breath that can lead to serious infections, pneumonia, acute respiratory syndrome, kidney problems and even death.

Accordingly, all are strictly advised to make handwashing a habit, to always cover one's mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, to avoid close contact with people who show signs of respiratory illness, to drink plenty of water and ensure food are cooked properly, and to consult a health facility if symptoms of cough and colds persist.

Moreover, with the re-emergence of polio in the country—as confirmed by the Department of Health (DOH)—all government agencies, including the Department of Education, are urgently called upon to respond and address the polio outbreak.

DepEd reiterates the support needed by DOH to attain the outbreak response goal of immunizing children under 5 years old and to leave no child behind.

Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)
(Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)
Department of Education, Central Office, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City
Rm 519, Mabini Bldg; Mobile: +639260320762; Tel: +63286337203, +63286376207
Email: usec.admin@deped.gov.ph; Facebook/Twitter @depedtayo

Towards this end, DepEd is expected to implement the following:

- Raise awareness about the outbreak, areas covered by mass immunization campaign and schedules;
- Promote correct information about polio and its lifelong and irreversible impact on children;
- Support health workers and volunteers in vaccinating ALL children especially those hard-to-reach;
- Create posts echoing the campaign's key messages.

In the interest of everyone's health and safety, all school officials are strictly enjoined to support measures, awareness, and initiatives against coronavirus and polio in the Philippines.

For dissemination and implementation.

ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary