REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 509, s. 2020

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION TO ALL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS
ON THE APPLICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF
DISTANCE LEARNING DELIVERY MODALITIES

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. The Department of Education through the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations, Palarong Pambansa Secretariat, and DEACO, issued a Memorandum for dissemination to all international schools on the applications and requirements of distance learning delivery modalities.

2. For information and guidance.

For the Regional Director:

RONALD B. CASTILLO
Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Assistant Regional Director

Encl.: Memorandum dated August 30, 2020
Reference: Memorandum dated August 30, 2020
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

APPLICATIONS
DISTANCE LEARNING DELIVERY MODALITIES
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS
REQUIREMENTS

CLMD/rap/RMCLMD
September 10, 2020
MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL SCHOOLS DIVISIONS SUPERINTENDENTS

FROM : ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary
Field Operations, Palarong Pambansa Secretariat, and DEACO

SUBJECT : INFORMATION DISSEMINATION TO ALL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS ON THE APPLICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF DISTANCE LEARNING DELIVERY MODALITIES

DATE : August 30, 2020

This is in reference with the request raised by Representative Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr. 2nd District – Aklan, Member of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture during the House of Representatives Virtual Committee Hearing on August 6, 2020. Rep. Haresco, Jr. requested information dissemination to all international schools on the applications and requirements on the implementation of learning modalities.

Likewise, attached is a communiqué to all international schools relative to the aforementioned request of Rep. Haresco, Jr. Thus, this Office respectfully endorses the herewith communiqué and requests your good office to transmit the aforesaid to all international schools in your respective jurisdictions.

For your immediate attention and appropriate action.
MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES

FROM : ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary
Field Operations, Palarong Pambansa Secretariat, and DEACO

SUBJECT : DISTANCE LEARNING DELIVERY MODALITIES: APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

DATE : August 30, 2020

The Department of Education constructed its Basic Education - Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) as response to the call to continue the delivery of quality basic education amidst the global pandemic, COVID-19. In the DepEd BE-LCP, the Department has manifested its learning strategies through implementation of innovative ways of learning deliveries. Major adjustments were and are continuously implemented in order to address the changes brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Streamlining of K to 12 Curriculum

Given this, the DepEd Curriculum and Instruction strand, through the Bureau of Curriculum Development (BCD), has identified the most essential learning competencies (MELCs) in all learning areas from Kindergarten to Grade 12 - a total of 60% of the MELCs were reduced1. By doing this, there will be more focus on learning activities and resources, while having sufficient time for coverage and mastery. Nevertheless, the reduction of learning competencies was done not only in response to the challenge of learning delivery amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, but is actually the result of the Secretary's instruction for a curriculum review two years ago.

Learning Delivery Modalities

The DepEd encouraged field implementers to contextualize not only the MELCs but as well as the implementation of learning delivery modalities in terms of the COVID-

1 See Table 8. Streamlining of K to 12 Curriculum into the Most Essential Learning Competencies, pg. 28 of the DepEd BE-LCP
19 restrictions, availability of resources, and other local parameters. Some of these parameters are as follows:

- **Risk Severity Grading/IATF Policy**
  - Whether teachers and learners are allowed to be in school
  - Physical distancing

- **School Context**
  - Health status of teachers
  - Readiness of principals and supervisors to lead and manage multiple learning delivery modalities
  - Availability of learning resources/materials: Textbooks/print modules; offline learning resources; online learning resources; educational TV and radio broadcast resources
  - Teachers’ readiness and capacity to facilitate multiple learning delivery modalities

- **Learners’ Context**
  - Capacity to complete self-directed learning resources
  - Access to learning resources and technology
  - Parental, home, and community support
  - Capacity to guide learners in understanding lessons

The following are learning delivery modalities presented in the BE-LCP:

1. **Face-to-face.** This refers to a learning delivery modality where the students and the teacher are both physically present in the classroom, and there are opportunities for active engagement, immediate feedback, and socioemotional development of learners.

   In areas under the Moderate and High-risk severity grading, this is not possible. However, there are learners with disabilities whose conditions require face-to-face instruction. This will be the subject of further discussion within DepEd, with partners, and with parents.

   Face-to-face option may also be feasible in very low risk areas such as the geographically isolated, disadvantaged, and conflict affected areas (GIDCA) with no history of infection and with easily monitored external contacts, but with teachers and learners living in the vicinity of the school.

   Any face-to-face learning delivery must have proper risk assessment and must adhere to the health protocols in place. Potential learning spaces in the community near the school may be explored to add spaces for the conduct of classes with the appropriate social distancing.

2. **Distance learning.** This refers to a learning delivery modality where learning takes place between the teacher and the learners who are geographically remote from each other during instruction. This modality has three types: Modular
Distance Learning (MDL), Online Distance Learning (ODL), and television (TV)/Radio-Based Instruction.

**Modular Distance Learning** involves individualized instruction that allows learners to use SLMs in print or digital format, whichever is applicable in the context of the learner, and other learning resources like learner’s materials, textbooks, activity sheets, study guides, and other study materials. Learners access electronic copies of learning materials on a personal computer (PC), tablet PC, or smartphone. CDs, DVDs, USB storage, and computer-based applications can all be used to deliver e-learning materials, including offline ebooks. The teacher takes the responsibility of monitoring the progress of the learners. The learners may ask assistance from the teacher via email, telephone, text message/instant messaging, etc. Where possible, the teacher shall do home visits to learners needing remediation or assistance. Any member of the family or other stakeholders in the community need to serve as para-teachers.

**Online Distance Learning** features the teacher as facilitator, engaging learners’ active participation through the use of various technologies accessed through the internet while they are geographically remote from each other during instruction. The internet is used to facilitate learner-teacher and peer-to-peer communication. Online learning allows live synchronous instruction. It requires participants to have a good and stable internet connection. It is more interactive than the other types of distance learning and the responses are in real-time. The learners may download materials from the internet, complete and submit assignments online, and attend webinars and virtual classes. This is practiced effectively by using a Learning Management System or related technologies. The DepEd Commons and DepEd Learning Resource (LR) Portal fall in this category.

**TV/Radio-Based Instruction** utilizes SLMs converted to video lessons for Television-Based Instruction and SLMs converted to radio scripts for Radio-Based Instruction.

Distance learning modality is most viable for independent learners, and learners supported by periodic supervision of parents or guardians. The challenge will be in dealing with learners not capable of independent learning. This is the subject of further discussion within DepEd, and with partners and parents.

3. **Blended Learning.** This refers to a learning delivery that combines face-to-face with any or a mix of online distance learning, modular distance learning, and TV/Radio-based Instruction. Blended learning will enable the schools to limit face-to-face learning, ensure social distancing, and decrease the volume of people outside the home at any given time.

Critical for implementation will be the production of the needed teacher’s and learner’s learning materials (DepEd LR Portal and DepEd Commons will be
maximized), as well as the support of media institutions like TV and radio stations.

4. **Homeschooling**. This is an ADM that aims to provide learners with quality basic education that is facilitated by qualified parents, guardians, or tutors who have undergone relevant training in a home-based environment. It allows families to educate according to their personal faith, philosophy, and values, and to adjust learning schedules around family schedules and circumstances. However, there remain several issues in its implementation, including the supervision of licensed teachers and alignments with the curriculum. Thus, this modality will be the subject of a later DepED issuance before its expansion.

With DepED’s goal of delivering learning amidst the COVID-10 pandemic, ensuring safety and health of our learners, teachers, and non-teaching personnel are included in the implementation of its BE-LCP. In line with this, pursuant to the proclamations of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, *face-to-face modality is disallowed during the COVID-19 Pandemic* until the President or the Department of Education allows it. Likewise, the Department ensures that minimum health standards and other safety and health protocols issued by the Department of Health, and other national agencies are implemented.

The DepEd – Central Office, Regional Offices, and Schools Divisions Offices have been keen in the delivery of quality basic education amidst all challenges. The Department will continue to pursue the delivery of learning with partners with the same objectives and goals.

Attached in this communiqué is the DepEd Order No. 12, s. 2020 entitled Adoption of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan for School Year 2020-2021 in light of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency for more information on the applications and requirements of distance learning modalities.

For your information and guidance.