



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
REGION XI
DIVISION OF TAGUM CITY



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DIVISION MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
FROM : The Schools Division Superintendent
DATE : May 14, 2019
SUBJECT : **Promotion of Oral Health in Public Elementary School**

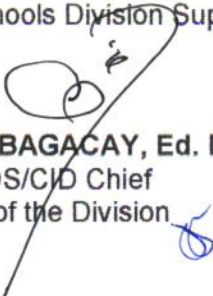
DepEd Order No. 73, s.2017, otherwise known as, Promoting Oral Health in Public Elementary Schools, aims to promote Oral Health through the conduct of activities for the prevention and control of dental caries and other oral health problems. This is to achieve the overall wellbeing of the students, increase productivity and performance, and develop the habit of maintaining oral hygiene.

In the Division of Tagum City, 93% of students or 6,609 out of 7,078 in the Division of Tagum City, who underwent oral examination in 2018, are found out to have dental caries. Dental caries caught in the very early stages may be reversed. On the other hand, if left untreated, may lead to the destruction of the tooth enamel and will continue to get worse and go deeper.

With this, all public elementary school principals/heads shall ensure that all learners, particularly Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2 shall comply with the daily toothbrushing drill, as indicated in the above D.O.

For immediate dissemination and compliance.

By the authority of the Schools Division Superintendent


CHRISTINE C. BAGACAY, Ed. D.
OIC-ASDS/CID Chief
In-charge of the Division

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION DIVISION OF TAGUM CITY RECORDS SECTION	
RELEASED	
By: <u>MM RM</u>	
Date: <u>MAY 15 2019</u>	Time: <u>10:09</u>
Remarks: <u>Disseminated 502-19-5</u>	



Office of the Secretary

OCT 17 2007

DepED ORDER
No. 73, s. 2007

PROMOTING ORAL HEALTH IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

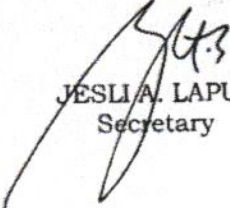
1. The 2006 National Oral Health Survey (NOHS) conducted among children in the public elementary schools revealed that 97.1% of 6 years old and 78.4% of the 12 years old have dental caries. Much more alarming was the finding that almost 50% of the children were suffering from dentogenic infections characterized by the presence of pulp involvement (innermost tooth structure), ulceration, fistula and abscess (PUFA) that certainly inflict pain, causing extreme discomfort and even decreased capacity for the child to learn.
2. In response to this perennial health problem, this Department, through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC), Adopt-A-School (ASP) Secretariat and Colgate-Palmolive Philippines, Inc. (CPPI) shall vigorously pursue activities that enhance the development of oral health habits through daily toothbrushing drills, dental health services and education.
3. As a pump-priming initiative, the 7 O'CLOCK DAILY TOOTHBRUSHING HABIT shall be launched on October 8 this year, to highlight the celebration of School Children's Oral Health Awareness Week and to create greater awareness on the importance of daily toothbrushing with fluoridated toothpaste. The launching program and activities shall form part of the issuance on the aforementioned celebration.
4. Dental education should complement the daily toothbrushing activity, so as to inculcate the value of proper toothbrushing with fluoridated toothpaste, and the importance of limiting intake of sweets and of visiting a dentist at least once a year. Public elementary schools that are implementing the DepED-CPPI Oral Health Education "Bright Smiles, Bright Futures" (BSBF) Program shall optimize the use of BSBF support instructional materials to supplement/enhance the development of dental health competencies in the curriculum.
5. Daily tooth brushing drills, dental services and health education shall be intensified in support to the operationalization of Executive Order No. 595 entitled Health Education Reform Order (HERO) signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2006.

6. All school health and nutrition personnel and Adopt-A-School Program (ASP) coordinators are expected to take the lead in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the oral health program as well as in marketing the program to the private sector. Continuous advocacy shall be undertaken to the parents and various sectoral groups on the magnitude of the problem, the importance and relevance of oral care, and the urgency of preventing/controlling dental caries.

7. All public elementary school principals/heads shall see to it that the children particularly the pre-schoolers, Grades 1-6 pupils shall be provided with toothbrushes and fluoridated toothpastes by their parents or from other resources, and actual brushing of the teeth must be undertaken before the 1st class hour in the morning. School dentists shall give priority to the provision of Oral Urgent Treatment (OUT) to pupils who are in pain due to pulp involvement, ulceration, fistula and abscess (PUFA). School nurses and trained teachers may assist the dentists in the identification and referral of pupils with PUFA or those needing OUT.

8. Regional directors and schools division superintendents are enjoined to lend full administrative support to this movement to decrease caries prevalence among the school children. Enclosed, for ready reference, are the mechanics of the program including strategies for its sustainability.

9. Widest dissemination of and compliance with this Order is directed.


JESLI A. LAPUS
Secretary

Encl.:
As stated

Reference:
None

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH EDUCATION
PUPILS
SCHOOLS