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For Dissemination and Compliance

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Schools Division Superintendent  
Schools Division of Bulacan



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION III-CENTRAL LUZON

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FEB 08 2022  
By: [Signature] 9:05am

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

No. 082, s. 2022

RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE  
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D 0500  
FEB 07 2022

**COMMENCEMENT OF THE PROGRESSIVE EXPANSION PHASE OF LIMITED FACE-TO-FACE CLASSES**

To: Assistant Regional Director  
Schools Division Superintendents  
Regional and SDO Composite Teams

RECEIVED  
FEB 08 2022  
By: [Signature]  
Time: 10:30

1. Anent to the approval of the recommendation for the progressive expansion of limited face-to-face classes by the President last January 17, 2022, the implementation of limited face-to-face classes of the original pilot schools, and the commencement of the progressive expansion phase for both public and private schools shall observe the following parameters:

- 1.1 Expansion schools have been validated as compliant with the standards of School Safety Assessment Tool (SSAT);
- 1.2 Schools must be in areas under Alert Levels 1 and 2 based on the periodic risk assessment by the Department of Health (DOH);
- 1.3 Schools may already include other grade levels based on the capacity of schools;
- 1.4 Schools or divisions must have secured the concurrence of the Local Chief Executive in the City or municipality where the expansion school is located, and the schools must also have taken the proper coordination with their respective barangay officials;
- 1.5 Students participating in the face-to-face classes must have the written consent of their parents;
- 1.6 Schools are given flexibility in contact time for teaching and learning, provided that meals are not taken in school except during managed recess and
- 1.7 Only vaccinated teachers may participate, and vaccinated learners shall be preferred.

2. The main protocols and standards in the DepEd-DOH Joint Memorandum Circular 001, s. 2021 shall remain applicable as appropriate until a Revised Joint Memorandum and the DepEd Implementation Guidelines are issued, containing the details of the implementation of the expansion phase. Schools Division Superintendents are directed to ensure that all schools are assessed for readiness



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using SSAT and shall take appropriate steps to address the challenges encountered by schools in complying with SSAT standards.

3. Prior to the commencement of progressive expansion of limited face-to-face classes of 106 schools (under Alert level 2) in the four SDOs of Bulacan on **February 21, 2022**, Schools Division Offices through the SDO Composite Team shall orient school heads on their participation in the expansion phase.

4. Meanwhile, the rest of the SDOs that are still under Alert Level 3 are advised to continuously validate the readiness of schools and provide Technical Assistance in preparing schools for the expanded phase of limited face-to-face classes in anticipation of the improvement in the Covid Alert Level in their respective areas. Public schools which are compliant with the standards of SSAT **may start their implementation of limited face-to-face classes automatically once the area is recategorized to Alert Level 1 or 2**. List of schools shall be submitted to the RO Attn: PPRD for records and M&E purposes.

5. Further, private schools that intend to be included in the expanded phase of the limited face-to-face classes must still undergo rigorous document review and evaluation and onsite validation of the **Quality Assurance Division** before their inclusion in the list. School administrators are requested to submit the documents listed below to the office of the Regional Director (Attention: Quality Assurance Division).

- 5.1 Letter of Intent addressed to the Regional Director stating the objectives, expected outcomes, and commitment to observe the minimum health and safety protocols.
- 5.2 Proposed implementation plan following the four components of the operational framework, namely: (i) Safe Operations, (ii) Teaching and Learning, (iii) Including the most marginalized, and (iv) Well-being and Protection. The full details of standards in each component are provided in the Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1. The proposal must show clear compliance to the standards set in the JMC, which can be downloaded from DepEd's official webpage at [https://www.deped.gov.ph/wpcontent/uploads/2021/09/DEPED-DOH-JMC-No.-01-s.-2021\\_.pdf](https://www.deped.gov.ph/wpcontent/uploads/2021/09/DEPED-DOH-JMC-No.-01-s.-2021_.pdf).
- 5.3 Contingency plan showing action points to address contingencies that might occur during implementation.
- 5.4 Accomplished School Safety Assessment Tool. Schools must pass all elements of the tool to be included in the list.

6. Regional Office shall start issuing safety seals to all schools compliant with SSAT once the Central Office has issued the guidelines. The target is **100% compliance** for all schools **by the end of March 2022**.

7. DepEd Regional Office III through Policy, Planning, and Research Division shall conduct a Virtual Meeting on **Tuesday, February 15, 2022**, via Microsoft



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Teams through the link: [bit.ly/021522](https://bit.ly/021522) from 8:30 am onwards. Participants to this activity are the Assistant Regional Director, Schools Division Superintendents, Regional Functional Division Chiefs, RO and SDOs Composite Teams. In addition, **Schools Division Superintendents shall present a 10-minute PPT presentation** on the following: status of readiness of schools in all sectors, an implementation plan for the Progressive Expansion of Limited Face-to-Face Classes, significant issues/challenges of schools (per sector) which are not yet ready based on the SSAT as well as the appropriate interventions taken by the SDO to address the challenges encountered by schools in complying with SSAT standards (See Annex). Pictures or videos during onsite validation may be included in the presentation.

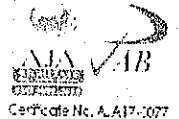
8. For your information and compliance.

  
**MAY B. ECLAR, PhD, CESO III**  
Regional Director

PPRD1/ppra06  
February 7, 2022



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**Common Gaps and Challenges**

Sector	IDENTIFIED COMMON GAPS  SSA Indicators where most schools responded "NO"	Was the gap resolved during SDO On-Site Visit and TA?	
		YES: Intervention/s carried out	NO: Plan of action to address the gap
Public			
Private			
SUCs/LUCs			

Annex: (Pictures/Videos)



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