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Republika ng Pilipinas
Kagawaran ng Edukasyon
Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

DepEd Task Force COVID-19
MEMORANDUM No. 86
12 August 2020

For: **DepEd Central Office Personnel**
Subject: **COVID-19 CASES IN THE CENTRAL OFFICE**

The DepEd Task Force COVID-19 (DTFC-19) continues to act in accordance with the established protocols for the Handling, Management, and Testing of Reported COVID-19 Cases and Close Contacts at the Central Office (DTFC-19 Memorandum No. 68) and the Required Health Standards in Basic Education Offices and Schools (DepEd Order No. 014, s. 2020) to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of our DepEd family.

In line with this, the following are announced:

- 1. Three (3) positive COVID-19 cases from the Accounting Division of the Central Office have been reported this week to the DTFC-19.**

Individuals who have come into contact with the said employees continue to be tracked, notified, and will be monitored by our health personnel.

The results for two of the three employees were reported on 10 August. They last reported physically to work on 24 July 2020 and 27 July 2020, respectively. As the 14-day period has lapsed for the former case, contact tracing efforts shall be made more rigorously for the personnel who reported on a more recent date.

The Accounting Division was put on lockdown yesterday, 11 August, to allow for intensive disinfection in response to these cases.

The third employee, who also last reported to work on 27 July 2020, was confirmed positive yesterday, 11 August. Appropriate measures are now being taken, and more updates will be disclosed in due course.



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2. **A positive case from the Cash Division has been confirmed yesterday, 11 August.**

The necessary steps are likewise being taken in support of the employee and the overall welfare of Central Office employees. The case is a close contact of one of the positive cases from the Accounting Division, and is currently hospitalized. Our colleague reported to the office last 07 August 2020.

More information shall be promptly be provided.

3. **An employee of the Palarong Pambansa Secretariat was tested positive for COVID-19 on 10 August.**

Our colleague, who is working remotely, has been on home quarantine since symptoms were developed last week and will be transported today to a medical facility for assessment and treatment.

4. **With these developments, a total of 13 employees of the DepEd Central Office have been confirmed to be COVID-19 positive and active cases.**

The cases are from the following offices: Accounting Division (4), OSEC (2), PAAC (1), ICTS-TID (1), ICTS-SSD (1), AS-OD (1), GSD (1), Palarong Pambansa Secretariat (1), Cash Division (1).

The needed medical and logistical support are being to be extended to our colleagues. Immediate and appropriate measures also continue to be taken following the Department's established protocols. This includes tracing, notifying, and monitoring contacts, and the disinfection of office facilities.

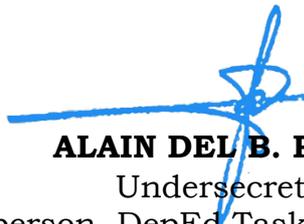
All personnel who manifest symptoms are advised to contact either Dr. Rainerio Reyes, the CO Clinic Medical Doctor via 09399129668, School Health Division (Tel. 632 9935), Central Office Clinic and their respective Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams (BHERTs). Concerns may also be directed to the CO Task Force COVID 19, through Mr. Florentino Barte Jr. (09158216184) or Ms. Maritess Ablay (09158665006).

As part of our shared commitment and responsibility to look after the well-being of the DepEd family especially in this time of pandemic, all are reminded to strictly adhere to the public health measures defined in DepEd Order No. 014, s. 2020 and other relevant and pertinent guidelines.

All are likewise enjoined to familiarize themselves with DTFC-19 Memorandum No. 68 which details the protocols for case management in the Central Office. Emphasis is placed on the prompt reporting of cases, as **all personnel must inform within 24 hours their immediate supervisor/Head of Office and the CO Clinic Medical Doctor if they have been exposed to a close contact, are a close contact, or have tested positive for COVID-19.**



Moreover, on top of the observing established safety and precautionary measures, special attention to proactive measures which may aid possible future contact tracing efforts is earnestly sought: all offices shall maintain a daily log sheet of all persons entering their respective premises, and individuals are likewise requested to keep a daily record of all persons they have come in contact with.



ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA

Undersecretary

Chairperson, DepEd Task Force COVID-19



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