MEMORANDUM

TO: OIC-Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
    CID Chief and SGOD Chief (OICs)
    Education Program Supervisors
    Public Schools District Supervisors
    Public and Private Elementary School Heads/Administrators
    All Others Concerned

FROM: DR. ROMMEL C. BAUTISTA, CESO V
      Schools Division Superintendent

SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON KINDERGARTEN ISSUES ON DEPED ORDER NO. 20,
         S. 2018: AMENDMENT TO DO 47, S. 2016

DATE: June 5, 2018

Please find he attached DEPED-4A-02-RM-18-307 Re: Clarification on Kindergarten Issues on DepEd Order No. 20, s. 2018: Amendment to DO 47, s. 2016.

Widest dissemination is enjoined.
1. The Region, through the initiative of Policy, Planning and Research Division (PPRD) and in coordination with the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), states the following clarifications on some Kindergarten issues pertaining to age requirement and other related concerns after the meeting with the SDO Kindergarten focal persons and Planning Officers held last May 18, 2018.

2. Kindergarten is the first stage of compulsory and mandatory formal education which consists of one (1) year of preparatory education for children at least five (5) years old as prerequisite for Grade One. For averaged children and no kindergarten experience, it is advised that they enroll in Kindergarten and then the teacher recommends the child for placement test.

3. Levels in Pre-Kindergarten
   a. In public schools, there is only one level prior to Grade 1, thus after completing the Kindergarten level the learner may be recommended to Grade 1.
   b. Private schools are advised to refrain from assigning levels to Kindergarten i.e. Kinder 1 or Kinder 2 as RA 10157 or Kindergarten Education Act defines Kindergarten as a level immediately preceding Grade 1. This will eliminate confusion among parents in private schools to assure that Kindergarten by any level is preparatory to Grade 1.
4. Philippine Early Childhood Development (ECD) Checklist
   a. ECD Checklist is designed to objectively monitor a child’s development in several domains: gross and fine motor, receptive and expressive language, cognitive, self-help and social-emotional. This is intended for children aged 3 years and 1 month to 5 years and 11 months.
   b. As indicated in DepEd Order No. 20’s 2018, only those who passed the ECD Checklist may be accepted to Kindergarten. Pass or with Standard Score 80-119 (Average Overall Development) in ECD means that the learners are able and can exhibit preparatory skills needed for Kindergarten. The results of the checklist may be used by the teacher to determine the necessary interventions in attaining holistic development of a Kindergarten learner.
   c. Only those who are trained in ECD administration are advised to administer such to ensure the accuracy and validity of the results. It is further advised that the incoming Kindergarten learner may take the ECD only once and the schools/districts are advised to send the names of takers to Curriculum Instruction Division thru the Kindergarten focal person for monitoring purpose.
   d. However, the officially enrolled Kindergarten learner will take the ECD Checklist twice a year, beginning and end of the year, to evaluate the learner’s competencies in all domains.

5. Kindergarten Catch-Up Education Program (KCEP)
   a. KCEP is an education intervention for children six (6) years old and above who do not have access to schools or those who live under difficult circumstances, such as but not limited, to chronic illness, displaced due to armed conflict, urban settlement, disasters, extreme poverty, child abuse such as domestic violence, neglect, abandonment, and who are not able to finish Kindergarten Education Program.
   b. It should be reiterated that KCEP is only provided to learner experiencing such extreme factors and not a replacement of the Kindergarten Education.
   c. DepEd Order No. 11’s 2014 provides complete policy guidelines on the Catch-Up Program.

6. Learners Information System (LIS)
   a. BOSY/EOSY- On the basis of DepEd Order No. 20 on Transitory Provisions C. 1(i) p. 3 states that learners who are 5 years old within the SY 2017-2018 can be included in BOSY-Grade 1 given that the learner completed any pre-grade 1 levels such as Kinder 1 or Kinder 2. If the learner has no LRN because they are not included in EOSY-Kinder or those who are affected by DO 47’s 2016, the SDO Planning Officers are advised to assign LRN to complete the enrolment in Grade 1.
   b. For this purpose, the results of ECD Checklist must be forwarded to Grade 1 teacher.
c. The SDO Planning Officer may prepare a letter of request for Learner Reference Number (LRN) of those learners affected by DO 20 s. 2018 through PPRD.

7. It is hereby enjoined that all Kindergarten Coordinators, Supervisors In-Charge of Private Schools and Planning Officers with the CID and SGOD Chiefs of all SDOs must properly disseminate this information to both private and public schools.

8. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is directed.