

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

Schools Division of Benguet

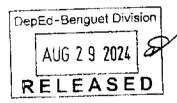
August 13, 2024

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 293, 62024

TERMS REGARDING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF PREGNANT LEARNERS IN THE SCHOOLS

TO: Chief Education Supervisor, CID, and SGOD
Public Schools District Supervisors, Coordinating Principals
All Division Personnel
All Others Concerned



1. DepEd Benguet is committed to providing and protecting the rights of Filipino learners to good education and improved health and to helping Filipino learners complete basic education without the burden of health concerns is of utmost importance. We recognize that the health and well-being of our learners, including those who are pregnant, is of utmost importance. Therefore, school authorities shall assist parents and guardians in providing consent for the following:

Health Monitoring: The school will monitor the health of pregnant learners and provide support as needed, including access to health resources.

Informed Consent: Pregnant students and their guardians are encouraged to communicate health concerns to school personnel. Consent is given for the school to share relevant health information with designated health professionals to ensure the safety and well-being of the student.

Liability Disclaimer: The school and school health personnel are not liable for any health-related issues or complications that may arise during a student's pregnancy. It is the responsibility of the student and their guardians to seek appropriate medical care and make informed decisions regarding health management.

Emergency Situations: In the event of a health emergency, the school will take necessary actions to ensure the safety of the student, including contacting emergency services and the student's guardians.

- 2. Consent ensures that pregnant learners and their guardians are fully aware of the risks and responsibilities associated with pregnancy while attending school. This promotes informed decision-making about their health and education. **Please see enclosure 1.**
- 3. The terms enable the schools to share relevant health information with necessary personnel (e.g., counselors, and nurses) while respecting the student's privacy and





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confidentiality, thus, facilitating the school's ability to respond appropriately in emergencies, ensuring that appropriate medical help can be sought without delay.

- 4. While the Department of Education (DepEd) has established policies to support pregnant learners, emphasizing their right to continue their education without discrimination, the policy encourages schools, particularly public ones, to allow these students to continue their education. This is part of a broader initiative to combat the rising rates of teenage pregnancy, which has been described as a "national social emergency" due to its implications on education and health.
- 5. DepEd Benguet plays a crucial role in child protection, focusing on safeguarding learners from violence, exploitation, discrimination, and bullying. This framework ensures that pregnant students are treated fairly and have access to educational opportunities without fear of expulsion or discrimination.
- 6. The Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act 9710) further supports these policies by prohibiting discrimination against female students and faculty who become pregnant. This legislation aims to rectify historical biases that have led to the expulsion of women from educational institutions due to pregnancy.
- 7. Schools shall provide flexible learning options for pregnant learners, such as alternative learning delivery modes and appropriate learning arrangements for students in special circumstances.
- 8. Schools shall integrate comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) into various learning areas like values education, good manners and right conduct, health, technology, and livelihood. CSE aims to educate young people about reproductive health and prevent teenage pregnancies.
- 9. DepEd Benguet is working to create a supportive environment for pregnant learners through educational reforms and community engagement, thus, schools shall include initiatives to address the root causes of teenage pregnancy and collaborate with various stakeholders to ensure that pregnant students receive the necessary support from their families, schools, and communities.
- 10. Immediate compliance with and disseminating this memorandum to all concerned is directed.

SALLY L BANAKEN-ULLALIM CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

sood/shn/kad





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Enclosure 1

Consent and Liability Statement for Pregnant Learners

Student Information:
• Name:
Date of Birth:
Contact Information:
Consent Statement: I, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that I am pregnant and understand the potential risks associated with my participation in school activities. I consent to the following:
 Health and Safety Awareness: I acknowledge that I have been informed about the possible health risks related to my pregnancy and agree to take necessary precautions while participating in school activities.
 Medical Consultation: I understand the importance of consulting with my healthcare provider regarding my participation in school activities and will keep the school informed of any changes in my health status.
 Emergency Contact: In case of any medical emergencies, I authorize school personnel to contact the following individuals:
 Name: Relationship: Contact Number:
4. Liability Waiver: I hereby release and hold harmless the school, its employees, and agents from any and all liability for any injury or complications that may arise as a result of my participation in school activities during my pregnancy.
 Confidentiality: I understand that my pregnancy status will be kept confidential within the school staff unless disclosure is necessary for my health and safety or as required by law.
Signature: I have read and understood the above statements. I voluntarily consent to participate in school activities during my pregnancy.
Student Signature: Date:
Parent/Guardian Signature(if under 18): Date:





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