

REGION III IMPLEMENTS ALS-SHS; STRENGTHENING ALS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE COUNTRY

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In The 1987 Constitution declares that “the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society. The highest mandate of the land also encourages the non-formal, informal, and indigenous learning systems, as well as self-learning, independent, and out-of-school study programs particularly those that respond to community needs.

Republic Act 9155 established the Alternative Learning System to provide out-of-school children, youth, and adult population with basic education. Further, to provide the much-needed support to further expand and strengthen the implementation of ALS throughout the country, President Rodrigo R. Duterte signed Republic Act No. 11510, an ‘Act Institutionalizing the Alternative Learning System in Basic Education for Out-of-School Children in Special Cases and Adults, and Appropriating Funds Therefor.

The Regional Office adheres to addressing the changing needs of the learners as it made a historic first in Central Luzon by implementing the Alternative Learning System – Senior High School. Headed by Dr. Engelbert B. Agunday, ALS Regional Focal Person, 10 divisions piloted ALS-SHS this academic year 2021-2022. Partnered with the formal ALS-SHS, the first batch of implementers offered tracks and specializations in the formal SHS. For 2022-2023, all the 20 divisions in Region III will be implementing the ALS SHS.

The Divisions of Bataan and Balanga City house their ALS-SHS in Orani National High School – Main, Bataan National High School – Senior High School, and City of Balanga National High School – Senior High School. The former division offers Computer System Servicing (CSS), while the latter offers CSS and Home Economics.

Last year, Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones lauded the first batch of ALS-SHS graduates from DepEd Region V. The 62 learners, who are mostly breadwinners and single

parents, are from Ligao City National High School, Nursery High School, Federico A. Estipona Memorial High School, and Tabaco National High School.

The first batch of Senior High School in the region will be graduated in 2024.

In 2019, through DepEd Order 13, series 2019, DepEd mandated the inclusion of the SHS level in the ALS Program, which is equivalent to Grades 11 and 12 in the formal education system.

References:

ALS – Frequently Asked Questions

www.deped.gov.ph

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DepEd makes history with 1st batch of ALS SHS graduates

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