

**STRENGTHENING ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS
DIVISION OFFICE OF BATAAN**

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The Department of Education (DepEd) encourages all public and private schools to take the lead on environmental awareness by enhancing environmental education and by pursuing successful school-based activities that aim to preserve and protect the environment. This is due to the urgent global environmental concerns and issues. A Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9512, titled "An Act to Promote Environmental Education and for Other Purposes," is the basis for this.

Following DepEd Order No. 52, series of 2011, the Bataan Schools Division Office (SDO) urged all public and private schools to emphasize environmental education in all programs, projects and activities. Similar to how environmental issues should be taught and addressed in the classroom, and integration of the environmental issues and concerns that should take them into consideration as instruments for drills, debates, and learning exercises as integrated in the curriculum and how environmental issues should be taught and addressed in the classroom.

True to its goal, schools in DepEd Bataan are working together to support one another, share technology, and find innovative ways to teach about the environment without really harming it. The necessity of providing every student with a quality, readily available, pertinent, and liberating environmental education that is based on Filipino fundamental values cannot be overstated, particularly because Makakalikasan has been specifically tasked with teaching the youth environmental protection and preservation.

Similar to how it is crucial for students and DepEd to comprehend, acquire, and know how to implement the integrated Climate Change Education (CCE) in the existing curriculum to conserve and preserve the environment, DepEd Bataan encourages students to act more responsibly toward the environment. However, students must be aware of and proactive about the current status and situation of the community and its environment.

The challenge for the DepEd Bataan is to act with urgency in its deepest interest, and involvement to restore the Earth and to continue to amplify voices, raise awareness and encourage people to move, to become stewards of the environment and be one to take actions. Moreover, the department believes that “One minuscule action can cause a ripple effect in the ecosystem.” With this in mind, it will strengthen environmental conservation and showcase the beauty of Mother Earth.

In DepEd Bataan, there are full support to the projects and programs related to the environment such as climate change awareness, School in Garden (SIGA), Search for Campus Heritage Trees, National Climate Change Conference (NCCC), and Manila Bay Rehabilitation, Coastal Clean Up and established Youth for Environment Organization (YES-O) to continue to work towards the goal of Earth conservation, preservation, and restoration. Moreover, encouraged students to continue participating and supporting the green initiatives of the DepEd to show their care for Mother Earth and ensure a brighter future for the current and next generations.

References:

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