

## UNVEILING WALL-FREE DECORATIONS: A PARADIGM SHIFT

by:

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The Department of Education, led by DepEd Secretary Sarah Duterte, has recently introduced a groundbreaking set of guidelines aimed at promoting "wall-free decorations" in classrooms. This innovative approach to classroom design is intended to revolutionize the traditional learning environment by creating dynamic, interactive, and immersive spaces that encourage student involvement. The guidelines are designed to depart from the current practice of adorning classroom walls with static teaching materials and over-the-top wall decorations that can be distracting to students.

The principle behind this approach is to utilize the physical space of the classroom as a canvas for promoting active learning, sparking curiosity, and enhancing student involvement. Instead of traditional wall decorations, which are often stagnant and unidirectional, the focus is on creating clean and wall-free concepts that can adapt to the learning needs of diverse subjects and teaching methods. By reducing visual distractions, the classroom can become a calm and conducive learning environment that allows students to focus better on their lessons and tasks.

The guidelines highlight one of the critical reasons for opting for minimal or no wall decorations in classrooms: to reduce visual distractions. This can help students concentrate better and create a more conducive learning environment. Without excessive decorations, the focus can shift to the content being taught. Moreover, in an era where students are often exposed to many visual stimuli outside the classroom, a more subdued environment inside can provide a welcome contrast and prevent sensory overload.

The Department of Education's novel guidelines on wall-free decorations represent a progressive step toward transforming traditional classrooms into dynamic, engaging, and interactive learning spaces. While there are considerations to be addressed, the potential benefits of heightened student engagement, personalized learning, and creativity make this initiative a promising avenue to reshape the future of education. With these guidelines, the Department of Education is encouraging schools to think outside the box and create learning spaces that are truly innovative and inspiring.

*References:*