

## FULL BLAST IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTHY LUNCH ACTIVITY (HLA) IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN

*by:*

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The Bataan Healthy Schools Setting (BHSS) Program is a special project of the Provincial School Board (PSB) led by Governor Jose Enrique S. Garcia III in collaboration with the Provincial Health Office, Bataan Health Promotion Board, Local Government Unit (LGU) and Schools Division Office of Bataan. As the highlight of the activity, Healthy Lunch Activities (HLA), Grade 1 and II learners are provided a well-balanced meal in line with the Food and Nutrition Institute of the Philippines to teach them the importance of healthy eating habits for their well-being. Lunch menus are provided by nutritionists to ensure that beneficiaries receive a balanced and healthy meal every day. All meals are prepared with fresh foods (meat, vegetables, fruits and bread) contain 600 to 700 calories.

For the full blast implementation of Healthy Lunch Activities, Dinalupihan West District consists of 1 stand-alone kitchen (San Ramon ES), 6 central kitchen (Roosevelt ES, San Pablo ES, Pinulot ES, Colo ES, Magsaysay ES and San Benito ES) and 11 satellite Kitchen that cater 2,519 beneficiaries. Positive outcomes in the beneficiaries are expected like low prevalence of child obesity, bone growth, increase awareness about food and nutrition and most especially high-quality learning.

Administrative Officers will serve as the Healthy Lunch Activity (HLA) School Coordinator. This role entails responsibilities such as supervising the implementation of the program, collaborating with kitchen staff and suppliers, overseeing meal quality and ensuring adherence to health and safety regulations. Aside from that, handling feedback from beneficiaries and parents as well as preparing and submitting reports are also included in the responsibilities of HLA School Coordinator.

Though initialized by the Provincial Governor's Office, the Healthy Lunch Activity (HLA) Program cannot run its course without the health of different sectors of the community. Schools, Local Government Unit, Barangay Council, Volunteers like Kabalikat and School Parent-Teacher Association (SPTA) play a vital role in the full blast and successful implementation of this program.

*References:*

<https://www.bataan.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/O-NO.-06-24-BATAAN-HEALTHY-SCHOOLS.pdf>