

Press Releases

**DepEd, Comelec to Uphold Welfare, Benefits of DepEd
Teachers, Personnel Serving in Barangay, SK Polls**

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PASIG CITY, April 25, 2018 – Cognizant of the voluntary nature of poll duties for public school teachers, as mandated by Republic Act No. 10756, or the Election Service Reform Act (ESRA), Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor Magtolis Briones reaffirmed that their critical role and experience in the orderly and credible conduct of local and national polls aptly warrant increased honoraria and benefits and improved legal assistance this upcoming 2018 *barangay* and *Sangguniang Kabataan* (SK) elections.

“It has been almost three years since the law took effect; the Department is pursuing a review of the honoraria, allowance, and benefits with the Commission on Elections [Comelec] for our teachers who do not waver from rendering their time and energy to secure the sanctity of the ballot,” the Education chief pointed out.

The Electoral Board, which shall be comprised of a chairperson, a poll clerk and a member, per clustered precinct shall be responsible for the conduct of voting and counting for the *barangay* and SK elections; preparation of the Election Returns (ERs); announcement of results in the precinct; submission of ERs to the Board of Canvassers, if mono precinct, convert into *Barangay* Board of Canvassers (BBOC).

Currently, the law provides for the following honoraria amount:

Chairperson on of Electoral Boards	P 6,000
Members of the Electoral Boards	P 5,000
Department of Education Supervisor Officials (DESO)	P 4,000
Support Staff	P 2,000

The foregoing amounts are exclusive of an additional P1,000 travel allowance. The said honoraria and allowance shall be paid within 15 days from the date of the election. Other benefits include a minimum of five days service credit; legal indemnification package worth P50,000; medical assistance of up to P200,000; and election-related death benefit amounting to P500,000.

The Department shall sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Comelec to ensure that the welfare of

public school teachers and other DepEd personnel serving in the polls are promoted and protected, and that their services are appropriately compensated as mandated by law.

Moreover, DepEd shall upload on its website a video recording to orient and train public school teachers who will serve as chair and members of the Electoral Board and BBOCs about ballot appreciation and general instructions, and to complement Comelec's training.

From May 14-15, the DepEd Election Task Force and Monitoring Center shall be available at the *Bulwagan ng Karunungan*, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue in Pasig City to provide public school teachers and non-teaching DepEd personnel with information, and technical and legal assistance in regard to the performance of their poll duties.

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