

## DepEd - DIVISION OF QUEZON

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January 17, 2020

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM** DM No. 028 , s. 2020

#### CLEANING UP OF SCHOOLS AFTER VOLCANIC ERUPTION

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents, Curriculum Implementation Division, School Governance and Operations Division, Public Schools District Supervisors, Elementary and Secondary School Heads, and All Concerned

- 1. With reference to the OUA Memorandum dated January 14, 2020, all public elementary and secondary schools are advised to do thorough cleaning up of school buildings and facilities regarding the recent volcanic eruption.
- 2. Relevant details on safety and health procedures are stated in the Enclosure.
- 3. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

CATHERINE P. TALAVERA, CESO Schools Division Superintender

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#### Republika ng Pilipinas

# Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim



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For:

Regional Directors Concerned

Schools Division Superintendents Concerned Regional and Division Engineers Concerned

Principals/School Heads/Teachers-in-Charge Concerned

All Others Concerned

Subject:

CLEANING UP OF SCHOOLS AFTER VOLCANIC ERUPTION

The ashfalls brought about by the sudden eruption of Taal Volcano have affected school buildings and facilities.

While volcanic ash may seem harmless, it is really very dangerous. Volcanic ash is actually pulverized rock and glass from the volcano. It is toxic, abrasive, corrosive, can conduct electricity when wet, doesn't dissolve in water, and renders surfaces to be slippery. With a lot of cleaning up to do, all need to take extra precautions to protect eyes and lungs by wearing protective goggles and N95 masks.

To ensure the safety and health of the students before they enter the school facilities, school authorities must do the following:

### Clean-up of Roofs of School Buildings

NOTE: Under no circumstances shall students/learners be sent to the roof to clean.

- Debris from ashfall must be removed immediately as the heavy weight may affect the stability of the roof and may cause it to collapse;
- Remove ashfall by spraying water first to prevent it from billowing; scrap hardened ash and sweep the remaining ashes;
- Ensure that gutters and downspouts are free from debris;



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Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA) RECEIVED

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS),
Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (BLSS), Bureau of Learner Supporting
Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers' Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO))

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	Check on possible roof damage like holes and do necessary immediate repair to avoid further damage to the structure.
Clean-up of School Equipment and other Resource Materials	Clean school equipment using vacuum cleaners. Sharp particles from ashes may affect the equipment, therefore, dabbing is better than wiping.
	<ul> <li>Do not use electric fans or air conditioners while cleaning is ongoing as it may cause ashes to recirculate in the air.</li> </ul>
Clean-up of School Premises	Before removing ashes from the ground and other school facilities, make sure that the ashes are sprayed with water first, to avoid recirculation of the ashes in the air.
	Use a dustless way of cleaning, such as washing with water and effective detergent through rags or other wetting agent.
	Collect ashes and put them in an area far from water drainage to avoid clogging.

Again, before starting to clean, teachers and school authorities are strictly advised to wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include: a. Dust mask or damp cloth; b. Goggles or eyeglasses; c. Hat; and d. Long sleeves and pants.

For guidance and strict compliance.





