



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

REGION IV- A CALABARZON
CITY SCHOOLS DIVISION OF THE CITY OF TAYABAS

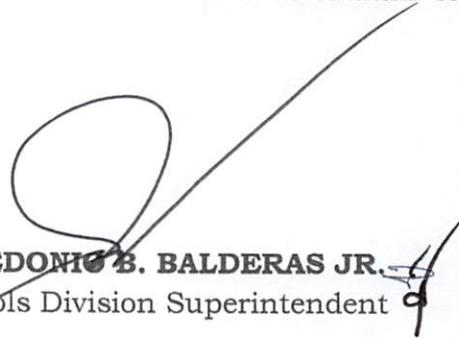
11 August 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 540 s. 2025

**DISSEMINATION OF THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12027 TITLED, AN ACT OF DISCONTINUING THE USE OF
MOTHER TONGUE AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO
GRADE 3, PROVIDING FOR ITS OPTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN MONOLINGUAL
CLASSES, AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ENHANCED
BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools
Heads, Unit/Section
All Others Concerned

1. In reference to **DepEd Memorandum No. 59, s. 2025 re; Dissemination of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 12027 titled, An Act of Discontinuing the Use of Mother Tongue as Medium of Instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3, Providing for Its Optional Implementation In Monolingual Classes, And Amending for the Purpose Sections 4 and 5 of Republic Act No. 10533, Otherwise Known as the Enhanced Basic Education Act Of 2013**, this Office, informs all concerned for the dissemination of the IRR to the field.
2. Enclosed is the copy of the DepEd Memorandum and the IRR of Republic Act No. 12027 for your reference.
3. Immediate compliance and widest dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


CELEDONIO B. BALDERAS JR.
Schools Division Superintendent



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

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DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. 059, s. 2025

DISSEMINATION OF IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12027 TITLED, AN ACT OF DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE MOTHER TONGUE AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3, PROVIDING FOR ITS OPTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN MONOLINGUAL CLASSES, AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. For the information and guidance of all concerned, enclosed is a copy of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Republic Act (RA) No. 12027 titled, **An Act of Discontinuing the Use of the Mother Tongue as Medium of Instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3, Providing for Its Optional Implementation in Monolingual Classes, and Amending for the Purpose Sections 4 And 5 of Republic Act No. 10533, Otherwise Known as the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013.**
2. In accordance with Section 18 of the IRR, these Rules and Regulations shall take effect 30 days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation. The IRR was published in the Philippine Daily Inquirer (A3) Vol. 40 No. 50, on January 27, 2025. Consequently, it took effect on February 26, 2025.
3. All regional offices, schools division offices, and public and private schools are directed to implement the provisions of RA 12027, this IRR, and subsequent issuances pursuant to the foregoing.
4. For more information, please contact the **Office of the Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching**, Bonifacio Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, through email at ouct@deped.gov.ph or at telephone number (02) 8633-7202.
5. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

By Authority of the Secretary:

ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN

Undersecretary and Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary and Procurement

Encl.:

As stated

References:

DepEd Order No. 43, s. 2013
DepEd Memorandum No. 99, s. 2013

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

BASIC EDUCATION
BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CLASSES
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES EDUCATION
KINDERGARTEN EDUCATION
LEGISLATIONS
LITERACY
POLICY
RULES AND REGULATIONS
SCHOOLS



(Enclosure to DepEd Memorandum No. 059, s. 2025)

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12027
TITLED AN ACT DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE MOTHER TONGUE AS
MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3, PROVIDING
FOR ITS OPTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN MONOLINGUAL CLASSES, AND
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.
10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF
2013"**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 6, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, the Government, as the Congress may deem appropriate, shall take steps to initiate and sustain the use of Filipino as a medium of official communication and as language of instruction in the educational system;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, for purposes of communication and instruction, the official languages of the Philippines are Filipino and, until otherwise provided by law, English. The regional languages are the auxiliary official languages in the regions and shall serve as auxiliary media of instruction therein;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2 of Republic Act No. (RA) 10533 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013," the State shall create a functional basic education system by making education learner-oriented and responsive to their needs, through the appropriate languages of teaching and learning, including mother tongue as a learning resource;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4 of RA 10533, the medium of instruction, teaching materials, and assessment for kindergarten and the first three (3) years of elementary education shall be in the regional or native language of the learners;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5(f) of RA 10533, the curriculum shall adhere to the principles and framework of Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) which starts from where the learners are and from what they already knew proceeding from the known to the unknown; instructional materials and capable teachers to implement the MTB-MLE curriculum shall be available; and

WHEREAS, to address the challenges in effectively implementing the use of the Mother Tongue as the medium of instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3, including the shortage of learning materials and qualified teachers, the Congress has enacted a law amending Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10533, thereby discontinuing the implementation of the Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) policy.

The Department of Education with the Komisyong sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) hereby issues the following rules and regulations to implement the provisions of Republic Act No. (RA No.) 12027, titled "An Act Discontinuing the Use of the Mother Tongue as

Medium of Instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3, Providing for its Optional Implementation in Monolingual Classes, and Amending for the Purpose Sections 4 and 5 of Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013."

RULE I – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. Title. – These rules and regulations shall be referred to as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA No. 12027 titled, "An Act Discontinuing the Use of the Mother Tongue as Medium of Instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3, Providing for its Optional Implementation in Monolingual Classes, and Amending for the Purpose Sections 4 and 5 of Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of our learners. In order to bridge the gaps in the implementation and use of the mother tongue as the medium of instruction from Kindergarten through Grade 3, it was deemed imperative to discontinue the mandatory use of the Mother Tongue as medium of instruction from kindergarten to the first three (3) years of elementary education under Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10533, providing instead for its optional implementation in monolingual classes.

SEC. 3. Construction and Interpretation. – These Rules and Regulations shall be construed and interpreted in light of the provisions of RA No. 12027, RA No. 10533, other relevant laws, and relevant constitutional provisions related to language, communication, expression, culture, diversity, including Indigenous Peoples rights, and education.

SEC. 4. Scope and Application. – This IRR applies to all Kindergarten to Grade 3 learners from public and private basic education institutions, including both formal and, as may be deemed applicable, non-formal education such as Alternative Learning Systems, as well as community learning centers.

SEC. 5. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this IRR, the following terms shall mean or be understood as follows:

- a) **Act** refers to RA No.12027 titled "AN ACT DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE MOTHER TONGUE AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3, PROVIDING FOR ITS OPTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN MONOLINGUAL CLASSES, AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013;"

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Administrative Officer V
Records Division - DepEd Central Office

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- b) **Auxiliary media of instruction** refers to regional or local languages spoken in certain places that support or help in the use of the national and/or official language in the teaching and learning process;
- c) **Community Learning Center (CLC)** refers to a physical space to house learning resources and facilities of a learning program for out-of-school children in special cases and adults. It is a venue for face-to-face learning activities and other learning opportunities for community development and improvement of the people's quality of life;
- d) **Language mapping** refers to the collection and visualization of language(s) used in the classroom to inform which should be used as the medium of instruction within a school community or geographic area;
- e) **Learners With Disabilities (LWDs)** refer to learners in the general early and basic education system, who require additional support and adaptive pedagogic methods due to their long-term physical, intellectual, or sensory impairments, which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. They are placed in the age-appropriate grade levels by the multidisciplinary team based on the latter's assessments and diagnoses of the learners;
- f) **Medium of instruction** refers to the language used for teaching and learning;
- g) **Monolingual class** refers to a group of learners who share the same Mother Tongue and are enrolled in the same grade level in a given school year;
- h) **Mother Tongue** refers to language or languages first learned by a child, which he/she identifies with, is identified as a native language user of by others, which he/she knows best, or uses most;
- i) **Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE)** refers to the educational approach in which the learner's mother tongue is used as the primary medium of instruction; and
- j) **Regional languages** refer to the languages commonly used by people in the region.

RULE II – LANGUAGE MAPPING POLICY AND FRAMEWORK AND MONOLINGUAL CLASSES

SEC 6. Language Mapping Policy and Framework. – DepEd shall, in consultation with the KWF and other relevant stakeholders, develop a language mapping policy within one (1) year from the effectivity of the Act. The policy shall establish a

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framework and process for language mapping for the implementation of MTB-MLE in monolingual classes and shall include the procedure for the collection, generation, dissemination, utilization, and management of language mapping data across governance levels of DepEd.

DepEd shall implement language mapping at the school level for the proper identification and classification of learners based on their Mother Tongue, determine the number of monolingual classes to be established per school year, and assess school readiness to implement MTB-MLE. As part of the language mapping, schools shall collaborate with the local communities, Parent-Teacher Associations, higher education institutions, and local language experts.

DepEd, in consultation with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and other relevant stakeholders, shall ensure that language mapping includes the identification and classification of Indigenous Peoples' languages.

Section 7. Monolingual Classes. – The establishment of monolingual classes shall be subject to the requirements set forth in the Act and this IRR, the completion of the language mapping, and other parameters as may be identified by the DepEd.

In the case of monolingual classes composed of indigenous learners or in other special circumstances where additional linguistic support is necessary, DepEd may consult the services of community members and other individuals who are fluent in the mother tongue.

DepEd shall issue the necessary guidelines on the establishment of monolingual classes which may include the determination of the minimum number or percentage of learners per monolingual class based on the school-level language mapping and other support mechanisms to ensure full and proper implementation.

SEC 8. Requirements for the implementation of MTB-MLE in Monolingual Classes. – Mother Tongue may be used as a medium of instruction in monolingual classes if it complies with the following requirements:

- a) An official orthography developed and published by the KWF;
- b) Officially documented vocabulary published or recognized by the KWF, such as glossary, dictionary, encyclopedia, or thesaurus;
- c) Literature on languages and culture, such as big books, small books, picture stories, or wordless picture books;
- d) A grammar book; and
- e) Availability of teachers in the school who speak and are trained to teach in the mother tongue.

SEC 9. Provision of Learning and Assessment Resources. – DepEd shall ensure the availability and accessibility of appropriate and contextualized learning and assessment resources for teachers and all types of learners, including LWDs.

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SEC 10. Capacity Building of Teachers. – The National Educators Academy of the Philippines shall spearhead the capacity building, upskilling, and re-skilling of public school teachers, school heads, and supervisors in the implementation of this Act.

RULE III. DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE MOTHER TONGUE AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

SEC 11. Discontinuing the Use of the Mother Tongue as Medium of Instruction –

Pursuant to the Act, the use of the Mother Tongue as a medium of instruction from Kindergarten to the first three (3) years of elementary education under Section 4 of RA No. 10533 is discontinued and the medium of instruction shall revert to Filipino and English, unless otherwise provided by law. However, mother tongue may be used as the medium of instruction for Kindergarten to Grade 3, subject to the fulfillment of the requirements under the Act and this IRR. In addition, regional languages shall serve as auxiliary media of instruction. Further, the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities/Indigenous Peoples to establish and control their educational systems, shall be respected.

RULE IV – ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 12. Review of the implementation of the MTB-MLE Program in monolingual classes. – DepEd shall undertake an annual review of the implementation of the MTB-MLE Program in monolingual classes. It shall include learner assessment, teacher recruitment and matching, development of learning resources published in the Mother Tongue, capacity-building efforts for teachers, school heads, and supervisors, and funding requirements for the program. Learner evaluation shall include diverse metrics such as multilingual literacies, academic outcomes, intercultural appreciation, and understanding, among others.

SEC. 13. Reportorial Requirement. – Three (3) years after the effectivity of the Act and every three (3) years thereafter, DepEd shall submit a detailed report to the President, the Senate of the Philippines, and the House of Representatives. This report shall include the findings of the reviews conducted pursuant to the preceding section and shall specifically include recommendations:

- a) to address gaps in the law and/or the implementation of the Act;
- b) to continue, discontinue, or modify the use of the Mother Tongue as a medium of instruction in monolingual classes, or to adopt the Mother Tongue for different language-in-education models;
- c) to develop appropriate contextualization of language policy for different areas and demographics; and
- d) on policy reforms and initiatives on national policy regarding languages and education.

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The report shall be submitted not later than June 30 following the year of review.

SEC. 14. Administrative Sanction. – Violations of the provisions of this Act and this IRR shall be subject to administrative sanctions based on relevant laws.

SEC 15. Guidelines. – DepEd may issue such other guidelines to further clarify and effectively implement the Act and these Rules and Regulations.

SEC 16. Separability Clause. – If any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations shall be declared to be invalid, void or unconstitutional, such provision shall be deemed deleted and shall not affect the validity of the rest of the provisions which shall remain in full force and effect.

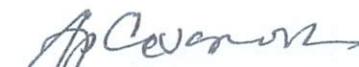
SEC 17. Repealing Clause. – All provisions of laws, presidential decrees, letters of instruction, existing administrative orders, circulars, rules and regulations, and other presidential or executive issuances incompatible or inconsistent with the provisions of the Act are hereby deemed amended or repealed accordingly.

SEC 18. Effectivity Clause. – These Rules and Regulations shall take effect thirty (30) days from publication in a newspaper of general circulation and from filing of three (3) certified copies in the Office of the National Administrative Register, University of the Philippines Law Center.

Done this 21st day of January, 2025.



SONNY ANGARA
Secretary
Department of Education



DR. ARTHUR CASANOVA
Chairperson
Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino

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