



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

April 23, 2018

ACTING CHAIRMAN AL A. PARRENO
Commission on Elections (COMELEC)
8th Floor, Palacio del Gobernador Bldg.
General Luna cor. Andres Soriano Ave.
Intramuros, Manila

Dear **Chairman Parreno**:

The public school teachers have always been at the frontline of every electoral exercise, dedicating their sweat, blood and tears, serving as Chairpersons and Members of the Electoral Board. Once again, they will perform such functions during the May 14, 2018 Barangay and Sanguniang Kabataan Elections. The safety and welfare of our teachers are primordial importance to us.

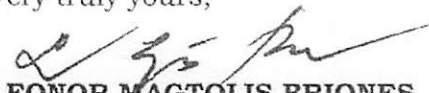
While we are aware that the Republic Act No. 10756 or the *Election Service Reform Act (ESRA)* already mandated the rates of honoraria, allowances, service credits and other benefits to be received by the teachers, the DepEd would like to request the following:

1. Latest updated figures on the number of public school teachers who volunteered to serve in the Electoral Boards;
2. Latest updated figures on the number of those public school teachers who actually submitted their consent form to serve as members of the Electoral Boards.
3. Evaluation and discussion on the possible increase of the amount of honoraria and allowances in view of the enormous task they perform and considering the manual conduct of barangay elections where they serve clustered precincts with a bigger number of electoral population;
4. Grant of additional two (2) days service credits for teachers serving in the Electoral Board on top of the minimum five (5) days service credit provided by law in view of the manual conduct of elections;
5. Designation of authorized disbursing officers who will be allowed to draw cash advance for medical expenses of teachers who will serve in the Electoral Boards, instead of the usual practice of processing medical reimbursements. This will truly help teachers who need immediate hospital treatment and/or admission;
6. Exemption from the imposition of withholding tax on the honoraria as it was never subjected to income tax prior to the effectivity of ESRA.

The Office of the Undersecretary (USec.) for Administration of this Department, headed by USec. Alain Del B. Pascua, shall be the focal point of all DepEd-COMELEC coordination. You may contact his office through Atty. Marcelo H. Bragado, Jr. at telephone numbers (02)633-7203/637-6207.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

SCHOOLS DIVISION OF SORSOGON
Capitol Compound, Sorsogon City

May 9, 2018

To: All Concerned

For information.


LOIDA N. NIDEA, Ed. D, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent