

The Official Newsletter of the Center for Educational Measurement, Inc.

APRIL 2020

VOL III

ISSUE 11



Center for Educational Measurement, Inc.

THE TEST OF EXCELLENCE

GEM ONLINE NEWSLETTER

ISSN-1656-8583

Congratulations to all Graduates!



Graduation day is one of the most exciting occasions in a student's life. It marks success and recognizes one's hard work in school; to some, it is a transition to another life chapter. Everyone looks forward to it at the end of the school year however, this year's celebration may take a different turn due to the COVID-19 pandemic. And since this world crisis has rendered the entire country immobile, schools can only do so much in terms of organizing a graduation rite or ceremony.

Dear Graduates,

You may have not gotten to revel your moment on stage to receive your diploma. You may have not gotten the chance to say goodbye to your classmates and teachers. You may have not gotten to experience a proper ceremony – let alone throw a graduation party.

But we want you to know that **we are proud of you** and we are rooting for you all the way.

May you achieve your aspirations and we wish you good luck as you venture to the next chapter of your life.

Again, Congratulations!

Love,
Your CEM family



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CEM ONLINE
NEWSLETTER

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**Government Advisories on
Graduation rites for SY 2019-2020**

Basic Education

The Department of Education issued D.O. No. 002 s. 2020: Multi-Year Implementing Guidelines on The Conduct of The K To 12 Basic Education Program End-Of-School-Year Rites on March 12, 2020. It states that, “Specifically for School Year (SY) 2019-2020, the End-Of-School Year (EOSY) rites shall focus on the theme Sulong EduKalidad: Pagtataguyod sa Kinabukasan ng Bayan (Sulong EduKalidad: Championing the Nation’s Future), which highlights the essential role of quality education in helping Filipino learners achieve their full potential in order to fulfill their dreams and contribute meaningfully to nation-building. Moreover, each school shall have the discretion to elect the date for the holding of this year’s rites within the week of April 13-17, 2020, taking into consideration the applicable guidelines by the Department of Health (DOH) in light of the COVID-19 public



health situation, and to conduct the rites consistent with the DOH guidelines on mass gatherings. Should the public health situation prevent the holding of this year’s rites within the said week, the schools, in consultation with the Parents-Teachers Association (PTA) leadership, may choose to reschedule or forego the holding of the rites.”

(https://www.deped.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DO_s2020_002.pdf)

Higher Education

The Commission on Higher Education, on March 11, 2020 also issued ChEd Advisory No. 3: Guidelines for the Prevention, Control and Mitigation of the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). It advises that: “HEIs based on the assessment of the situation in their localities and exercise of academic freedom should exercise discretion to postpone graduation ceremonies, if needed”.

(<https://ched.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/CHED-COVID-2019-Advisory-No.-3.pdf>)

Furthermore, “The decisions on completion of requirements and issuance of degrees are academic matters that are within the powers of individual universities, exercised through their



board of trustees or board of regents,” CHED chairman J. Prospero De Vera III said on Tuesday, April 14. “These are academic matters that we leave to the universities.”

(<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1257715/no-graduation-rites-under-covid-19-crisis>)

Teachers Swear by these Creative Ways of Recognizing Student's Achievement

Students are motivated to learn when they are recognized for their achievements, no matter how big or small. Although it is true that some students may be acknowledged more, especially if they are the same few who actively perform in class, by spreading around the recognition to include all students, it can boost the self-esteem and confidence of everyone in class. Here are some creative ways of recognizing students' achievements recommended by teachers.

Using Bulletin Boards

(by Candice Alstad-Davies)

Promote student achievement in academics as well as social behavior using these highly visible and easily changeable displays within the classroom. When posting projects and papers to recognize academic excellence, try to stay away from posting only the top grades. By identifying strong aspects of an overall project or assignment, such as a nicely drawn science diagram or a strong thesis statement, more students can be recognized for their accomplishments. You can also institute a "student of the week" award to a student who has displayed positive strides in social situations and behaviors.

<https://resumes-for-teachers.com/blog/interview-questions/as-a-teacher-how-do-you-recognize-students-achievements/>

Happy Mail

(Sheffield Elementary, Turners Falls, Massachusetts)

Recognize students' accomplishments all year long by giving them a "happy mail" or a certificate that they can bring home and brag to their family members. Teachers decide which behaviors to recognize and certificates can be awarded, for example to a struggling reader who finished a book, two students who invited a third to their lunch table when they saw her sitting alone, or a student who resisted distractions and chose to continue working when peers were playing around nearby. It aims to reinforce constructive behaviors, cultivate pride, and help the children see each other in a positive light—all without the competition associated with conventional awards.

<https://www.responsiveclassroom.org/recognizing-students-accomplishments-all-year-long/>

Positive Phone Calls

(Sheffield Elementary, Turners Falls, Massachusetts)

Positive phone calls home can make a huge difference for parents and students. Parents will be overjoyed to get a phone call praising their child's progress and kids will love that their parents get to be involved in their success.

<https://blog.schoolspecialty.com/five-ways-to-recognize-student-achievement-in-your-classroom/>

COMMUNITY CORNER

Graduation ceremonies held this 2020 truly made their mark as schools all over the world innovate to give their students a proper tribute to their academic milestones. Here are some of the trending graduation ceremonies worth commending and checking out.

Grade 6 students of Colegio de San Juan de Letran attended their graduation ceremony through an online livestream.

<https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/lifestyle/familyandrelationships/739107/grade-6-letran-students-attend-graduation-via-online-livestream/story/>



Begang National High School went to their graduates' respective houses for their graduation. The school principal personally handed their diplomas.

<https://www.facebook.com/abscbnNEWS/videos/843055172881161>



Business BreakThrough (BBT) University in Japan successfully held an online graduation ceremony utilizing robot technology and video conferencing applications.

<https://www.tellerreport.com/news/2020-04-06---%5Bpick%5D-japanese-university-held-online-graduation-ceremony-with-remote-control--avatar--SJeTvQuOPI.html>



Cauayan East Central School in Isabela conducted a house-to-house mobile graduation rites and awarding ceremony for its students.

<https://philnews.ph/2020/05/16/isabela-school-gives-mobile-graduation-ceremony-students/>