

[DEPED ORDER NO. 25, S. 2002, June 17, 2002]

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2002 BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM

1. The Department of Education is implementing this school opening the 2002 Basic Education Curriculum (BEC).
2. It is the product of 16 years of study conducted under the various DepEd secretaries (Lourdes Quisumbing, Isidro Cariño, Bro. Andrew Gonzalez). Starting 1995, intensive consultations were held with various stakeholders — the schools, parents, students, business, trade and industry, NGOs and the people in the Education department who administer the education system on ground level.
3. Almost immediately after assuming the post, the undersigned continued the consultations starting March 2001. The DepEd people consulted included experts, public and private school teachers, the 16 regional directors, 145 superintendents, at least 20,000 principals, and representative teachers of the different subject areas in different grade and year levels.
4. The Philippine Commission on Educational Reforms (PCER), created on Dec. 7, 1998 through Executive Order No. 46, recommended the adoption of the restructured BEC and its implementation starting 2002.
5. The BEC focuses on the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic, science and patriotism. Values is integral to all the subject areas. Students can then be ready for lifelong learning. It seeks to cure the inability of students who cannot read with comprehension at grade 3 and worse, at grade 6.
6. The BEC decongests the overcrowded curriculum.
7. Integrative and interactive teaching-learning approaches are stressed. These are characterized by group learning and sharing of knowledge and experiences between teachers, between teachers and students and among students. For instance, under the old curriculum, English teachers prepared lesson plans for English and values teachers prepared for Values Education. Under the BEC, the English and Values Education teachers work together on their lesson plans.
8. High school math shifts from the spiral system which introduced all Math subject in every level to the linear, sequential approach where only Elementary Algebra is taught in 1st year, Intermediate Algebra in the 2nd year and Geometry in 3rd year.
9. From only 1,418 participants when the training started in March 2002, some 491,000 public and private school teachers have been trained as of 20 May. Another 1,500 teacher-trainers were trained on HS Math and they led the school-based trainings of Math teachers.