



MWF turns over hygiene facility

• Gary B. Desoloc

Backing water access, adequate sanitation and hygiene education, the Manila Water Foundation (MWF) in partnership with P&G Safeguard Philippines, Department of Health and CSI Group of Companies formally entrusted the five-faucet hygiene facility to Lucao Elementary School on April 7.

Upholding health and safety above all, the handwashing facility's unique design allows users to turn on the faucet by using a foot pedal. The five faucets and soap dishes were installed one meter apart to enable physical distancing. It also has lowered sink which can be easily used by school children. Signages on COVID-19 precautionary measures, proper handwashing guide, and reminders for responsible use of water were also posted.



L-R: Mr. Reginald M. Andal, MWF Executive Director, Mr. Gary B. Desoloc, Principal III of Lucao ES, Sir Aguedo C. Fernandez, CESO VI, Schools Division Superintendent, Dr. Edilberto Abalos, Chief Education Supervisor – SGOD, and Ms. Jubail Pasia, MWF Program Manager officially cut the ribbon during the turn over of the hygiene facility.

The facility is built under the WASH in Schools (WinS) project of MWF that supports the Department of Education's WASH in Schools (WinS) program.

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Likewise, Mr. Gary B. Desoloc, Lucao ES's Principal, thanked the MWF and its partners for this notable move to safeguard communities against the threat of COVID-19.

In a brief interview, SDS Aguedo C. Fernandez, CESO VI stressed the importance of strict implementation and observance of health protocols inside the school. He also added that the access to water and hygiene facility is highly essential to weaken the spread of the virus.

The ceremony was also graced by Mr. Reginald M. Andal, MWF Executive Director, Ms. Jubail Pasia, MWF Program Manager, Ms. Kei Absin, MWF Program Officer, Mr. John Paul Edward Antonio, MWF Partnerships Officer, Sir Vladimir Parayno, SEPS-Soc.Mob. Unit, Dr. Haydee Soc.Mob. Unit, and, Mdm. Elvira Villamor, DRRM Division Coordinator.

Moreover, SGOD Chief Edilberto Abalos commended the unique design of the handwashing facility.

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The handwashing facility's unique 'hybrid' design allows users to turn on the faucet by using a foot pedal.

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Webinar upskills reading teachers

- Mary Ann C. Carrera



Reading teachers actively participates in Dr. Agnes B. Royulada's session on Nature of Reading.

To address challenges in the new normal set up, grades one to three reading teachers upgraded their skills thru webinars on Distance Learning Strategies in Beginning Reading last November 10, 11 and 16, 2020.

The said training was spearheaded by Dr. Agnes B. Royulada, Education Program Supervisor in English. She discussed the ways in identifying learners at risk such as profiling and nature of reading.

Meanwhile, Mdm. Maria Teresa Rita Riñosa, NEAP facilitator and Principal IV of West Central Elementary School I, stressed the importance of oral language being the foundation of literacy development.

Lecture on Phonemic Awareness and strategies in teaching Phonics was delivered by Dr. Michelle M. Felstead, Teacher III of Bonuan Buquig NHS.

Participants enjoyed the interactive activities in teaching

vocabulary facilitated by Mdm. Mary Ann C. Carrera, Principal I of Mamalingling Elementary School.

Mdm. Jennifer Festejo, Principal I of Tebeng Elementary School talked about the strategies in ensuring reading comprehension among learners.

Teacher-participants applied their significant learnings from the training by creating activity sheets for the learners.

The training also served as an avenue to benchmark various reading strategies being implemented by the different participating schools which can also be helpful in distance learning.

Prior to the training, series of technical rehearsals were done to ensure a smooth flow of the event.

The webinar was graced by the Schools Division Superintendent, Sir Aguedo C. Fernandez. He thanked the participants for responding to the call to help learners develop the most important skill which is reading.

"This is really a big challenge to us especially in this time of pandemic, but once we have taken our initial steps, we have already conquered one of the learners' biggest achievement," SDS Fernandez said.

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent, Mdm. Ma. Criselda Ocang also graced the event and enthused the participants with her inspirational message.

"Teaching reading as they always say is a difficult task. It should be taken as a challenge. Remember that as you teach reading to little kids you open the windows of learning, of knowledge, of wisdom," ASDS Ocang articulated.

Outputs for this three-day online training were evaluated and were aligned with the Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs) to augment the mode of learning delivery for the new normal.

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