

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-050
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AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ESKWELA PROJECT BY ESTABLISHING BARANGAY-BASED E-LEARNING CENTERS OR BARANGAY ESKWELA CENTERS FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS (OSYS) AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL ADULTS (OSAs) IN THE TWENTY SEVEN (27) BARANGAYS OF THE CITY OF NAGA THROUGH THE NAGA CITY ESKWELA CENTER, ESTABLISHING THE NAGA CITY ESKWELA PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND DEFINING ITS COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS:-

Authors/Sponsors:

Hon. Nelson S. Legacion
Chairman, Committee on Education

Hon. Alex C. Nero
LIGA President

Hon. Dan Paolo R. Morales
Chairman, Committee on Youth & Sports Development

Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Naga, that:

SECTION 1. TITLE. - This ordinance shall be known as "**Naga City eSkwela Ordinance**".

SECTION 2. LEGAL BASIS. - The legal basis for the enactment of this Ordinance are Executive Order No. 356 issued on September 14, 2004 renaming the BUREAU OF NONFORMAL EDUCATION TO BUREAU OF ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM in which one of the functions is to address the learning needs of the marginalized groups of the population including the deprived, depressed and underserved citizens and Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9155, reproduced hereunder, to wit:

"Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality basic education and to make such education accessible to all by providing all Filipino children a free and compulsory education in the elementary levels and free education in the high school level. Such education shall also include alternative learning systems for out-of school youth and adult learners. It shall be the goal of basic education to provide them with the skills, knowledge and values they need to become caring, self-reliant, productive and patriotic citizens.

The school shall be the heart of the formal education system. It is where children learn. Schools shall have a single aim of providing the best possible basic education for all learners.

Governance of basic education shall begin at the national level. It is the regions, divisions, schools and learning centers - herein referred to as the field offices - where the policy and principle for the governance of basic education shall be translated into programs, projects and services developed, adapted and offered to fit local needs.

The State shall encourage local initiatives for improving the quality of basic education. The State shall ensure that the values, needs and aspirations of a school community are reflected in the program of education for the children, out-of-school youth and adult learners. Schools and learning centers shall be empowered to make decisions on what is best for the learners they serve."

SECTION 3. PURPOSE. - The purpose of this Ordinance is the institutionalization of the "eSkwela Project" or community-based learning center in the City of Naga through the establishment, which is therefore herein mandated within the next three (3) years, of barangay-based e-learning centers or barangay eSkwela centers for out-of-school youths and adults in the twenty seven (27) barangays of the City of Naga, except when the establishment thereof in a particular barangay is impracticable in which case partnering with and availing of the services of the adjacent eSkwela center shall be deemed compliance with herein requirement. The NAGA CITY ESKWELA PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE is likewise created to design concrete programs in order to address the educational concern of out-of-school youths and adults in the City of Naga by providing an ICT delivery platform for DepEd's Alternative Learning System (ALS). The Naga City eSkwela Project Management Team and the now established Naga City eSkwela Center will closely coordinate with the CICT-eSkwela Project Team in the successful setup and implementation of barangay-based e-learning centers or barangay eSkwela centers.

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. - As used in this ordinance, the terms:

- a. **eSkwela Project** - shall refer to the project designed to address the educational concern of out-of-school youths and adults (OSYAs) in the country by providing an ICT delivery platform for DepEd's Alternative Learning System's Accreditation and Equivalency Program). eSkwela helps OSYAs to acquire relevant life skills and prepare them to rejoin the formal education system or review for the Accreditation and Equivalency Exam, which, upon qualification, will provide them with an equivalent of an elementary or a secondary level of education;
- b. **Naga City Project Management Committee** - shall refer to an established committee that shall design concrete programs in order to address the educational concern of out-of-school youths and adults in the City of Naga by providing an ICT delivery platform for DepEd's Alternative Learning System (ALS);
- c. **Naga City eSkwela Center** - shall refer to the already established Alternative Learning System's (ALS) learning center attending to the educational concerns of out-of-school youths and adults (OSYAs) in the city which provides an ICT delivery platform for the Accreditation and Equivalency Program of the Department of Education giving OSYAs skills and knowledge to rejoin the formal education system and the opportunity for livelihood and employment;
- d. **Barangay eSkwela Center** - shall refer to the barangay-based e-learning center which complies with the basic infrastructure [at least 3 computer units (1 as a server unit, 2 for work stations) and a space/room for the eSkwela center] and personnel [at least one staff trained as an eSkwela learning facilitator] requirements;
- e. **Alternative Learning System (ALS)** - shall refer to the free basic education program for OSY and OSA being implemented by the Department of Education (DepEd) under the Bureau of Alternative Learning System which benefits those who cannot afford formal schooling and follows their available schedule. The program provides a viable alternative to the existing formal education instruction, encompassing both the non-formal and informal sources of knowledge and skills.

The program cuts the time needed to finish high school, hence, significantly cuts the expenses as well. Aside from giving hope to the less fortunate, it also provides opportunities to Out-of-School Youths (OSY) and adults elementary and secondary school drop-outs; industry-based workers; housewives; maids; factory workers; drivers; members of cultural minorities; indigenous people and the disabled/physically challenged.

Training for instructional managers and coordinators are also provided by the program and supports the learners' accreditation and equivalency (A&E) review.

SECTION 5. COMPOSITION OF THE NAGA CITY ESKWELA PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. - The Committee shall be composed of the following:

- a) The City Mayor, as Chairman;
- b) The Schools Division Superintendent, as Co-Chairman;
- c) The Sangguniang Panlungsod Chairman of the Committee on Education, as member;
- d) The Education Program Supervisor of Alternative Learning System (ALS), as member;
- e) The ABC President of Naga City, as member;
- f) The Sangguniang Kabataan Federation of Naga City, as member;
- g) The Administrator of the ESS0-Naga City School Board, as member;
- h) The Department Head of the City Social Welfare & Development Office, as member;
- i) Representative from the Naga City People's Council (NCPC), as member; and
- j) The Learning Facilitator and Network Administrator of the Naga City eSkwela Center, as member.

SECTION 6. FUNCTIONS OF THE NAGA CITY ESKWELA PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE. - The Committee shall have the following functions:

- a. issue guidelines for the creation or establishment of barangay-based e-learning center which can comply the basic infrastructure and personnel requirements;
- b. require the Naga City eSkwela Center and the barangay eSkwela centers to submit quarterly report of accomplishments;
- c. prepare a program aimed at encouraging committed groups and individuals to work side by side towards bringing ICT-enhanced alternative learning system to the community's out-of-school youths and adults;
- d. monitor the extent of out-of-school youth (OSY) participation rate under the Project, and other relevant performance indicators to guide planning and budgeting by the Naga City School Board;
- e. meet at least on a quarterly basis, or as often as necessary, subject to the discretion of the Naga City eSkwela Project Development Committee Chairman;
- f. undertake planning, programming and evaluation sessions on an annual basis;
- g. undertake systematic consultations with the barangay residents and organizations;
- h. implement short-term and long-term plans, programs and projects;
- i. closely coordinate with line agencies and non-government organizations regarding the plans of action and programs approved by the Committee;
- j. monitor and maintain the necessary records on the effectiveness of the project and submit an annual summary report thereof to the Naga City School Board; and
- k. perform such other functions, necessary and proper, to effect the foregoing functions.

SECTION 7. FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NAGA CITY ESKWELA CENTER. - The Naga City eSkwela Center shall have the following functions:

- a. help and assist the Naga City eSkwela Project Management Committee in the implementation of the eSkwela Project in the city;
- b. submit to the Naga City eSkwela Project Management Committee the annual action plan and quarterly report of accomplishments;
- c. implement, monitor and evaluate the sustainability of the program and provide necessary recommendation;
- d. strengthen the recruitment, screening, and assessment methods; and
- e. closely coordinate with barangay officials, the designated learning facilitators, and all stakeholders in crafting mechanisms and in preparing strategies to further encourage the city's out-of-school youths and adults to enroll and complete the eSkwela Project.

SECTION 8. SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS AND ADULTS (OSYAs). - To encourage more if not all out-of-school youths and adults of the city to avail of the project and attain 100% completion rate, it is necessary to establish a support system which shall address the immediate concerns and basic needs of the enrollees, thus, strengthening the effectiveness and efficiency of the project implementation. The support which has also the objective of rewarding good performing OSYAs includes:

- a. medical and health care benefits (50% discount in the procurement of medicines in the Naga City Hospital);
- b. benefits (school supplies) from Queen and Queen+ Programs of the children of out-of-school youth and adult who will avail of the program;
- c. incentives or benefits that can be provided by their respective barangays, including travel provisions during A & E examination; and
- d. Scholarship availment under the City's Tertiary Scholarship Program upon qualification and compliance with the requirements thereof.

SECTION 9. SUPPORT MECHANISM FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BARANGAY ESKWELA CENTERS. - The City of Naga through the Naga City eSkwela Center and with the support from the DepEd, ALS Division shall extend all the necessary equipment and technical assistance for the establishment of barangay based e-learning centers or barangay eSkwela centers, to wit:

- a. two (2) computer units as city's counterpart for one (1) computer unit and a space/room that will be provided by the barangay;
- b. personnel/staff that will function as eSkwela learning facilitator; and
- c. other support that can be extended by the city for effective and conducive operation of the center.

The network administrator or the Naga City eSkwela Center manager in close coordination with DepEd, ALS Division shall determine the readiness of the barangay to establish eSkwela Center following the requirement herein provided.

SECTION 10. FUNDING REQUIREMENT. - The fund for the operation of the eSkwela Project shall be taken from or charged against the appropriation for Alternative Learning System in the Special Education Fund (SEF). For this purpose the School Board shall allocate the required fund in its annual budget.

Aside from the fund to be appropriated by the city all twenty seven (27) barangays shall allocate at least one-half of one percent (.5%) of their respective annual budget as support fund for the operation of their barangay eSkwela center. Starting year 2012, no annual budget of the barangay shall be approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod without showing compliance herewith.

SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. - Any provision or portion of this ordinance found to be violative of the constitution or invalid shall not impair the other provisions or parts thereof which shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE. - Ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY. - This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its approval and publication in a local newspaper of general circulation.

ENACTED: October 18, 2011.

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WE HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

GIL A. DE LA TORRE
Secretary to the
Sangguniang Panlungsod

GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.
City Vice Mayor &
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

JOHN G. BONGAT
City Mayor