



Republic of the Philippines Department of Education

Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

M E S S A G E

My warmest greetings to all the completers and graduates of School Year 2017-2018!

On behalf of the Department of Education (DepEd), I commend your determination, perseverance and hard work which led you to this milestone. Whether this is your moving-up, completion, or graduation ceremony, what matters is that you have triumphed in this journey.

It is our goal to ensure that the K to 12 Program empowers you, our dear learners, to become critical thinkers and problem solvers both in the local and global communities. I am positive that you have learned not only to memorize facts and formulae, but also to relate these facts and theories to what is happening in the real world. As stated in this year's theme, **"K to 12 Learners: Ready to Face Life's Challenges,"** we hope we have equipped you with 21st century skills and lifelong competencies through quality education that is accessible, relevant, and liberating for all.

As you reminisce your travails and rejoice your achievements, always remember that your teachers, parents, families, fellow learners, school officials and personnel, community members, education partners, and government leaders are always with you every step of the way. Let them serve as your inspiration to dream and strive not only for your own success, but more so for this country's progress.

Whatever path you will pursue after this momentous occasion, may you continue to uphold the core values of your alma mater and DepEd – *Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, and Makabansa*. Bear in mind that while education is your right, it also bestows upon you a greater responsibility to contribute to the betterment of our society.

To our future leaders and nation-builders, congratulations and *mabuhay!*




LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary