



Government Assistance and Subsidies (GAS)

Regional Committee Meeting

March 27, 2019

Overview

- GASTPE Refresher
- COA Performance Audit Report
- Proposals for Private Education Office
- Pending Issues and Concerns

Government Assistance and Subsidies (GAS)

In fulfillment of its constitutional mandate, and in recognition of the **complementarity between public and private educational institutions in the educational system**, DepEd implements several programs under Government Assistance and Subsidies (GAS, formerly Government Assistance for Students and Teachers in Private Education), which **aim to increase accessibility and ensure quality of basic education delivered through private educational institutions.**

GAS instead of GASTPE

- E-GASTPE Law (RA No. 8545) was expanded under the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 (RA No. 10533)
- Expansion meant new programs that
 - Involve participation of non-DepEd public schools
 - Extend assistance to learners enrolled in DepEd schools
- RA No. 10533 also provides that DepEd may develop other forms of financial arrangements consistent with the principles of public-private partnership
- DepEd adopted the recommendation by DBM to use a term encompassing the GASTPE programs as well as existing and future programs of the same nature

Education Service Contracting (ESC)

A program of financial assistance wherein subsidies called ESC grants are provided to qualified Junior High School (JHS) – Grades 7 to 10 learners in participating JHSs

Objectives

- Improve and expand access to quality JHS education
- Aid in the decongestion of public JHSs

Teachers' Salary Subsidy (TSS)

A program wherein an annual subsidy is provided to qualified teachers in ESC-participating schools

Objectives

- Improve the quality of private junior high schools by providing a salary subsidy to teachers in ESC-participating schools

SHS Voucher Program (SHS VP)

A program of financial assistance wherein subsidies are provided to qualified Senior High School (SHS) – Grades 11 to 12 learners in participating private or non-DepEd public SHSs

Objectives

- Improve and expand access to quality, relevant SHS education
- Provide learners with greater choice in pursuing the SHS program that caters to their needs and career goals
- Increase the diversity of SHSs and engender a more dynamic system of SHS education

In-service Training (INSET)

A training program for teachers in private JHS and SHSs

Objectives

- Enable teachers to meet the content and performance standards of the enhanced basic education curriculum
- Upgrade knowledge and teaching competencies in critical subject areas
- Assist instructions by modernizing teaching techniques and strategies

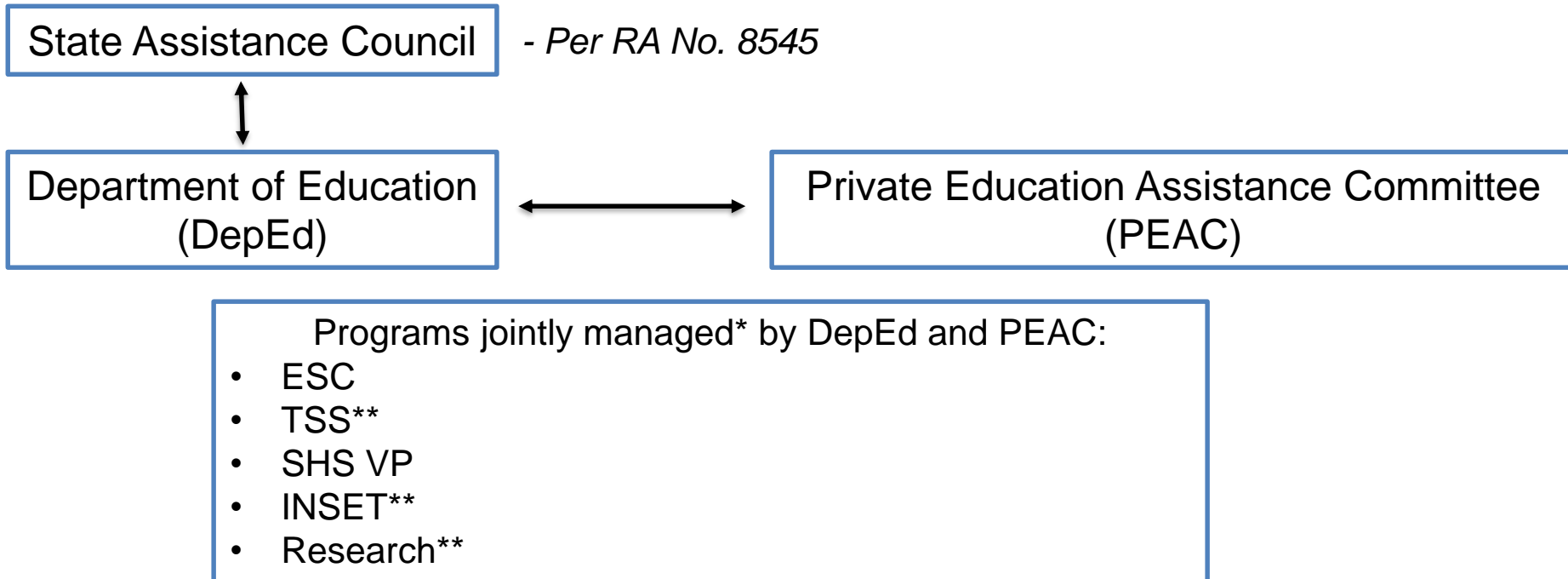
Research and Innovation for Success in Education (RISE)

A program that enables higher educational institutions and private educational associations as well as research organizations to conduct research on priority Philippine basic education issues

Objectives

- Generate knowledge on areas that affect Philippine basic education, particularly on the education policies and programs that aim to improve access to quality basic education

Implementation of GAS



*Requires special provision in GAA and MOA with PEAC

**Not reflected in GAA, included under line item for ESC

State Assistance Council (SAC)

- Chairperson : DepEd Secretary
- Co-chairpersons : CHED Chairperson
TESDA Director-General
- Members : NEDA Representative
DBM Representative
DOST Representative
Last three (3) members shall be appointed by the Council: Representatives from duly organized nationwide associations of teachers, students, parents, and school administrators
- Resource Persons : House Committee on Education
Senate Committee on Education

DepEd Central Office: GASTPE Interim PMO

DO 16, s. 2016 – Creation of the Interim Project Management Office (PMO) for the Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE) Effective School Year (SY) 2015-2016

The GASTPE Composite Team shall be composed of the following:

ExeCom Lead:	Undersecretary for Finance and Administration
Program Manager:	Assistant Secretary for Curriculum and Instruction
Members:	Director for Bureau of Curriculum Development
	Director for Bureau of Learning Delivery
	Director for Information and Communication Service
	Director for Planning Service
	Director for Finance Service
	Representative from the Senior High School National Task Force
	Representative from the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations
	Representative from the Office of the Undersecretary for Finance and Administration
	Representative from Finance Service
	Representative from Planning and Programming Division
	Representative from Project Development Division
	Representative from Accounting Division

DepEd Office Order: OO-OSEC-2016-02

16 AUG 2016

OFFICE ORDER
OO-OSEC-2016-02

**DESIGNATING ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY JESUS LORENZO R. MATEO
AS INTERIM GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS
IN PRIVATE EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Division Chiefs
All Others Concerned

1. Pending the reconstitution of the Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE) Composite Team, as established in DepEd Order 16, s. 2016 entitled *Creation of the Interim Project Management Office for GASTPE Effective School Year 2015-2016*, **Acting Assistant Secretary Jesus Lorenzo R. Mateo** is hereby designated as Interim GASTPE Program Manager.
2. GASTPE payrolls and requests for payment shall be signed by the Program Manager and endorsed to Finance. Approval of disbursement shall be subject to existing guidelines on signing authorities.
3. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.


LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

Private Education Assistance Committee (PEAC)

- Chairperson : DepEd Secretary
- Members : NEDA Representative
Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines
(CEAP) Representative
Association of Christian Schools, Colleges and
Universities (ACSCU) Representative
Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities
(PACU) Representative
- Secretary : Executive Director of PEAC National Secretariat (NS)

PEAC National Secretariat (NS)

Executive Director

Monitoring
and
Processing

Certification

Training and
Development

Finance

Administration

Information
Technology
and
Information
Management

Communications
and Research

Human
Resources
and
General
Services

Program Management by PEAC

Jun

Contract for current SY is signed

Jul - Nov

Processing of Billing Statements

- Submission
- Validation
- Refunds

Nov - Mar

SHS Voucher Application

- Online
- Manual
- Evaluation
- Results

Jan

DepEd expresses intent to contract PEAC for the coming school year

Apr - Jun

INSET

- JHS teachers
- SHS teachers

Apr - Jun

Regional Orientation

- Dissemination of DepEd directives
- Feedback on implementation

Activities throughout the year

ESC Certification

- Certification of applicant schools
- Recertification
- Revisit

Monitoring

- Reporting adverse findings
- Resolving cases of schools with adverse findings

Research

- Commissioned research
- Research grants

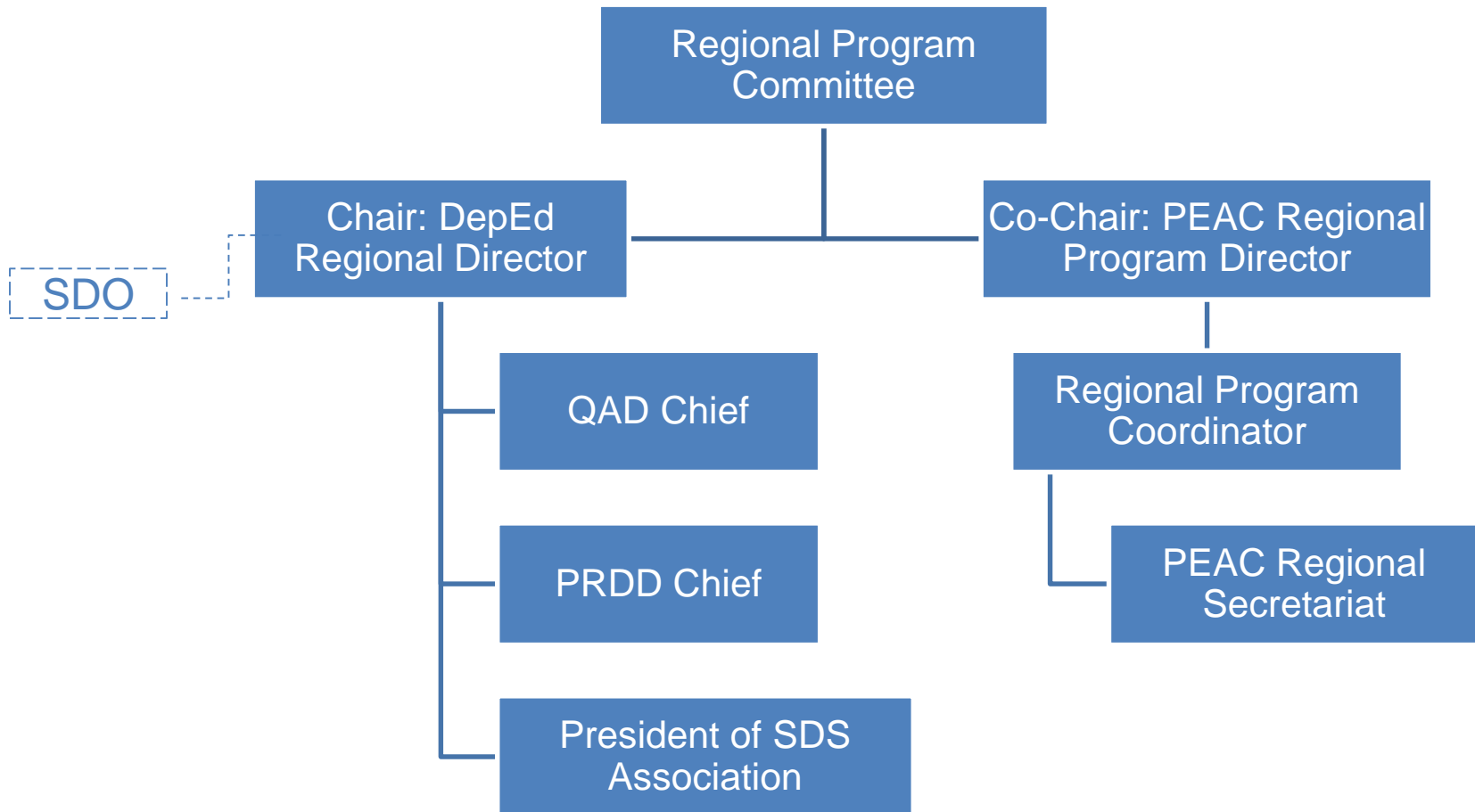
Data Management

- Information systems
- Data collection
- Report generation

Regular meetings and consultations with stakeholders

- RPCom Assembly
- Administrative concerns
- Helpdesk
- Policy recommendations

GASTPE in the field





COA PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORT

COA Performance Audit Report Findings and Management Comments

COA Finding/s	Management Comment/s	Action Taken
<p>1) DepEd lacks the necessary mechanisms to ensure proper administration of the GASTPE</p>	<p>Acknowledge and appreciate the findings and recommendations in the dPAR relating to DepEd's relationship with PEAC and the performance of DepEd's responsibilities, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Need for consistency in the work of the Composite Team b) Need to establish a dedicated, adequately staffed PMO c) M&E at all governance levels d) Adherence to payment schedule 	<p>An Interim Project Management Office (PMO) shall be formed for the management of GASTPE and oversight of PEAC responsibility. The management shall place enough manpower in all levels of governance (from SDO to CO) for the administration of GASTPE Programs.</p>
<p>2) DepEd's information management system and system ownership</p>	<p>GASTPE applications belong to DepEd, matter currently under discussion between DepEd and PEAC</p>	<p>Awaiting final agreement between OULA and PEAC on the IP Rights of existing systems used in the implementation of GAS Programs.</p>

COA Performance Audit Report Findings and Management Comments

COA Finding/s	Management Comment/s	Action Taken
3) PEAC is a public instrumentality imbued with a public purpose	DepEd concurs	Management to officially communicate/transmit DepEd's response to the Special Performance Audit Report stating that the Secretary has taken the position that PEAC is a public entity to the Office of the President (OP) and PEAC.
4) PEAC has no authority to manage GASTPE but due to SP in GAA receives colorable authority to do so	DepEd takes exception: GAA is a law, laws enjoy presumption of constitutionality, this determination should can only be done by the judiciary, no other government body has the authority to make a finding that legislation is unconstitutional and pursue official actions on the basis of that finding and conclusion	To put to rest any doubt on the nature of PEAC and FAPE, DepEd will seek from the Office of the President a confirmation that indeed PEAC and FAPE are indeed public in nature

Update: Secretary Briones has called for a meeting of the PEAC to discuss implications of COA Audit Report, DepEd Management's comments on the said report, and action plan with regard to PEAC engagement and management of GASTPE

Recommendations for Discussion

DepEd is required to develop and submit to COA an action plan for GASTPE management within 60 days (April 26, 2019).

Initial recommendations for inclusion in the action plan:

- DepEd to use SY 2019-2020 to review the full cycle for GASTPE and implement immediately actionable recommendations of COA
 - Finalize proposal for private education structure (not just CO, all governance levels)
 - Should proposal be only for private education or include other externally-managed educational institutions such as Philippine Schools Overseas, SUCs/LUCs that offer basic education?
 - Important input: DO No. 88, s. 2010 Revision
- Create interim private education office (similar to DEACO) or Task Force/TWG in CO
 - Include in its functions the management of GASTPE and oversight of PEAC
 - Interim private education office shall implement action plan for GAS
 - Designate a secretariat that will work on the proposal for submission to DBM

Recommendations for Discussion

- DepEd is mandated to implement GAS programs
- DepEd is not required to contract PEAC to co-manage GAS programs
- DepEd, however, also currently does not have the capacity to implement GASTPE without PEAC

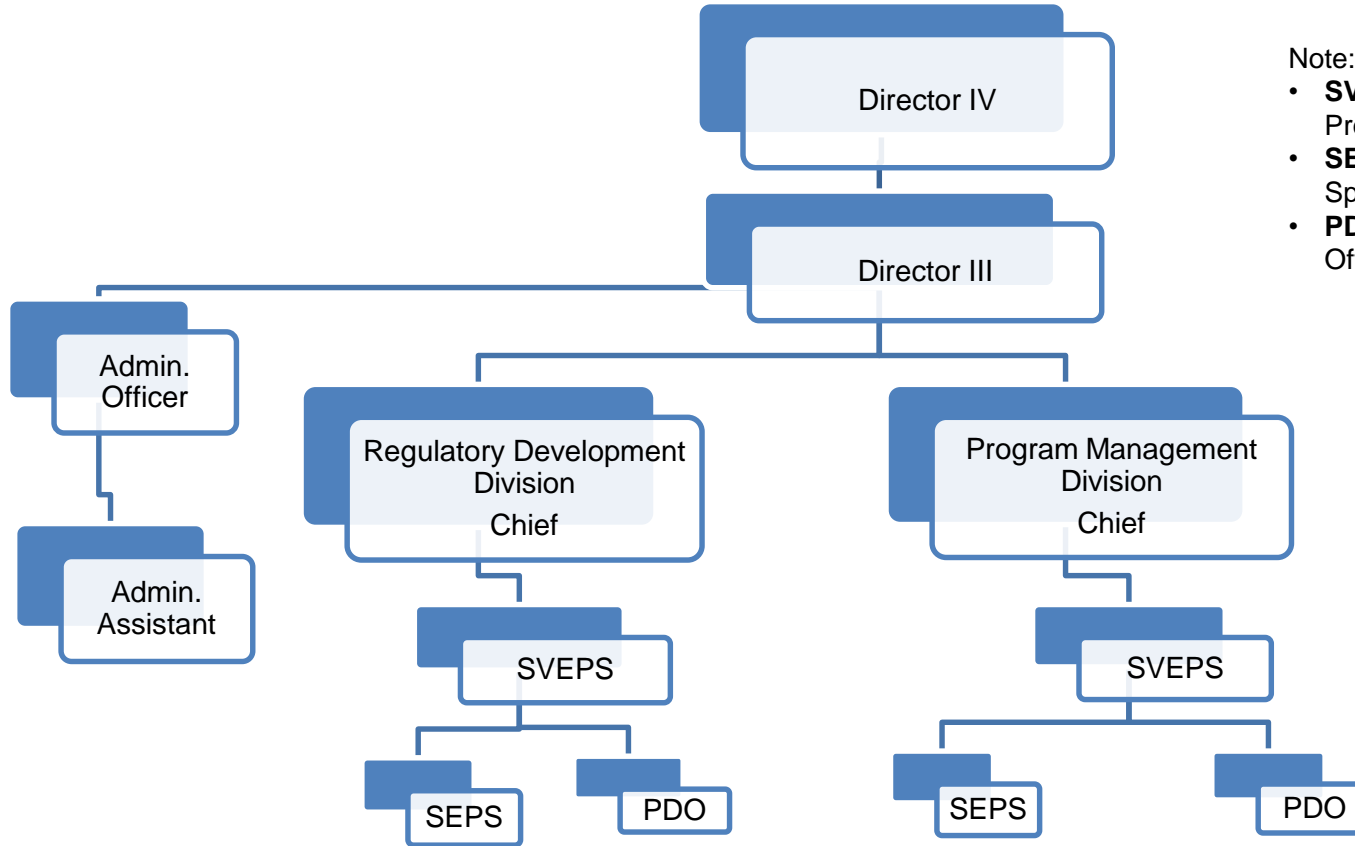
OPTIONS

- 1) Immediate sole management by DepEd of GASTPE programs, no longer contract PEAC for SY 2019-2020
- 2) Eventual sole management by DepEd, still contract PEAC for SY 2019-2020 but with a plan and timeline for disengagement
- 3) Continued partnership with PEAC, but with stronger oversight structures and mechanisms in place at all governance levels



PROPOSED STRUCTURE

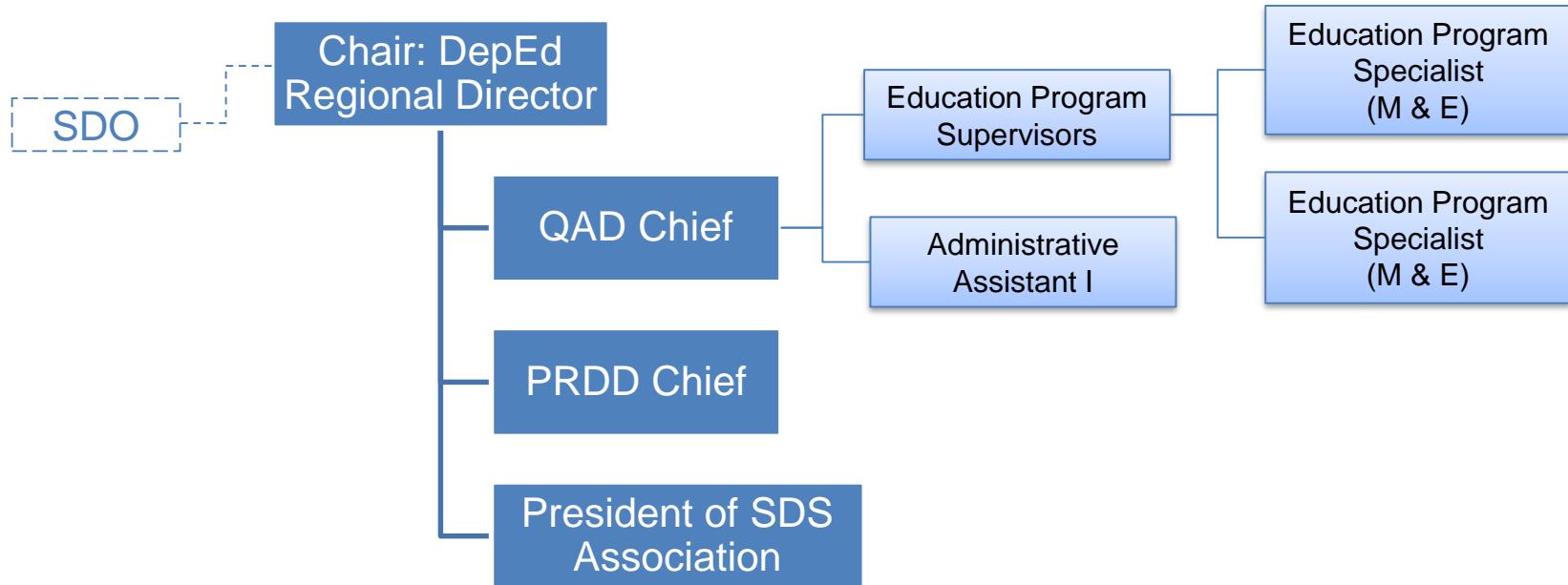
Proposal #1: Externally Managed Learning Institution Service



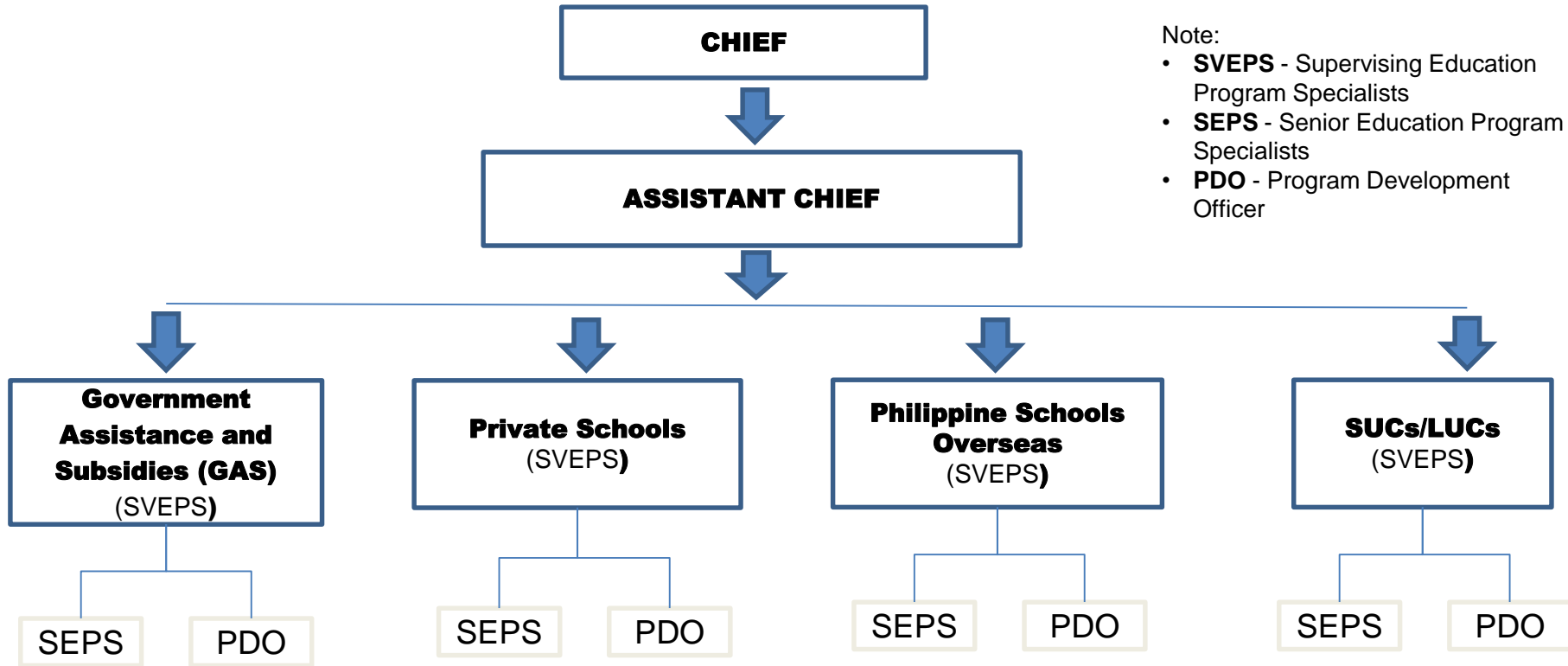
Note:

- **SVEPS** - Supervising Education Program Specialists
- **SEPS** - Senior Education Program Specialists
- **PDO** - Program Development Officer

Proposal # 2: Creation of Private Schools Operations Unit under the QAD



Proposal #3: Externally Managed Learning Institution Division



Proposed GAS Interim Office

Designation	Office	Function/ Roles
ExeCom Lead	Undersecretary for Planning and Field Operations (OUPFO)	Overall: Program Management/ Implementation Policy Development Projections, Budget, Estimates Reports
Members	Representative from the SHS National Task Force	Monitoring
	Director for Finance Service	Processing of Billing Statements
	Director for Planning Service	Research
	Director for BCD Director for BHROD	ESC Certification
	Director for NEAP Director for BLD	Training and Development INSET
	Director for ICTS	Information Technology and Information Management
	Director for Public Affairs Service	Communications
	Representative from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Service and Alternative Learning System	Regional Orientation Regular meetings and consultations with stakeholders
	Representative from the Office of the Undersecretary for Legal Affairs	Legal



PENDING ISSUES AND CONCERNS

Reenacted 2018 GAA vs 2019 GAA

- **Reenacted 2018 GAA**

- Legally, better because there is SP on joint management of GASTPE programs with PEAC but no assurance on validity as the 2019 GAA may be signed anytime
- Financially, bad for SHS VP as the budget for SHS VP would be enough only to cover deficit from SY 2018-2019 and Grade 12 VPBs and only for the “first semester”

- **2019 GAA**

- Predicted to be signed in August 2019
- Legally, no assurance that the SP will be approved which means no legal cover for contracting PEAC
- Financially, better for SHS VP as there will be enough funds to cover SY 2018-2019 deficit and both Grade 11 and Grade 12 VPBs at least for the “first semester”

SHS VP FY 2019: Reenacted 2018 GAA as of March 13, 2019

Particulars	SHS VP for Private Schools	SHS VP for Non-DepEd Schools	Total
Actual Carry-over from 2018 (if final GAA allotment is fully exhausted in FY 2018)	8,008,932,585	0	8,008,932,585
2018 Reenacted Budget	13,692,180,000	742,454,000	14,434,634,000
Available Budget for FY 2019	5,683,247,415	742,454,000	6,425,701,415
FY 2019 Financial Requirement	21,868,120,342	1,645,987,553	23,514,107,895
Shortage in SY 2019-2020	16,184,872,927	903,533,553	17,088,406,480

For comments: SHS VP Application

Financial Considerations

- Operating under a reenacted 2018 GAA
 - No funds for Grade 11 VPBs whether automatically qualified or applicants

Legal Considerations

- Operating under a reenacted 2018 GAA
 - SP provides legal cover for contracting PEAC
 - Without SP, no authority nor obligation for PEAC to conduct applications

Operations

- Cannot afford to wait for 2019 GAA
- One month for PEAC to process applications
- Without joint management with PEAC, there is no online voucher application portal, no manpower to process applications

Option 1: Announce no SHS VP application, open once issues are resolved

Option 2: Open SHS VP without assurance of PEAC involvement + available budget

Issuance of Guidelines

- Additional amendments to DepEd Order No. 19, s. 2017
 - Increase in Voucher Subsidy Rate for ALS students
 - Annual billing but two-tranche payment
- Additional Amendments to DepEd Order No. 20, s. 2017
 - Inclusion of OHSP Certification
 - Billing of TSS

Status: Awaiting approval of OSEC.