



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS

March 05, 2020

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

No. **140**, s. 2020

**ADVICE ON THE TRANSPORTATION CONCERNS OF THE 2020 NATIONAL SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE (NSPC) AND NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF TALENTS (NFOT)**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is DepEd Memorandum CI-2020-00051, dated March 05, 2020 on the **Advice on the Transportation Concerns of the 2020 National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) and National Festival of Talents (NFOT)** on March 9-13, 2020 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela, Region II.
2. The Schools Division Offices shall submit an updated Confirmation Slip of the participants who opt to attend the above mentioned activities despite the issuance of the attached memorandum.
3. The Confirmation Slip duly signed by the Schools Division Superintendent must be submitted/mailed to **clmd.region8@deped.gov.ph** not later than March 6, 2020.
4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

**RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO IV**  
Director IV

Enclosures: None

References: DM-CI-2020-0005, DM No. 138, s. 2019; RM Nos. 016, s. 2020.

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

CELEBRATION AND FESTIVAL CONTEST OFFICIALS LEARNERS SCHOOLS

CLMD-NPJ



Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte  
(053) 323-3156 | region8@deped.gov.ph  
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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
UNDERSECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

40132

**MEMORANDUM**  
**DM-CI-2020-00051**

To : **MINISTER, MBHTE - BARMM**  
**ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

Attention : **ALL REGIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
**SUPERVISORS/COORDINATORS IN CHARGE OF**  
**NSPC AND NFOT**

From : **DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO**  
Undersecretary

Subject : **ADVICE ON THE TRANSPORTATION CONCERNS OF NSPC**  
**AND NFOT PARTICIPANTS**

Date : **March 5, 2020**

Relative to the transportation concerns due to the suspension and rescheduling of the National Schools Press Conference (NSPC) and the National Festival of Talents (NFOT) under DepEd Memorandum (DM) No. 15, s. 2020 and DM No. 23, s. 2020, please be informed that due to the voluminous details of affected passengers and tickets, Cebu Pacific (Cebu Pac) and Philippine Airlines (PAL) are still studying and validating the data to make a decision on the request of DepEd for refund or rebooking with waiver of fees of non-refundable tickets purchased by participants of NSPC, NFOT and National Science and Technology Fair (NSTF) for the original dates of the activities last February 2020.

Air Asia has granted the request for rebooking with waiver of fees last February 27, 2020, and the passenger shall pay the fare difference between the price of the original fare and the new fare. The process for the rebooking was earlier announced by the focal persons of the Bureau of Curriculum Development for the NSPC and NSTF, and the focal person of the Bureau of Learning Delivery for the NFOT.

With respect to PAL and Cebu Pac, updates will be given as soon as there are developments on the request of DepEd. The airlines desire that the request of DepEd and its outcome not be publicized, as they entered into negotiations with DepEd due to the special circumstances of the DepEd activities and participants, but they have quite limited resources to accommodate special requests from all their passengers, considering the airlines are also suffering heavy losses due to the COVID-19 situation and they are not under obligation to favorably act upon these requests for refund or rebooking of non-refundable tickets if the flights were not cancelled. The outcome of the request of DepEd is thus not guaranteed. As per request of the airlines, please use discreet communication channels for information dissemination regarding the negotiations of DepEd with the airlines.

However, should some affected passengers no longer be able to wait for the outcome of DepEd's request from Cebu Pac and PAL, in view of the passengers' flight routes and proximity of the NSPC and NFOT, it is advised that they contact their airline directly to request for consideration to allow the rebooking or refund of their tickets in light of the COVID-19 situation.

Otherwise, transportation expenses pertaining to NSPC and NFOT of DepEd public school learners and employees – whose forfeited/non-refundable tickets for the original dates of the NSPC and NFOT are originally charged against their unit's regular allocation for maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE)—may be charged against local funds subject to availability, and usual budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

As stated in DM 15, s. 2020, the suspension of the NSTF, NFOT and NSPC last February 2020 was due to government measures to uphold public health and contain the spread of COVID-19, as advised by the Department of Health, for the protection and safety of everybody. It is understandable that nobody, whether the government or private individuals/entities, would want to suffer losses from the suspension of DepEd activities, but such losses may be necessary for the good of all. DepEd itself has also suffered losses from non-refundable tickets for some of its suspended activities. The government requests for understanding, cooperation and sacrifice for the common good in this time of the COVID-19 health situation.

For NSPC-related concerns, please contact the Bureau of Curriculum Development at email addresses [bcd.csdd@deped.gov.ph](mailto:bcd.csdd@deped.gov.ph) or [nspcentral@gmail.com](mailto:nspcentral@gmail.com) or telephone number (02) 8632-7746, while for other NFOT-related concerns, please contact the Bureau of Learning Delivery at email address [bld.sid@deped.gov.ph](mailto:bld.sid@deped.gov.ph) or telephone number (02) 8631-9993.

For your information and guidance.

**Cc: Office of the Undersecretary for Finance**