



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

August 2, 2024

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **873** s. 2024

CONDUCT OF THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO REVIEW DEPED ORDER NO. 55, S. 2013 OR THE "IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013"

To: Schools Division Superintendent
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is Memorandum OM-OUOPS-2024-05-05861 dated July 26, 2024, from Atty. Revsee A. Escobedo, Undersecretary for Operations, regarding the Request for Assistance in conducting Focus Group Discussions to review DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2013 or the "Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-bullying Act of 2013." This is in response to the attached communication letter from the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2) requesting the same.

2. Pursuant to the memorandum, this Office, through the Education Support Services Division (ESSD) – Special Programs and Projects Section (SPPS), shall facilitate the conduct of the activity on August 13, 2024, at Guadalupe Heights Integrated School of the Schools Division Office of Tacloban City, following the specifications outlined by EDCOM2.

3. The identified Schools Division Office and school are requested to prepare the following:

A. For the School

- i. School data on bullying since 2013;
- ii. Copy of the school-based anti-bullying policy with a narrative on how the school developed such policy;
- iii. Prevention and intervention programs to address bullying with means of verifications; and
- iv. Data on trainings for teachers conducted to address bullying.

B. For the Schools Division Office

- i. BEIS data on bullying since 2013;
- ii. Issuance of the necessary documents for the conduct of the FGDs, such as but not limited to:
 - a. Memoranda/Letter to the School; and
 - b. Consent form for the learners who will participate in the FGDs.

4. The school is also requested to identify the target participants specified in Annex A of the communication letter from EDCOM2 and relay the schedule of the focus group discussions.

5. Participants in this activity are as follows:

A. Central Office

- i. 26 Technical Working Group Members (from EDCOM2, Department of Education, Department of Health, & Commission on Higher Education;
- ii. 7 Learner Rights and Protection Personnel.

B. Regional Office

- i. 1 ESSD Chief;
- ii. 1 Regional LRP Focal Person;
- iii. 1 EPS in Values Education;
- iv. 1 Regional LRP Alternate Focal Person;
- v. 1 TWG (ESSD).

C. Schools Division Office

- i. 1 EPS in Values Education;
- ii. 1 Division LRP Focal Person;
- iii. 1 Division LRP Alternate Focal Person.

D. School

- i. 1 School Principal;
- ii. 5-6 Homeroom Teachers/Values Education Teachers;
- iii. 1 Guidance Counselor/Designate;
- iv. 17-21 Parents of Learners;
- v. 14-18 Learners.

6. Participants shall be provided with meals charged against the CO-LRPO downloaded funds covered by OSEC-8-24-0635 dated January 2, 2024. The accommodation expenses for participants from the LRP Central Office Personnel shall also be covered by the same fund. However, their travel and other incidental expenses shall be charged against their respective MOOE/Local Fund/ESF, subject to the usual government accounting and auditing procedures.

7. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


EVELYN R. FETALVERO CESO IV
Regional Director

Enclosures: As stated

References: As stated

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

ANTI-BULLYING ACT

EDCOM2

FGD

ESSD-SPPS-HRMC



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Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

OM-OUOPS-2024-05-0586

TO : **JOCELYN DR. ANDAYA**
Regional Director
DepEd National Capital Region

EVELYN R. FETALVERO
Regional Director
DepEd Regional Office VIII

FROM : 
ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary for Operations

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN CONDUCTING THE FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS TO REVIEW DEPED ORDER NO. 55, S. 2013 OR THE "IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013"**

DATE : July 26, 2024

This has reference to the initiatives of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) and the Department of Education, through the Learner Rights and Protection Office (LRPO), to review DepEd Order (D.O.) No. 55, s. 2013 or the "Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013."

Background

Under Republic Act No. 11899, the EDCOM II was mandated to conduct a comprehensive national evaluation and assessment of the problems faced by the Philippine education system and to recommend transformative policies and programs to resolve our learning crisis.

One of the current directions of the EDCOM is to review D.O. No. 55, s. 2013. Relatedly, the EDCOM II created a Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of different National Government Agencies, including DepEd, and Non-Government Organizations to review D.O. No. 55, s. 2013 and plan out validation of proposed amendments, among others.

In relation to its mandate to review D.O. No. 55, s. 2013, the TWG decided to conduct Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) on the following:

Date	Venue	Persons/Offices-In-Charge
August 8, 2024 (Thursday)	Elementary or High School in SDO Navotas with double/triple shifts	School Heads; Central Office; Regional; and Schools Division Office Focal Persons for Learner Rights and Protection
August 13, 2024 (Tuesday)	School with Kinder to Senior High School or Elementary to Senior High School with nearby day care center	School Heads; Central Office; Regional; and Schools Division Office Focal Persons for Learner Rights and Protection

Request

The concerned Schools, Regional and Schools Division Offices are requested to take the necessary actions to accommodate the request of the EDCOM II in relation to the conduct of the FGDs. Particularly, the concerned Offices are requested to prepare the following:

A. For the schools

1. School data on bullying since 2013;
2. Copy of the school-based anti-bullying policy with a narrative on how the school developed such policy;
3. Prevention and intervention programs to address bullying with means of verification; and
4. Data on trainings for teachers conducted to address bullying.

B. For the Regional and Schools Division Offices

1. Provision of food and office supplies (bond paper, writing materials, tape, manila paper);
2. Procurement of accommodation (for Region VIII FGD only; technical specifications to follow);
3. Issuance of the necessary documents for the conduct of the FGDs, such as but not limited to:
 - i. Memoranda/letters to the schools;
 - ii. Consent form for the learners who will participate in the FGDs; and
 - iii. Travel authorities or locator slips for the focal persons.

The expenses to be incurred from these activities may be charged against the Program Support Funds downloaded by the LRPO to the Regional Offices. Further downloading of these funds to the concerned SDOs may be done, subject to government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

Further, the Regional Office-Contract of Service personnel for LRPO, under the supervision of the permanent focal person, shall lead the coordination with the Central Office and the Field Offices concerned for the conduct of this activity.

For queries or concerns, your Office may coordinate with the LRPO through Atty. Suzette T. Gannaban-Medina, Officer-In-Charge, Director IV, Bureau of Learner Support Services and LRPO, and Ms. Camille Cariaga, Technical Assistant III, at (02) 8632-1372 or e-mail at lrpo@deped.gov.ph.

For **appropriate** action.

Thank you very much.



30 July 2024

SONNY M. ANGARA

Secretary
Department of Education

ATTN: ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary for Operations

DR. DEXTER A. GALBAN
Assistant Secretary for Operations

Subject: Conduct of Field Visit in NCR and Region 8 to Consult Key Stakeholders on Revisions of the Anti-Bullying Act IRR

Dear **Secretary Angara**:

Greetings from the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II).

Based on the discussions during the EDCOM II Basic Education Sub-committee Meeting on Priority Area # 10: Bullying and Home and School Environment last 13 June 2024 at the UP BGC, and following the insights from research studies conducted by the De La Salle University (DLSU) on bullying in the Philippines, the Commission formed a **high-level Technical Working Group (TWG) to review DepEd Order No. 55 s. 2013 (Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10672, Otherwise Known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013).**

In accordance with the TWG's work plan (please see Annex C), the TWG members will conduct **field visits in two (2) regions to gather school-based insights on creating and maintaining safe and supportive learning environments** in schools for the IRR review. Relative to this, the TWG has agreed to proceed with these visits, as follows:

Region	Date	Details
National Capital Region	August 8	Division of Navotas City Suggested: <i>Tanza Elementary School</i>
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas	August 13	Division of Tacloban City Suggested: An Integrated School in Northern Tacloban

Note: Since these field visits will be conducted on a weekday and students and teachers can't be pulled out of their classes, choosing schools with double-shift classes will be more feasible.



EDCOM2
The Second Congressional
Commission on Education



In preparation for these visits, we would like to seek assistance from DepEd on the following:

- **Coordination with the Schools Division Office (SDO) of Navotas City** to identify an elementary school with two (2) to three (3) class shifts, which will serve as the venue of the FGD in NCR to avoid disruption of classes. (suggested: Tanza Elementary School);
- **Coordination with the Schools Division Office (SDO) of Tacloban City** to identify an integrated school that offers classes for Kindergarten learners, which will serve as the venue of the FGD in Region VIII. (suggested: an integrated school in Northern Tacloban);
- **Notification and endorsement of FGDs** to be conducted in the identified schools, including transportation

Please see the attached annexes for details (Annex A: Specific persons to include, Annex B: Suggested Schedule). Further information will follow as we approach the actual conduct of the FGDs.

For your coordination and clarifications, please contact Raquel Cabrieto, Technical Specialist for Basic Education, through email (technical_basiced@edcom2.gov.ph) or telephone at 85526601 (trunkline) loc. 5121.

Thank you for your continued support.

Very truly yours,

KAROL MARK R. YEE, Ph.D.
Executive Director



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ANNEX A: Details of Target Participants

	Details
Interview with Division key stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations for data on child protection cases • LRPO representative • Values Education Supervisor
Interview with the school head	
Focus Group Discussion with Learners	<p>For Division of NAVOTAS: 1 Group of Students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 students from Grades 4-6 (2 students per grade level) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ An equal number of boys & girls, if possible ◦ Some learners who have good performance and are struggling learners ◦ Include 1-2 student officers <p>For Division of TACLOBAN: 2 Groups of Students (Grade 4-6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 students from Grades 4-6 (2 students per grade level) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ An equal number of boys & girls, if possible ◦ Some learners who have good performance and are from low sections ◦ Include 1-2 student officers <p>(Grade 7-10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 students from Grades 7-10 (2 students per grade level) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ An equal number of boys & girls, if possible ◦ Some learners who have good performance and are from low sections ◦ Include 1-2 student officers
Focus Group Discussion with Teachers	Homeroom teachers + Values ed (5-6 teachers) Guidance designate (1?)
Focus Group Discussion with Parents	<p>For Division of NAVOTAS: 1 Group of Parents ONLY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 members of the PTA • 3 parents of students who joined FGD <p>For Division of TACLOBAN: 3 Groups of Parents</p> <p>1) Group of Parents from Grade 4-10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 parent per grade level with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Some members of the PTA ◦ Some parents of students who joined FGD <p>2) Group of Parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-7 parents who sent their children to daycare before Kinder <p>3) Group of Parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-7 parents who did not send children to daycare



ANNEX B: Suggested Schedule

(note: schedule can be reorganized, depending on the shift set-up of the school)

Division of Navotas

Time	Activity	Persons involved
7:00 - 8:30	Travel Time	
8:30 - 9:30	Courtesy call in Division Office and Interview with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operations for data on child protection cases, • LRPO representative • Values Education Supervisor 	Whole TWG
9:30 - 10:00	Travel to School Site	
10:00 - 10:30	Context Setting	EDCOM II
10:30 - 12:00	Simultaneous FGDs Group A: Teachers Group B: Parents Group C: Learners	
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch	
1:00 - 2:00	Interview with the school head	TWG



ANNEX C: TWG Work Plan
Technical Working Group to Review DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2013

Background and Rationale

In line with the discussions during the EDCOM2 Basic Education sub-committee meeting on **Priority Area 10: Bullying and Home & School Environment** last June 13, 2024, at the UP BGC, and following the insights from research studies conducted by the De La Salle University (DLSU) on bullying in the Philippines, the Commission is forming a high-level Technical Working Group (TWG) to review DepEd Order No. 55 s. 2013 (Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10672, Otherwise Known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013).

Functions and Responsibilities of the TWG:

Comprehensive Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review DepEd Order 55, s. 2013: IRR of Anti-Bullying Law to include the following tasks:
1. Gathering of Existing Practices - Highlights and Challenges Propose Amendments <i>2nd TWG</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather key stakeholders to share good practices and challenges and identify areas needing improvement in the current IRR. • Develop and propose amendments, revisions, and elaborations to the existing IRR to address identified gaps and incorporate best practices. • Ensure the proposed changes align with the latest policies and legal standards.
2. Stakeholder Consultation <i>Field Visit</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and organize consultations with critical stakeholders, including teachers, school leaders, parents, students, and experts, to validate proposed amendments and gather feedback.
3. Draft Preparation <i>3rd TWG</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an initial draft of the revised IRR based on stakeholder feedback and expert recommendations.
4. Feedback Integration <i>Writeshop</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate feedback from the consultation process into the revised IRR.
5. Finalization and Facilitation of Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize the proposed revised IRR for submission to the appropriate authorities for approval. • Ensure the final document is clear, actionable, and effectively addresses bullying within the school environment.



Composition of the TWG:

EDCOM 2	
Chair, Executive Director	Dr. Karol Mark Yee
Basic Education Standing Committee Focal Person, Distinguished University Professor, De La Salle University	Dr. Allan Bernardo
Chief Legal Officer	Atty. Joseph Noel Estrada
Chief Technical Officer	Krupskaya (Kay) Añonuevo
Department of Education	
Undersecretary for Governance and Field Operations	Usec. Revsee Escobedo
Assistant Secretary for Operations	Dr. Dexter A. Galban
OIC, Director IV, Bureau of Learner Support Services	Atty. Suzette T. Gannaban-Medina
NEAP - Professional Development Division	Marife T. Morcilla
NEAP - Professional Development Division	Julie Lyka M. Ignao
Attorney III, Legal Service - Legal Division	Atty Philemon Romualdo S. Suyosa III
Department of Health	
Medical Officer IV, Health Promotion Bureau	Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring MD, MPM
Medical Officer IV, Health Promotion Bureau	Dr Aimee Lorraine C. Capinpuyan MD, MBA, MPH
Medical Officer IV, Disease Prevention and Control Bureau	Dr. Gleah Dominguez
Mental Health Program Division	Don Matthew Fabian
Commission on Higher Education	
Chair on Technical Panel for Teacher Education	Dr. Edizon Fermin