



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

DepEd Regional Advisory no. 44, s. 2026
March 6, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit deped.in/ro8issuance)

**INVITATION TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE PHILIPPINE BOOK FESTIVAL
(PBF) 2026**

Attached is Joint Memorandum from the National Book Development Board (NBDB) and Bureau of Learning Resources (BLR), announcing the conduct of the 4th Philippine Book Festival, the largest market for Filipino books and a prime venue for the learning and educational entertainment, from March 12-15, 2026, at the Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong.

The four-day event, which is **FREE OF CHARGE**, will feature the following five realms offering a variety of quality books for attendees to relish and benefit from:

1. Aral Aklat – dedicated to academic books;
2. Booktopia – showcasing fiction and non-fiction trade books;
3. Kid Lit – focused on children’s books;
4. Komiks – highlighting comics and graphic novels; and
5. Collective Stand – inspiring stories of indie creatives.

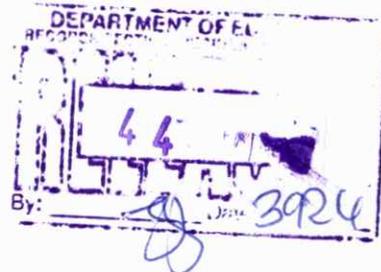
The participants of this activity are the teachers, non-teaching personnel, learners, parents, and other stakeholders.

Participation of both public and private school shall be purely voluntary and will not hamper instructional time in compliance with the provisions of DepEd Order No. 012, s. 2025, titled *Multi-Year Implementing Guidelines on the School Calendar and Activities* and DO NO. 9, s. 2005, titled *Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith*.

For more information, please contact:

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National Book Development Board (NBDB)
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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

JOINT MEMORANDUM

**TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**FROM : ATTY. *Fanontongan* *Fanontongan*
FANONTONGAN**
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

Carmela Oracion
CARMELA C. ORACION
Assistant Secretary and Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems (OULS)

Malcolm S. Garma
MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary for Operations

**SUBJECT : INVITATION TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE
PHILIPPINE BOOK FESTIVAL (PBF) 2026**

DATE : 3 March 2026

RECEIVED
3/4/26
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
SIGNATURE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VII
DATE: *03-05-26*
TRACKING #: *3399* TIME: *11:57 AM*
SIGNATURE: *[Signature]*

The National Book Development Board (NBDB), an attached agency of the Department of Education (DepEd), will hold the 4th Philippine Book Festival, the largest market for Filipino books and a prime venue for learning and educational entertainment, from 12-15 March 2026, at the Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.

Celebrating literature, culture, and creativity, this year's PBF will follow a Filipino festival theme where books become bridges to culture and the beauty of Philippine traditions and heritage are celebrated through stories and art.

The four-day event, which is **FREE OF CHARGE**, will feature the following five realms offering a variety of quality books for attendees to relish and benefit from:

1. Aral Aklat – dedicated to academic books;
2. Booktopia – showcasing fiction and non-fiction trade books;
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Participants shall be immersed in a meaningful literary fiesta experience through the following:

- **Meet and Greet with Authors, Creators, and Celebrities** - Connect with your favorite Filipino authors and creators and get to know them more while having your books signed;
- **Workshops and Storytelling Sessions** - Take pleasure in modern and traditional storytelling, poetry readings, and other performances to be displayed;
- **Fun and Exciting Competitions** - Showcase your talents and creativity in the thrilling contests offered;
- **Exhibits** - Attendees can look forward to the different interactive and exciting booths;
- **Food and Festivities** - Take a feast and indulge in Filipino classics and other delicacies in the food zone;

These programs and activities shall take place in the main stage, cinema, creators stage, *Pakyawan* area, and all booths. To learn more about the complete list of programs and other details of the PBF, you may visit the following official social media platforms of the NBDB and PBF:

- www.philippinebookfest.com and www.books.gov.ph
- Facebook: @NBDBPhilippines | @bookfestph
- Instagram: @NBDBPhilippines | @bookfestph
- X (formerly Twitter): @NBDBPhilippines
- Tiktok: @NBDBPhilippines

In view of the above, the Department hereby invites teachers, non-teaching personnel, learners, parents, and other stakeholders to attend and participate in the said event.

Regional Offices (ROs) and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are requested to perform the following:

1. The issuance of a Regional/Division Memorandum inviting, promoting, and encouraging the participation of all interested DepEd and private school personnel, as well as other interested stakeholders, such as learners and their parents and/or guardians, to join the PBF **during the weekend or during their available time or after class duties on weekdays**;
2. Encouraging Learning Resource (LR) personnel, such as those involved in the identification and selection of storybooks, big books, and other literary and

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supplementary learning resources (SLRs) for school libraries, to attend the book fair activities during their free time:

3. Allowing public and private schools to hold educational tours during the PBF, subject to compliance with the rules and regulations in the conduct of educational trips; and
4. Encouraging selected Regional, SDO, and / or school non-teaching and teaching scoping personnel (only during periods / days the latter have no class) to attend the PBF on official business, subject to provision of applicable overload/Compensatory Time-Off (CTO) during non-working days when necessary.

In relation to item no. 4 above and in case the RO, SDO, and/or school decide to organize their respective delegation to attend the PBF 2026, expenses incurred relative to the participation of the identified DepEd personnel may be charged against available local funds, subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

For questions and concerns regarding PBF 2026, please contact **Dir. Maria Carolina A. Tapia** of NBDB through email at mctapia@books.gov.ph. For DepEd-related questions and concerns, please coordinate with the **Bureau of Learning Resources - Office of the Director** through e-mail address blr.od@deped.gov.ph or call at telephone numbers (02) 8634-1072 / 8631-6922.

For information and dissemination.

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