



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

June 11, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **722** s. 2026

**RENAMING OF BALIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO
 RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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

1. In reference to the recommendation from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines relative to the request for the renaming of school, the Department of Education Regional Office No. 8 through the Quality Assurance Division (QAD) announces the change of name of school from **Balire Primary School** to **Antonio Riel Granados Elementary School**, effective **June 11, 2026**.
2. To preserve the historicity, it is advised that the old name of the school, which has been sanctified by usage by the residents of the community, be placed beneath the new name as follows:

ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 (Formerly Balire Primary School)

3. Copies of this issuance shall be posted at the Regional Office, Division Office, Municipality/ City Halls, Schools and other conspicuous places for reference and information of the general public.
4. The Schools Division Superintendent of Leyte Division is advised to facilitate the updating of data and profile of the aforementioned school in the Enhanced Basic Education Information System (EBEIS) and Learners Information System (LIS) and to monitor the implementation of this issuance.
5. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this memorandum are desired.


SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO III
 Regional Director

References: None

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

PLANNING

POLICY

QAD-GLA



Address: Government Center, Candahug, Palo, Leyte
 Telephone No.: (053) 832-5738
 Email Address: region8@deped.gov.ph
 Website: region8.deped.gov.ph





RECEIVED
5/13/26
OFFICE OF THE ASST. REGIONAL DIRECTOR
SIGNATURE

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF LEYTE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII

1st ENDORSEMENT
May 13, 2026

DATE: 5/13/26
TRACKING #: 6144 TIME: 10:29 am
SIGNATURE: _____

Respectfully forwarded to **DR. SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ, CESO III**,
Regional Director Department of Education Regional Office No. VIII the attached
documents for Renaming of of **BALIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO RIE
GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**, Barugo, Leyte.


MARIZA S. MAGAN, EdD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

SGOD-SM, M&E-FCVP

Dep Ed. REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII LEYTE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
BY: _____
DATE: _____

MAY 13 2026



Office of the Municipal Vice-Mayor

May 11, 2026

From: **ATTY. JESUS B. CABANACAN**
Municipal Vice Mayor

To: **MARIZA S. MAGAN, EdD, CESO V**
Schools Division Superintendent
DepEd Leyte Division
Government Center, Brgy. Candahug
Palo, Leyte

Subject: **RENAMING OF BALIRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO "ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"**

DepEd DIVISION OF LEYTE
CANDAHUG, PALO, LEYTE
RECEIVED
12 MAY 2026

Dear Dr. Magan:

It is with deep regret that I express my utmost concern in the manner over which your office has handled, inappropriately and capriciously at best, the renaming of the subject school.

So as to clarify matters for the benefit of all concerned, I would like to take the liberty of discussing succinctly the law, rules and regulations, and procedures involved in the renaming of public schools:

- a. **Section 13 (c) (3) of R.A. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that the sanggunians of component cities and municipalities may, in consultation with the Philippine Historical Commission (now the National Historical Commission of the Philippines), change the name of city and municipal public elementary, secondary and vocational or technical schools, post-secondary and other tertiary schools within its territorial jurisdiction;**
- b. **Section 13 (e) of the same Code provides that a change of name of a public school shall be made only upon the recommendation of the local school board concerned; and**
- c. **Section 99 (d) of the same Code provides that the Local School Board shall recommend changes in the names of public schools within the territorial jurisdiction of the local government unit for enactment by the sanggunian concerned.**

The foregoing provisions of law are for compliance by the sanggunian concerned in the enactment of an ordinance renaming a public school within its territorial jurisdiction. Not for DepEd to comply. Neither is it for DepEd to conduct review whether the sanggunian complied with such provisions in the enactment of the ordinance, which, once approved, has the presumption of regularity. It is clear that DepEd has no approval authority over local ordinances. Even the Sangguniang Panlalawigan has no approval authority over ordinances enacted by component cities and municipalities; it only declares whether or not the ordinance enacted by the sanggunian and approved by the Local Chief Executive is within the conferred powers of the sanggunian to enact.

This is aptly confirmed by your own **DepEd Order No. 40, S. 2014, dated August 26, 2014**, which prescribes the **Revised Guidelines on the Establishment, Merging, Conversion, and Naming/Renaming of Public Schools, and Separation of Public School Annexes in Basic Education**. The revised guidelines of the said Order provide as follows:

Paragraph VI, A.5. On Naming and Renaming of Schools.

Barugo Padayon An Gugma!

Municipal Hall, Burgos St. Poblacion District I Barugo, Leyte

0960-294-93422

lgu.barugo@yahoo.com

Municipality of Barugo, Leyte



Office of the Municipal Vice-Mayor

Sub-paragraph 1.

“Section 99 (d) of Republic Act 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991) authorizes the Local Sanggunian to change the name of schools through an ordinance, with the Local School Board as the recommending body...Thus, approval by the Department Secretary on the naming and renaming of such schools is no longer necessary, pursuant to DepEd Order 29, s. 2011 entitled ‘Revised Guidelines on the Naming/Renaming of Schools.’”

Sub-paragraph 3.

“For purposes of monitoring and updating DepEd records, the School Head shall furnish the concerned DepEd offices/units in the central, regional and schools division offices, especially the person in-charge of EBEIS with a copy of the Municipal or City ordinance approving the naming and renaming of school.”

While I am under no obligation to explain or justify this matter to your office, let me outline the following steps that were taken/followed by the LGU Barugo, Leyte, in the renaming of the subject school, in chronological order:

1. On September 16, 2023, Barangay Balire, Barugo, Leyte, passed Resolution No. 60, S. 2023 entitled “A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, BARUGO, LEYTE, THROUGH THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD, TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL OF BARANGAY BALIRE, BARUGO, LEYTE, FROM BALIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.”;
2. In a letter dated September 26, 2023, the District-in-Charge, Barugo II School District, favorably endorsed to the Local School Board the request of the Sangguniang Barangay of Barangay Balire;
3. On February 26, 2024, the Local School Board of the Municipality of Barugo passed Resolution No. 1, S. 2024 entitled “A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF SCHOOL NAME FROM BALIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.”
4. On March 12, 2024, the Sangguniang Bayan of Barugo, Leyte, passed Resolution No. 39, S. 2024 entitled “A RESOLUTION CONSULTING THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES REQUESTING ITS MANIFESTATION OF NO OBJECTION TO THE RENAMING OF BALIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.”
5. In a letter dated April 3, 2024, the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) through its Chairperson, Lisa Guerrero Nakpil, informed us “that the NHCP does not object to the proposed renaming based on the thorough deliberations of the Local School Board and the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Barugo.”
6. Subsequently, on April 23, 2024, the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Barugo enacted Municipal Ordinance No. 04, S. 2024 entitled “RENAMING THE BALIRE PRIMARY SCHOOL TO ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL” which was timely approved by the Municipal Mayor.

Eventually, to coordinate with DepEd, the School Head and the District-in-Charge of Barugo II School District were provided a copy of the Ordinance.


Based on the foregoing, the subject school was effectively renamed upon approval of the Ordinance.

Barugo Padayon An Gugma!

Municipal Hall, Burgos St. Poblacion District I Barugo, Leyte

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 Municipality of Barugo, Leyte



Office of the Municipal Vice-Mayor

Hence, I find it quite perplexing that your office has assumed the role of an entity with review and approval power over the renaming of public schools, a function that is exclusively vested by law in the Sangguniang Bayan of the local government concerned.

Your Endorsement, copy of which was provided to us, dated April 27, 2026 (two years after the enactment and approval of the Ordinance!) stated, "Respectfully returned to **MA. ANGELYN P. DANTE**, School Head, the herein documents on the **application for the renaming** of Balire Elementary School, Barugo, Leyte to Antonio Riel Granados Elementary School. Per result of the document evaluation conducted by the Regional Office, **the application is being returned** for compliance with Item No. 3 of DepEd Order No. 29, s. 2011 dated March 24, 2011: Consultation with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) regarding the renaming of schools, which is under Section 13 of the Local Government Code of 1991."

It makes us wonder who is applying to DepEd for the renaming of the school. It certainly is not the Sangguniang Bayan.

According to paragraph VI, A.5, sub-paragraph 3, of the Revised Guidelines prescribed by DepEd Order No. 40, S. 2014 cited above, the School Head shall furnish the concerned DepEd offices/units with a copy of the **Municipal or City ordinance** approving the naming and renaming of school. It does not mention any other document. Neither does any pertinent provision of the Local Government Code.

Nevertheless, for the sake of coordinating with your office and to satisfy any unwarranted, additional process internal to your office, I am providing your office a copy of the letter from the NHCP indicating our consultation with it.

Unfortunately, we have been patiently coordinating with DepEd through the School Head, District -in-Charge of Barugo II School District and even your office. Frankly, the two-year period since the approval of the Ordinance is, to say the least, unacceptable.

Accordingly, we have scheduled the formal ceremony for the renaming of the subject school on May 29, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning. Please consider this letter as an invitation to all DepEd officials concerned.

Sincerely,

ATTY. JESUS B. CABANACAN
Municipal Vice Mayor

Attachment:

NCHP Letter dated April 3, 2024

Copy furnished:

Dr. Aron C. Balais, FPCEM
Municipal Mayor

The Honorable Secretary Sonny Angara
Department of Education
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Metro Manila 1605

Hon. Danilo B. Bugal
Chairman, Barangay Balire
Barugo, Leyte

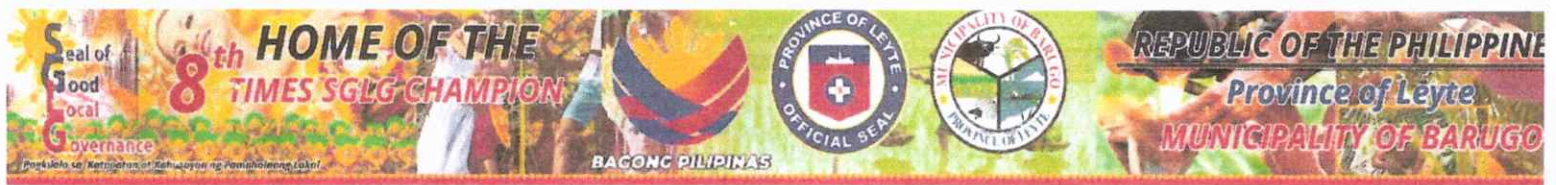
Barugo Padayon An Gugma!

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Municipality of Barugo, Leyte



Office of the Municipal Vice-Mayor

Mr. Wilfredo P. Avorque
District-in-Charge
Barugo II School District

Ma. Angelyn P. Dante
School Head
Antonio Riel Granados Elementary School
(Formerly Balire Elementary School)
Barugo, Leyte

Heirs of Antonio Riel Granados
Rep by Mr. Bert Granados

DOTS

TRACKING NO. _____

150509





National
Historical
Commission of the
Philippines

3 April 2024

VICE MAYOR JOSEPHINE C. TIU

Office of the Vice Mayor
Municipal Hall
Burgos St., Poblacion, District I
Municipality of Barugo
Province of Leyte

Dear Vice Mayor Tiu,

This is in reference to your letter received by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) on 1 April 2024, requesting the renaming of Balire Primary School to Antonio Riel Granados Elementary School in Barangay Balire, Municipality of Barugo, in honor of the donor of the school lot.

We are pleased to inform you that the NHCP does not object to the proposed renaming based on the thorough deliberations of the Local School Board and the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of Barugo. We suggest, however, that the new signage of the school bears the old name underneath of the new name as follows:

ANTONIO RIEL GRANADOS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
(Formerly Balire Primary School)

This will serve as a guide to the community that has been used to the old name and to facilitate the delivery of postal matters.

Attached herewith is a copy of the NHCP Revised Guidelines on the Naming and Renaming of Streets, Public Schools, Plazas, Building, Bridges and other Public Structures

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

LISA GUERRERO NAKPIL
Chairperson

N.H.C.P. Building, T.M. Kalaw St.,
Ermita, Manila, The Philippines,
P.O. Box 3374



OUT-2024-1321

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