



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

August 5, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **994** s. 2026

**REITERATION OF THE SECOND VIRTUAL ORIENTATION ON THE
UTILIZATION OF FILIPINO LEVELED BOOKS (FLB)**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads
Reading and Literacy Coordinators
Implementing Teachers
All Others Concerned

1. Relative to **DM-LS-NEAP-2026-015** dated **July 29, 2026**, this Office, through the National Educators Academy of the Philippines – Region VIII, reiterates the conduct of the **Second Batch of Virtual Orientation on the Utilization of Filipino Leveled Books (FLB)**.

2. The activity aims to ensure that concerned personnel who were unable to attend the first virtual orientation receive the necessary technical guidance on the effective utilization of Filipino Leveled Books and the implementation of the literacy initiative.

3. For Region VIII, the two-hour virtual orientation shall be conducted on the following schedule:

Date	Time	Platform
August 19, 2026	2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Microsoft Teams

4. The target participants are the following personnel who were unable to attend the first virtual orientation:

- School Heads;**
- School Reading or Literacy Coordinators; and**
- Teachers implementing the Filipino Leveled Books initiative.**

5. The active participation of School Heads is strongly encouraged to ensure effective monitoring, appropriate teacher support, and the establishment of a strong reading culture in their respective schools.

6. The orientation shall cover the following:

- Six-week implementation blueprint;
- Ten-day lesson plan cycle;
- Conduct of small, guided reading groups;
- Synergy of fiction and nonfiction texts;
- Alignment of Comprehensive Rapid Literacy Assessment results with FLB levels;

- e. Alignment of Comprehensive Rapid Literacy Assessment results with FLB levels;
- f. Classroom implementation and recommended practices;
- g. Use of the FLB Tracker to monitor learner progress and reading growth; and
- h. Roles of School Heads and Reading Focal Persons in the implementation of the program.

7. Concerned participants shall register and access virtual orientation through the following links:

Link to the Registration, Meeting Link, and Orientation Materials	
Region VIII Registration Link: https://tinyurl.com/ycycvawx	
Region VIII Meeting Link: https://tinyurl.com/mr84tpb2	
Pre-Orientation Kit Link and QR Code: https://tinyurl.com/2s3ch8xd	
Post-Orientation Kit Link and QR Code: https://tinyurl.com/2tndd766	

8. For inquiries, contact **Mr. Israel Gilvani D. Malaca, EPS II, NEAP R-8** through neap.region8@deped.gov.ph.

9. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

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

Enclosures: None

References: As stated

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

LEARNING RESOURCES
LITERACY
ORIENTATION

HRDD-NEAPRVIII-IGDM





Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education
NATIONAL EDUCATORS ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES

Office of the Director

MEMORANDUM

DM-LS-NEAP-2026-015

TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS (Region V, VIII & IX)
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
HRDD AND CLMD CHIEFS
CID AND SGOD CHIEFS
ARAL FOCAL PERSONS/READING FOCAL PERSONS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : 
MICHAEL JOSEPH P. CABAATAN
Director III
National Educators Academy of the Philippines

SUBJECT : CONDUCT OF THE SECOND BATCH OF VIRTUAL
ORIENTATION ON THE UTILIZATION OF FILIPINO
LEVELED BOOKS (FLB)

DATE : 29 JULY 2026

To ensure that all intended participants are adequately equipped with the necessary knowledge and guidance on the effective utilization of the Filipino Level Books (FLB), the Department of Education, through the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP), shall conduct a **Second Batch of the Virtual Orientation on the Utilization of Filipino Level Books (FLB)** for participants from Regions V, VIII, and IX who were unable to attend the first orientation. The orientation aims to provide another opportunity for schools to receive the same technical guidance to support the effective implementation of the literacy initiative.

The 2-hour virtual orientation is scheduled on the following dates and time:

- Region V August 18, 2026 2:00PM to 4:00PM
- Region VIII August 19, 2026 2:00PM to 4:00PM
- Region IX August 20, 2026 2:00PM to 4:00PM

Similar to the first orientation, discussions will focus on:

- a. the 6-week implementation blueprint;
- b. the 10-day lesson plan cycle;
- c. conducting small guided reading groups; and
- d. the synergy of fiction and non-fiction texts.

The target participants for this activity are **School Heads, School Reading/Literacy Coordinators, and implementing teachers who were unable to attend the first virtual orientation.** Their participation is highly encouraged to ensure that all implementing schools receive the necessary orientation prior to utilizing the FLB resources.

The active participation of School Heads is strongly encouraged to ensure effective monitoring, teacher support, and the establishment of a strong reading culture within their respective schools.

Please refer to the enclosure for the updated program matrix, registration link, pre-work, and meeting link.

For any concerns or clarifications, please contact Jim Miguel Edmilao of the NEAP - Office of the Director through jimmiguel.edmilao@deped.gov.ph or via viber 0995-972-6371.

The Academy looks forward to your continued support, cooperation, and active participation in ensuring that all concerned personnel are capacitated for the successful implementation of the Filipino Level Books initiative.

Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Enclosure I - Registration and Meeting Link by Region

Link to the Registration, Meeting links, and Orientation Materials	
Region V Registration Link	https://tinyurl.com/567fe9mj 
Region VIII Registration Link	https://tinyurl.com/ycycvawx 
Region IX Registration Link	https://tinyurl.com/j44t2nyt 
Pre-Orientation Kit	 [FLB] Pre-Meeting Kit 
Post-Orientation Kit	 [FLB] Post-Meeting Kit

Link to the Registration, Meeting links, and Orientation Materials	
	
Region V Meeting Link	https://tinyurl.com/ycxcven2 
Region VIII Meeting Link	https://tinyurl.com/mr84tpb2 
Region IX Meeting Link	https://tinyurl.com/4mzs8s9c 

Enclosure II - Indicative Program

Indicative Program			
Time	Event	Assigned	Talking Points
5 mins	Welcome Message	Michael Joseph P. Cabuatan Director III, NEAP	1. Context Setting
15 Mins	Introduction to Give Me A Book Foundation (GMBF) and the Filipino Leveled Books (FLB) Program	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	- About GMBF - What are Filipino Leveled Books? - Understanding Levels A and B - Linking FLB to CRLA Results (Why many learners begin at Levels A and B)
15 Mins	Open Forum and Questions & Answers	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	
15 Mins	Getting Started with FLB	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	- Implementation Flowchart - Aligning CRLA Results with FLB Levels - Classroom Implementation and Best Practices
15 Mins	Open Forum: Implementation Concerns and Discussion	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	
15 Mins	Using the FLB Tracker	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	- Purpose of the Tracker - Encoding Learner Progress - Monitoring Reading Growth - Using Tracker Data for Instruction
15 Mins	Hands-on Demonstration and Questions on the FLB Tracker	Maria Victoria C. Lagoutte Founder, GMBF	
30 Mins	The Role of the School Head/Reading Focal	Carlos B. Llamas, III PDO V - NEAP QAD	The role of the School Head/Reading Focal in the context of the implementation of the FLB
5 Mins	Closing Remarks	NEAP	1. Synthesis 2. Moving Forward Instruction

Enclosure III - Background

About the GMBF and the Founder

Our work began in late 2021, during a time when elementary schools in the Philippines were still severely affected by the pandemic. Recognizing the plight of young students who were unable to attend school or access online classes, we aimed to make a lasting impact by bringing education directly to their homes. For the first time, hundreds of students and their parents read together at home. Every week, students and their parents would report back to their schools to get a new set of books to read at home.

When schools reopened, we realized that our Filipino Leveled Books were the missing resources in our public school classrooms. The pandemic revealed the sad reality of the state of our young students' reading skills, confirmed by the 2018 and 2022 PISA results, which ranked the Philippines among the eight lowest in reading scores out of 80 countries.

We understood that our job had just begun and that the best way to continue and reach more students was to officially become a foundation. Give Me a Book Foundation for Filipino Leveled Books was founded in July 2023.

Maria Victoria (Chona) Colayco-Lagoutte received her Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of the Philippines and her Master's in Elementary Education from the renowned Bank Street College of Education in New York. She owned and ran a preschool in Parañaque before moving to France. For over 25 years she was a primary school teacher and an instructional coach specializing in reading, writing, and math at the American School of Paris.

The education crisis in the Philippines, heightened during the pandemic, and the critical need for reading materials drove her to create a leveled books program in 2021, crafted specifically for Filipino first graders. This project has grown today into the Give Me A Book Foundation.