



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

October 21, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **1376** s. 2026

REITERATION ON THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Division DRRM Coordinators
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a Memorandum from Malcolm S. Garma, Undersecretary of the Office of Undersecretary for Governance and Operations dated October 12, 2026, encouraging all schools to conduct age appropriate and trauma-informed safety drills focusing on addressing the gaps and weaknesses identified during the National Safety Drill conducted on September 3, 2026.
2. Schools shall use their respective drill observations, evaluations and documented findings to identify priority areas for improvement, including evacuation procedures, learner accountability, communication and coordination with emergency responders, as applicable.
3. All schools shall conduct monthly safety drills beginning November 2026 to continuously improve school safety mechanisms. Each drill highlights a different threat or scenario based on the school's risk assessment and vulnerabilities identified in their contingency plan.
4. Other information and details related to this issuance are specified in the attached communications.
5. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


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

Enclosures: As stated

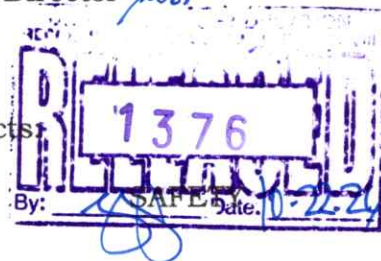
References: As stated

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

SCHOOL

DRILL

ESSD-SPPS-DRRM-BCSA



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Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM:
OM-OUGOPS-2026-

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOL HEADS

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary

Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations



SUBJECT : INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL

DATE : October 12, 2026

As part of the observance of School Safety Week, a school safety drill will be conducted at Bangkal National High School, City of Makati, on Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. The activity will be live-streamed to provide schools with a practical demonstration of emergency preparedness and response procedures that may serve as a reference in strengthening their respective school safety mechanisms.

All public schools are encouraged to conduct their respective age appropriate and trauma-informed safety drills on the same date, focusing on addressing the gaps and weaknesses identified during the National Safety Drill conducted on September 3, 2026. Schools shall use their respective drill observations, evaluations, and documented findings to identify priority areas for improvement, including evacuation procedures, learner accountability, communication, and coordination with emergency responders, as applicable.

To continuously improve school safety mechanisms, all public schools shall conduct monthly safety drills beginning November 2026, with each drill highlighting a different threat or emergency scenario based on the school's risk assessment and identified vulnerabilities identified in their contingency plans. The schedule of monthly drills shall be agreed upon by school authorities and relevant stakeholders and, as much as practicable, arranged to minimize disruptions to classes and other essential school activities without compromising the effectiveness of the drills.



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Each drill shall be treated as part of a continuous improvement cycle:

Assess – Review school-level risks and findings from previous drills.

Drill – Practice a selected threat or emergency scenario.

Evaluate – Document observed gaps and lessons learned.

Improve – Implement corrective actions and assess progress during the next drill.

Schools are encouraged to maintain appropriate records of these steps to support follow-through and continuous improvement.

Regional Directors and Schools Division Superintendents are directed to provide technical assistance (TA) and guidance in the conduct of monthly safety drills, including support for the assessment of school-level preparedness, documentation of lessons learned, and identification of appropriate corrective measures.

For immediate dissemination.