



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
REGION IX, ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DAPITAN CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

6 August 2026

Division Memorandum  
No. 385 s. 2026

**DISSEMINATION OF REGIONAL MEMORANDUM NO. 517, S. 2026 ON THE STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROTECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES UNDER THE THREE-TERM SCHOOL CALENDAR**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chief, Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)  
Chief, School Governance and Operation Division (SGOD)  
Education Program Supervisors  
Public Schools District Supervisors  
Public Elementary & Secondary School Heads  
All Others Concerned  
This Division

1. In line with Regional Memorandum No. 517, s. 2026 titled "Strict Compliance with the Protection of Instructional Time during the Implementation of School-Based Activities under the Three-Term School Calendar, this Office hereby disseminates the policy on the strict protection of instructional time during the implementation of school-based activities under the Three-Term School Calendar. All schools are reminded to strictly adhere to DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, which provides that the Instructional Block shall be devoted exclusively to uninterrupted teaching and learning. Consequently, all non-instructional activities such as programs, celebrations, meetings, trainings, and similar engagements must not disrupt regular classroom instruction and shall instead be scheduled during the End-of-Term Block or conducted outside class hours.

2. In this regard, all school heads are directed to ensure that regular classes are not suspended, shortened, or interrupted for the conduct of any school-based activities during the Instructional Block. Activities related to national celebrations, monthly observances, and advocacy programs must, whenever possible, be integrated into classroom instruction or scheduled in a manner that does not reduce instructional time. Likewise, school programs and initiatives shall be designed and implemented without pulling out learners and teachers from their classes unless officially authorized.

3. Further, all school officials are enjoined to refrain from scheduling meetings, conferences, monitoring activities, and other administrative engagements requiring teachers' attendance during class hours, unless expressly permitted under existing DepEd policies. Requests from external stakeholders for participation during the Instructional Block shall be carefully evaluated and endorsed only when aligned with DepEd policies and when such participation does not disrupt classroom instruction.



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SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DAPITAN CITY

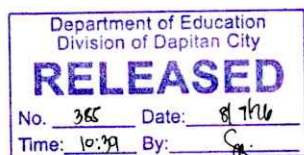
4. School Heads shall exercise sound administrative and instructional supervision in the scheduling and implementation of school activities to ensure that teaching and learning remain uninterrupted. Public Schools District Supervisors, PICDs, and Education Program Supervisors shall monitor compliance during school visits and provide necessary technical assistance, while CID and SGOD shall support the dissemination and monitoring of this policy through established quality assurance mechanisms.

5. School Heads shall exercise sound administrative and instructional supervision in the scheduling and implementation of school activities to ensure that teaching and learning remain uninterrupted. Public Schools District Supervisors, PICDs, and Education Program Supervisors shall monitor compliance during school visits and provide necessary technical assistance, while CID and SGOD shall support the dissemination and monitoring of this policy through established quality assurance mechanisms.

6. Any deviation from these provisions that results in the disruption of instructional time shall be addressed in accordance with existing DepEd rules and regulations.

7. All concerned are directed to ensure the widest dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum.

**JAY S. MONTEALTO, CESO V**  
Schools Division Superintendent





Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 REGIONAL OFFICE IX, ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA



Office of the Regional Director

August 4, 2026

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

No. 517, s. 2026

**STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROTECTION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TIME  
 DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES  
 UNDER THE THREE-TERM SCHOOL CALENDAR**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
 Assistant Schools Division Superintendents  
 Chiefs, CID and SGOD  
 Education Program Supervisors  
 Public Schools District Supervisors  
 School Heads, Public Elementary, Junior High School, and Senior High  
 School  
 All Others Concerned

1. To reiterate and ensure strict compliance with the Department of Education's policy on the protection of instructional time under the Three-Term School Calendar, this office is reminding all Schools Division Offices (SDOs) and schools that the conduct of school-based, division, regional, and national activities shall not disrupt regular classroom instruction during the Instructional Block.

2. Pursuant to DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, "Guidelines on the Implementation of the Three-Term School Calendar in Basic Education," the Department established the Instructional Block as a protected period exclusively devoted to uninterrupted teaching and learning. The policy clearly provides that extracurricular activities, celebrations, competitions, trainings, orientations, meetings, and other non-instructional engagements shall be scheduled during the appropriate End-of-Term Block or other periods identified in the school calendar in order to safeguard instructional time and ensure the continuous delivery of the curriculum.

3. Accordingly, all field offices and schools are directed to uphold this mandate by ensuring that learners receive the full complement of instructional hours prescribed under the curriculum.

4. To ensure faithful implementation of the policy, all Schools Division Offices and schools are hereby reminded of the following:

a. Regular classes shall not be suspended, shortened, or interrupted for the conduct of opening programs, launching ceremonies, kick-off activities, culmination programs, awarding ceremonies, monthly celebrations, commemorative activities, advocacy campaigns, or similar events during the Instructional Block.

b. Activities in observance of national celebrations, monthly themes, such as science month, nutrition month, English month, Arts Month etc. and



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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 REGIONAL OFFICE IX, ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

advocacy programs shall, whenever practicable, be integrated into classroom instruction or conducted before or after class hours, during recess, lunch breaks, or other schedules that do not reduce instructional time.

c. School heads shall ensure that school programs and activities are designed and implemented in a manner that does not require the suspension of classes or the pulling out of learners and teachers from regular classroom instruction, except when specifically authorized by an official issuance.

d. Division and school officials shall refrain from scheduling meetings, orientations, conferences, monitoring activities, or other administrative engagements requiring teachers' attendance during class hours unless expressly permitted under existing DepEd policies.

e. Requests from external agencies, partner institutions, and other stakeholders involving learner or teacher participation during the Instructional Block shall be carefully evaluated and may only be endorsed when consistent with existing DepEd policies and when they do not disrupt classroom instruction.

4. Schools Division Superintendents shall ensure the widest dissemination and faithful implementation of this Memorandum within their respective divisions.

5. School Heads shall exercise sound administrative supervision in scheduling school activities and shall ensure that all teachers are able to conduct uninterrupted classroom instruction throughout the Instructional Block.

6. All officials and personnel are expected to prioritize teaching and learning and ensure that all school activities support, rather than impede, the attainment of learning outcomes.

7. The Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), in coordination with the Schools Division Offices, shall monitor compliance with this Memorandum during technical assistance visits, monitoring activities, and other quality assurance mechanisms.

8. Any deviation from the provisions of DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, resulting in unnecessary disruption of instructional time, shall be addressed in accordance with existing DepEd rules, regulations, and applicable administrative issuances.

9. This Memorandum shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force throughout the implementation of the Three-Term School Calendar unless otherwise amended or repealed by subsequent issuances.

10. For more information and inquiries please contact CLMD chief Dr. Eugenio B. Penales through his email address [eugenio.penales@deped.gov.ph](mailto:eugenio.penales@deped.gov.ph) or through his mobile phone number: 09985475490.



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**Department of Education**  
REGIONAL OFFICE IX, ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA

11. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is directed.

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**RONEL AL K. FIRMO, PhD, CESO IV**  
Regional Director  
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