10 November 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 582, s. 2026

STRENGTHENING THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS IN SCHOOLS

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division School Health and Nutrition Personnel
Public Schools District Supervisors
School Heads of Public Schools
All Teaching and Non-Teaching Personnel
All Others Concerned

1. In line with the Department of Health (DOH) advisories on **influenza-like illness** (ILI), copies of which are enclosed as Annexes A and B, all schools are advised to strengthen preventive measures, early recognition of symptoms, and timely referral in order to protect learners and personnel and to support the continuity of learning.

2. Learners, parents or guardians and school personnel shall be informed of the symptoms to watch for, namely **fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, headache, body aches, and weakness,** as illustrated in the DOH infographic "Sintomas na Dapat Bantayan Ngayong Flu Season!" (Annex A). Individuals experiencing these symptoms are encouraged to seek medical assessment, particularly when symptoms persist or worsen.

3. To this end, school heads, in coordination with school health personnel and local health offices, are directed to implement the following measures, which are consistent with the DOH infographic "8 Tips Para Maiwasan ang Influenza-Like Illness Ngayong Flu Season" (Annex B).

    a. **Promote influenza vaccination**. Encourage learners, personnel, and their families to consult their healthcare provider or local health office regarding annual influenza vaccination, subject to age eligibility, medical assessment, and applicable consent requirements.
    b. **Reinforce respiratory etiquette**. Remind everyone to cover the mouth and nose with a tissue or the bent elbow when coughing or sneezing, to dispose of used tissues properly, and to clean their hands immediately afterward.
    c. **Ensure regular hand hygiene**. Maintain functional handwashing facilities with soap and clean water. Remind learners and personnel to wash their

hands frequently and avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

d. **Improve ventilation**. Keep classrooms, offices, clinics, and common areas adequately ventilated by opening windows and doors when safe and feasible.
e. **Minimize crowding**. Review arrangements for assemblies, queues, and other school activities to reduce crowding, particularly in enclosed or poorly ventilated space.
f. **Encourage appropriate mask use**. Individuals with cough or colds who need to leave home, including to seek consultation, should wear a well-fitting mask, as appropriate to their age and health condition and in accordance with current DOH guidance.
g. **Encourage sick individuals to stay home**. Learners and personnel who are unwell should rest at home, avoid close contact with others, and inform their class adviser or immediate supervisor. Return to school or work shall follow healthcare advice and prevailing health guidance, and reasonable learning support shall be provided to affected leaners.
h. **Manage symptoms occurring during school hours promptly**. Learners or personnel who develop symptoms during school hours shall be referred to school health personnel or a designated trained first aider and, while awaiting assessment or arrangements to go home, shall be placed in a supervised, well-ventilated area away from others. The parent or guardian of an affected learner shall be noticed, and referral shall be arranged when necessary. A sick learner shall not be sent home unaccompanied.
i. **Ensure timely consultation and emergency referral**. Individuals with fever, cough, colds, sore throat, or body aches should consult the nearest health center, YAKAP clinic, or healthcare provider. Those experiencing difficulty breathing or other severe symptoms require immediate medical attention, and emergency transport shall be arranged when necessary.
j. **Strengthen monitoring and coordination**. School heads shall monitor illness-related absenteeism and promptly report unusual increases or cluster of similar symptoms to the School Division Office (SDO) and the local health office through existing reporting mechanisms. The confidentiality of health information shall be protected, and any recommended response shall be coordinated with health authorities. Any adjustments to classes or school activities shall follow prevailing DepEd policies and authorize procedures.

4. School heads shall disseminate the DOH materials (Annexes A and B) through official school communication channels, bulletin boards, and brief classroom reminders, and shall engage parents and guardians in reinforcing preventive practices without disrupting instructional time.

5. Please see the link below and download the tarpaulin design and have it printed.
https://tinyurl.com/ILI-tarp-portrait

6. Immediate and strict compliance with this Memorandum is hereby enjoined.

JAY S. MONTEALTO, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

Department of Education
Division of Dapitan City
RELEASED
No. 552 Date: 11/16/24
Time: 10:35 By:

BAGONG PILIPINAS DepED MATATAG HANDA sa BANTA

SINTOMAS NA DAPAT BANTAYAN NGAYONG FLU SEASON!





Lagnat



Ubo



Sipon



Pamamaga ng lalamunan



Pananakit ng ulo



Pananakit ng katawan



Panghihina

Kung nahihirapan huminga o may malubhang sintomas, magtungo agad sa health center o YAKAP clinic o pinakamalapit na ospital sa inyong lugar.

8 TIPS PARA MAIWASAN ANG INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESSES FLU SEASON



Siguraduhin na bakunado ang pamilya laban sa flu.



Takpan ang bibig at ilong kapag uubo o babahing.



Ugalin ang madalas na paghuhugas ng kamay gamit ang sabon at malinis na tubig.



Panatilihing ang magandang airflow at bentilasyon.



Iwasan hawakan ang mata, ilong, at bibig.



Iwasan ang masikip at mataong lugar.



Magsuot ng mask kung may ubo o sipon at kailangang lumabas.



Kapag hindi maganda ang pakiramdam, manatil sa bahay at iwasan makisalamuha sa ibang tao.

Tara, maging ligtas at malusog tayo ngayong Flu Season!

TRANGKASO TAYEYE-BYE!