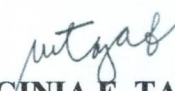




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IX – ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF DIPOLOG CITY
ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - TURNO

OFFICE MEMORANDUM
No. 12, s, 2026

TO: All Teaching Personnel
Department Heads
All Others Concerned

FROM: 
VIRGINIA E. TAGAB, MAFIL
School Principal III

SUBJECT: Urgent Directive on School Safety and Security Measures in Response to Recent Violent Incident in Schools

DATE: June 29, 2026

1. In light of the recent shooting incident in Tacloban City that resulted in multiple fatalities, and the series of violent incidents occurring within school premises in various parts of the country, this Division Memorandum is issued to direct all School Heads and concerned personnel to **immediately implement and strictly enforce school safety and security measures** in accordance with existing DepEd policies and directives from the Central Office.
2. The foregoing directive is anchored on the following legal bases and policy issuances: **Republic Act No. 9155** (Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001), which mandates the provision of quality and accessible basic education in a safe environment; **DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012** (DepEd Child Protection Policy), which prescribes measures to protect learners from all forms of violence, abuse, and exploitation within school premises; **DepEd Order No. 44, s. 2018** (DRRMS Policy and Guidelines), which establishes the framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Schools and mandates the creation of safe, secure, and resilient learning environments; **DepEd Order N0. 55, s. 2013** (Implementing Rules and Regulations on Anti- Bullying Act of 2013 or Republic Act No. 10627); and **DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026** (Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment), which prescribes non- contact bag inspection procedures, authorized personnel for security checks, and strict prohibitions on physical pat-downs.
3. In line with the foregoing, Assistant School Principal, Head Teachers, Teachers and School DRRM Coordinators are hereby directed to immediately undertake the following measures:



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- A. Conduct Classroom Security Checks.** Class advisers and subject teachers shall conduct routine security checks in their respective classrooms before the first period in the morning and the first period in the afternoon to ensure the learning environment is safe and free of prohibited or suspicious items. Likewise, mandatory bag inspections of all personnel and visitors shall be conducted at the school entrance gates during routine entry checks. Inspections must be performed strictly in accordance with **DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026**, which authorizes only licensed security personnel as primary, secondary, in the absence of security guards. Only authorized **non-contact methods** shall be employed, including electronic scanners, handheld metal detectors, and search sticks. **“Stop and Frisk” procedures, physical pat-downs, and touching of personal belongings are strictly prohibited.** In cases where reasonable suspicion exists, the concerned learner shall be escorted to the Principal’s Office in the presence of the Guidance Counselor or designated staff for a full and dignified search;
- B. Coordinate with the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Barangay Officials for Security Visibility.** All School Heads are directed to immediately establish or reinforce coordination with the nearest PNP Station and Barangay Officials to ensure regular police visibility during school hours and arrival and dismissal periods. Schools shall formally request the deployment of roving patrol units within the school vicinity and adjacent areas. This measure is aligned with the inter-agency coordination framework under DepEd Order No. 44, s. 2018, and the mandate of Local Government Units to support the safety and welfare of learners within their territorial jurisdiction. A received copy of a formal letter of coordination with the barangay shall be submitted to the Division DRRM Coordinator within five (5) working days from the publication of this Memorandum.
- C. Conduct Random Bag Inspection.** Beyond routine entry checks, the school head, security guard, and teachers shall conduct a monthly random routine bag inspection across all grade levels. This process is governed by a formal **Random Routine Bag Inspection School Plan**, which must be submitted at the beginning of the school year to the Schools Division Superintendent through SGOD- DRRMS to ensure administrative oversight and consistency. Prohibited items or items that are irrelevant to learning, that may cause disruption and harm, shall be confiscated using a formal **Confiscation Slip**. *(For the full details, kindly refer to DO 6, s 2026 Part 6, Section 5.)*
- D. Intensify Anti- Bullying Campaign in Schools.** In accordance with the **Republic Act. No. 10627 (Anti- Bullying Act of 2013)** and its Implementing Rules and Regulations under intensified anti-bullying campaigns within this school year. Schools shall review and update their Anti- Bullying Policies and Action Plans; ensure that the Child Protection Committee (CPC) is activated and operational; organize homeroom guidance sessions focused on positive peer relationships, conflict resolution, and reporting mechanisms; post visible anti- bullying pledge boards and reporting channels (drop boxes, teacher-assigned contacts); and conduct capability- building for teachers and non- teaching personnel on early detection of bullying and violence indicators. All incidents of bullying, threats, and violence shall be documented and reported to the



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School's Child Protection Committee and the Division Learner Rights and Protection Office (LRPO).

4. The School is likewise directed to activate or maintain their respective **School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (SDRRM) Teams** and to conduct a review of their existing **School Emergency Preparedness and Response Plans (SERPs)** and initiate consultation and planning activities to draft a School Safety and Security Plan (SSP) to ensure that human-induced threats and violence scenarios are incorporated in school contingency and response protocols. Schools shall also review and re-brief all personnel on security protocols, emergency communication trees, and include procedures for lockdown or evacuation in the event of a violent incident on school grounds.
5. Compliance with this Memorandum shall be monitored by the Division DRRMS Team. Any incident, threat, or security concern within or near school premises shall be immediately reported to the **Division DRRM Coordinator**, Mr. Christian James S. Paco, at **09614615305** or via email at ddrm.dipolog@deped.gov.ph.
6. Immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum is strongly desired.