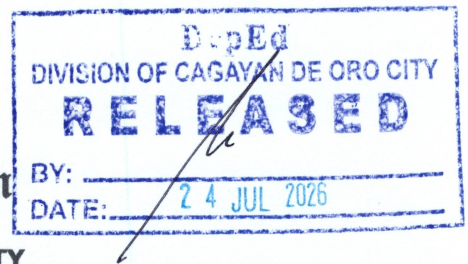




Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION X  
**DIVISION OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**



**Office of the Schools Division Superintendent**

**24 July 2026**

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 667 s.2026

**STRENGTHENING SCHOOL SAFETY, PEACE EDUCATION, AND CHILD PROTECTION MECHANISMS IN RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN AND AROUND SCHOOLS**

**TO:** Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Chiefs, CID and SGOD  
All Curriculum Implementation Division Personnel  
All School Governance and Operations Division Personnel  
All Office of the Schools Division Superintendent Personnel  
All Elementary and Secondary Public School Heads and Principals  
This Division

1. Consistent with the Department of Education's commitment to uphold the rights, welfare, and protection of learners and personnel, all schools are hereby enjoined to intensify the implementation of programs and interventions that promote peace, positive discipline, child protection, mental health, and violence prevention.
2. To ensure proper and consistent implementation, this Office issues the enclosed policy guidelines on Strengthening School Safety, Peace Education, and Child Protection Mechanism in Response to Incidents of Violence in and Around Schools.
3. In adherence to the Equal Opportunity Policy (EOP), inclusive and fair treatment is accorded to all regardless of age, gender and sexual orientation, disability, religion, and ethnicity.
4. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is directed.

  
**ROY ANGELO E. GAZO**  
Schools Division Superintendent



Encl: None

Reference: DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012 and related issuances

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

CHILD PROTECTION  
PEACE EDUCATION  
SCHOOL SAFETY  
MENTAL HEALTH  
VALUES EDUCATION  
SAFE SCHOOLS

Competence  
Diligence  
Outstanding Integrity



# **STRENGTHENING SCHOOL SAFETY, PEACE EDUCATION, AND CHILD PROTECTION MECHANISMS IN RESPONSE TO INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE IN AND AROUND SCHOOLS**

## **I. Rationale**

Recent incidents of shootings, stabbings, bullying, physical assaults, and other forms of violence occurring in educational institutions and communities have underscored the urgent need to reinforce school safety and protection mechanisms to ensure that schools remain safe, secure, child-friendly, and conducive to learning.

Consistent with the Department of Education's commitment to uphold the rights, welfare, and protection of learners and personnel, all schools are hereby enjoined to intensify the implementation of programs and interventions that promote peace, positive discipline, child protection, mental health, and violence prevention.

## **II. Purpose**

This Memorandum aims to:

- a. Strengthen the implementation of child protection and anti-bullying policies;
- b. Promote peace education and values formation as foundations of a peaceful school culture;
- c. Enhance school-based mechanisms for preventing and responding to acts of violence;
- d. Ensure preparedness and coordination among schools, families, communities, and partner agencies; and
- e. Institutionalize a whole-school approach to maintaining safe and nurturing learning environments.

## **III. Policy Bases**

Implementation shall be guided by the following:

- \* 1987 Philippine Constitution;
- \* United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- \* Republic Act No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act;
- \* Republic Act No. 10627 or the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013;
- \* Republic Act No. 11476 or the Good Manners and Right Conduct and Values Education Act;
- \* Republic Act No. 11036 or the Mental Health Act;
- \* Republic Act No. 9344 or the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act;
- \* DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, otherwise known as the Child Protection Policy;
- \* DepEd Order No. 21, s. 2019;
- \* National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework;
- \* Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 16.



#### IV. Directives

All public schools are directed to undertake the following:

##### 4.1 Strengthen Child Protection Mechanisms

- a. Ensure that the Child Protection Committee is functional and responsive;
- b. Conduct orientation and advocacy activities on DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, and Republic Act No. 10627;
- c. Establish confidential reporting and referral mechanisms for learners and personnel.

##### 4.2 Integrate Peace Education and Values Formation

- a. Incorporate peace education, conflict resolution, empathy, and responsible citizenship in classroom instruction and co-curricular activities;
- b. Organize peace advocacy programs, peer support groups, and values formation activities;
- c. Promote positive discipline and restorative approaches in handling behavioral concerns.

##### 4.3 Enhance School Safety and Security Measures

- a. Strictly regulate entry and exit of visitors and unauthorized persons;
- b. Conduct regular inspection of school premises and identify potential safety risks;
- c. Coordinate with barangay officials, law enforcement agencies, and stakeholders to ensure external school security;
- d. Prohibit the possession and carrying of deadly weapons and dangerous objects within school premises.

##### 4.4 Establish School Safety and Threat Assessment Teams

Each school shall organize or strengthen its School Safety Team composed of the School Head, Child Protection Coordinator, Guidance Coordinator, DRRM Coordinator, School Nurse, PTA representative, and other relevant stakeholders to:

- \* monitor safety concerns and risk indicators;
- \* coordinate immediate response to incidents;
- \* facilitate referrals and interventions; and
- \* recommend appropriate preventive measures.

##### 4.5 Strengthen Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Programs

Schools shall:

- a. Conduct activities promoting emotional resilience and positive relationships;
- b. Provide counseling and referral services for learners and personnel requiring support;
- c. Integrate psychosocial support and psychological first aid mechanisms during and after critical incidents.

##### 4.6 Conduct Emergency Preparedness and Safety Drills

Schools are encouraged to include in their contingency planning and emergency drills scenarios involving acts of violence and other threats, in coordination with local authorities and in accordance with existing DepEd and DRRM guidelines.



## V. Project SAFE HAVEN

The Schools Division Office hereby adopts Project SAFE HAVEN (Safe and Accountable Friendly Environment through Harmony, Advocacy, Values Formation, Empowerment, and Nurturance) as the Division's framework in promoting peaceful, violence-free, and child-friendly learning environments.

Anchored on the Division banner:

“Nindot nga Tulunghaan Alang sa Nindot nga Cagayan,”

Project SAFE HAVEN seeks to cultivate schools where every learner and personnel feels safe, respected, protected, and valued.

## VI. Monitoring and Compliance

Public Schools District Supervisors and School Heads shall monitor the implementation of this Memorandum and submit reports on significant activities and interventions undertaken as part of their regular Child Protection and School Governance reports.

Diligence  
Outstanding Integrity