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Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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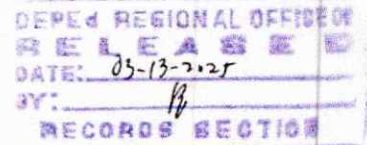
JOINT MEMORANDUM
OM-OSEC-OUOPS-2025-01-01456



TO : UNDERSECRETARIES
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
BUREAU AND SERVICE DIRECTORS
REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM: *Fatima Lipp D. Panontongan*
ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

MALCOLM S. GARMA
Assistant Secretary, Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Operations



SUBJECT : REITERATION OF DO 22, S. 2024 ON CLASS
SUSPENSION AND STRENGTHENED MONITORING AMID
INCREASED HEAT INDEX LEVELS

DATE : 3 MARCH 2025

1. In view of the anticipated escalation of heat index levels, which may pose a substantial risk to the health, safety, and overall well-being of learners and personnel, this Office hereby reiterates the provisions of DepEd Order (DO) No. 22, s. 2024, titled "Guidelines on Class and Work Suspension in Schools During Disasters and Emergencies."
2. Pursuant to said issuance, the authority to suspend face-to-face classes in response to extreme heat conditions shall be exercised at the discretion of the Local Chief Executives (LCEs) or the Schools Division Superintendents (SDS). In such instances, affected schools shall transition to modular distance learning, performance-based tasks, projects, or make-up classes to meet prescribed learning competencies.

March 13, 2025

To: ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

For information, dissemination and appropriate action.

BENJAMIN D. PARAGAS PhD, CESO III
Director IV/Regional Director

CLMD/ovc/fbg

MEMORANDUM		Date: 13 Mar 25	Released (Records): <i>pice</i>
To:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PSDS/DICs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elem/Sec School Heads	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Schools	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others:	
For:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Dissemination	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guidance	<input type="checkbox"/> Strict Compliance	
ORLANDO E. MANUEL PhD., CESO V Schools Division Superintendent			
By:	<input type="checkbox"/> -SCS	<input type="checkbox"/> CID Chief	<input type="checkbox"/> SGOD Chief
	<input type="checkbox"/> AO	<input type="checkbox"/> Atty	Signature:

3. **Mandate for Heightened Monitoring and Granular Assessment** - All Regional Offices (ROs) and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are hereby directed to:

3.1. Conduct continuous surveillance of local heat index levels and environmental conditions, utilizing data from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and other relevant authorities.

3.2. Undertake periodic assessments of school facilities, in consultation with LGUs and relevant health agencies, to determine the sufficiency of heat mitigation measures.

3.3. Implement precautionary strategies, including but not limited to, the modification of school hours, reinforcement of ventilation systems, and provision of adequate hydration facilities.

3.4. Identify schools that necessitate the deployment of Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM) due to intolerable heat exposure.

3.5. Ensure full compliance with DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2021, which mandates the installation of at least two (2) units of 16-inch oscillating wall fans per classroom where natural ventilation is inadequate.

4. **Periodic Reporting and Situation Updates** - To facilitate evidence-based decision-making and ensure a prompt institutional response, all ROs, SDOs, and school heads shall:

4.1. Submit weekly situational reports detailing class suspensions and alternative learning arrangements necessitated by extreme heat conditions. **Reports shall be submitted every Friday by 5:00 PM to ensure timely consolidation and analysis;**

4.2. Include in said reports the number of affected learners, specific interventions instituted, and any requisite administrative or logistical support.

4.3. Conduct regular environmental audits to ascertain adherence to optimal classroom temperature parameters, specifically within the range of 20-25°C, to promote cognitive function and academic performance.

4.4. Proactively implement remedial actions in cases where classroom temperatures exceed 33°C, a threshold at which the risk of heat exhaustion and related medical conditions becomes critical.

4.5. Coordinate with the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) for the consolidation of reports, issuance of advisories, and formulation of strategic response measures.

4.6. Ensure the comprehensive documentation of all health-related incidents attributed to extreme heat exposure within school premises.

5. **Mandate for DRRMS to Issue Regular Situation Reports (SITREPS)** - The Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) is hereby directed to:

5.1. Publish periodic public advisories and SITREPS concerning the operational status of schools amidst fluctuating heat index levels.

5.2. Extend technical assistance and formulate policy recommendations for the implementation of ADM as necessitated by prevailing conditions.

5.3. Aggregate and analyze reports submitted by ROs and SDOs to inform data-driven policies/ standards and responsive interventions.

5.4. Disseminate PAGASA heat index advisories to all concerned entities to bolster awareness, preparedness, and contingency planning at all levels.

6. This directive shall take immediate effect. Strict compliance is hereby enjoined from all concerned offices and personnel.

7. For immediate dissemination and compliance.



2/F Rizal Building,, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City 1600

Telephone No.: (02) 8687-2922; 8687-4177; 8636-4995; 8636-4876; Website: www.deped.gov.ph

ANNEX A: REPORTING TEMPLATE: WEEKLY REPORT ON EXTREME HEAT INDEX AND CLASS SUSPENSIONS

Reporting Office: [RO/SDO/School Name]

Date:

1. Learning Delivery Adjustments

Indicator	Number of Schools
Schools using SLMs	
Schools adopting hybrid learning	
Schools implementing the Dynamic Learning Program (DLP)	

2. School Readiness and Safety Measures

Indicator	Number of Schools
Schools with proper ventilation (sufficient fans, unrestricted airflow, or air-conditioning)	
Schools with functional drinking water facilities (e.g., water dispenser, water fountain)	
Schools that checked electrical wiring	

3. Class Schedule Adjustments and Uniform Policies

Indicator	Number of Schools
Schools adopting adjusted class scheduling	
Schools allowing more comfortable alternate uniforms for learners and personnel	

4. Health and Safety Monitoring

Indicator	Number of Cases
Reported hazards/health-related incidents among learners	
Reported hazards/health-related incidents among personnel	

Prepared by: [Name]

Designation: [Position]

Approved by: [Name]

Designation: [Position]