



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS



DepEd Regional Office No. 02



DOCS ID No.
090126036

Created by: Records
Date Created: 09/01/2026

MEMORANDUM:
OM-OUGOPS-2026-

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOL HEADS



FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations



SUBJECT : CONDUCT OF THE NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS SCHOOL SAFETY
DRILL

DATE : August 28, 2026

The Department of Education (DepEd) reiterates its commitment to strengthening the preparedness and response capacity of schools for incidents involving active threats and other emergencies. In line with the School Contingency Plan for Incidents Involving Active Shooters, the Department shall conduct the **National Simultaneous School Safety Drill on September 3, 2026 (Thursday)**, with the national ceremonial venue at Carlos F. Gonzales High School in Maguinao, San Rafael, Bulacan, and simultaneous regional ceremonial venues across the country.

The activity, originally scheduled on August 25, 2026, has been rescheduled to September 3, 2026. All concerned offices and schools are directed to adjust their logistical and operational preparations accordingly.

I. OBJECTIVES

The Nationwide Simultaneous Safety Drill aims to:

1. Strengthen the capacity of schools to implement their **Localized School Contingency Plan** for incidents involving active threats;
2. Validate the effectiveness of established lockdown, concealment, evacuation, emergency communication, and reunification procedures;



22nd Floor, TechZone Building, Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Email Address: dirrms@deped.gov.ph Website: www.deped.gov.ph

DRC	DRRMS	Rev	01
Effectivity	03.23.23	Page	of 7





Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

3. Enhance coordination among schools, Schools Division Offices (SDOs), Regional Offices (ROs), Local Government Units (LGUs), Philippine National Police (PNP), and other relevant response agencies;
4. Ensure that learners and personnel are familiar with age-appropriate protective actions and emergency procedures; and
5. Identify operational and safety gaps and establish appropriate measures for continuous improvement of the School Contingency Plan.

II. CONDUCT OF THE DRILL

All public and private elementary and secondary schools are enjoined to conduct the **National Simultaneous School Safety Drill on September 3, 2026**, subject to their localized conditions, operational readiness, and compliance with the required preparatory and safeguarding measures.

School Heads shall determine the appropriate scheduling and execution methodology based on the school's context and readiness. Schools that have not fully satisfied the prerequisite readiness criteria shall prioritize capacity-building, orientation, and administrative preparations until the necessary safeguards and operational arrangements are in place.

The drill shall follow the recommended School Safety Drill Sequence, as applicable:

Stage 0 – School Readiness and Risk Assessment	Schools shall assess their site-specific safety and security conditions, evacuation routes, lockdown or concealment areas, emergency contacts, communication systems, and other operational arrangements. The localized School Contingency Plan shall be established and coordinated with relevant response agencies.
Stage 1 – Learner Preparation, Consent and Safeguarding	Schools shall provide advance notice to learners, personnel, and parents or guardians; conduct age-appropriate orientations; secure informed written parental or guardian consent and learner assent, as appropriate; and



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

	identify learners who may require additional safeguards or reasonable accommodation. Safe alternative activities shall be provided for learners who are not ready or are unable to participate.
Stage 2 – Classroom Discussion and Protective-Action Walkthrough	Teachers shall guide learners through the appropriate protective actions, including RUN , HIDE , and the procedures for securing classrooms, responding to the alarm, evacuating, and proceeding to reunification areas.
Stage 3 – School Safety Drill	The drill shall consist of the following phases: Phase 1 – Drill Initiation and Alarm. The School Head shall initiate the drill using the school's designated non-fire/non-earthquake duress signal or alarm. The school shall also test its emergency notification and communication system with the local PNP. No simulated aggressor or threat shall be introduced. Phase 2 – Inner Ring Defense. Upon hearing the designated signal, classrooms shall implement lockdown procedures, secure doors, use approved barricading measures, turn off lights, cover windows, and practice silent concealment away from doors and windows. Phase 3 – Orderly Evacuation and Responder Compliance Posture. Once the hypothetical threat is declared resolved, the School Head shall issue the



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

	evacuation order. Learners and personnel shall proceed through designated safe routes and practice the appropriate compliance posture upon encountering responders.
Stage 4 – Recovery, Reunification and Psychosocial Support	Schools shall conduct learner and personnel accounting, implement family reunification procedures where applicable, and provide Psychological First Aid (PFA) and other appropriate psychosocial support.
Stage 5 – After-Action Review and Improvement	Immediately after the drill, the School Head and Incident Management Team shall conduct a hotwash and debriefing, assess the implementation of the drill, identify operational and safety gaps, review emergency communication workflows, and update the School Contingency Plan as necessary.

III. SAFEGUARDING MEASURES

The safety, dignity, and psychosocial well-being of learners and personnel shall remain the primary consideration throughout the activity. All preparatory and operational activities shall adhere to child-centered principles and the “Do No Harm” directive.

Schools are strictly prohibited from incorporating hyper-realistic or fear-inducing elements into the drill. There shall be **no active aggressor role-playing, imitation firearms, bladed or blunt weapons, simulated casualties, loud pyrotechnics, or simulated gunfire.**

IV. INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION

- School Heads shall ensure coordination with the **PNP, LGUs, BFP, Local DRRM Offices, Local Social Welfare and Development Offices, local health offices, PTAs, and other concerned stakeholders** in the preparation and conduct of the drill.



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

- Regional and Division DRRM Coordinators shall coordinate with their respective offices and concerned LGUs and partner agencies involved in the drill to ensure synchronized preparations, clear roles and responsibilities, and effective implementation.
- The Regional DRRM Coordinator shall select **one (1) school within the region** to serve as the **ceremonial venue** for the Nationwide Simultaneous Safety Drill. The designated ceremonial venue shall serve as the pilot school for the simultaneous conduct of the drill and related coordination activities. (See Annex A for the list of designated ceremonial venues per region.)

V. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Regional Offices (through Regional DRRM Coordinators)	1. Provide technical assistance and guidance to SDOs and schools; 2. Coordinate with concerned regional counterparts and partner agencies; 3. Select one (1) school to serve as the ceremonial venue for the simultaneous drill, consistent with the designated ceremonial venues indicated in Annex B; 4. Monitor the implementation of the drill within the region; and 5. Consolidate and submit required reports in accordance with established reporting mechanisms.
Schools Division Offices (through the Division DRRM Coordinators)	1. Provide technical assistance to schools in the localization and implementation of their School Contingency Plans; 2. Coordinate with LGUs, PNP, and other concerned agencies; 3. Monitor school readiness and implementation of the drill; and



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

	4. Consolidate school-level reports and submit the required documentation to the Regional Office.
Schools (through the School Heads)	1. Ensure that all prerequisite readiness, orientation, consent, and safeguarding measures are completed before the drill; 2. Activate and brief the School Incident Management Team and other concerned personnel; 3. Coordinate with local authorities and partner agencies; 4. Ensure the safe and age-appropriate conduct of the drill; 5. Provide appropriate psychosocial support and reasonable accommodations; and 6. Conduct the post-drill evaluation and update the School Contingency Plan based on identified gaps.

VI. REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION

Following the conduct of the drill, all schools shall accomplish the **National Simultaneous School Safety Drill Online Reporting Form** through the submission link provided below. The online reporting shall include the following:

- a. Accomplished Evaluation Form; <https://bit.ly/4iwrXhO>
- b. Updated School Contingency Plan for Active Attack Incidents; and
- c. Drill report/documentation

Schools shall ensure that reports accurately capture participation, implementation, observations, challenges, identified gaps, and recommended actions.

Online Reporting Form: <https://forms.gle/JJTbPyAkHzNjz3rh7>



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

VII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The primary objective of the School Contingency Plan and the School Safety Drill is to ensure the safety and well-being of learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and other concerned persons during an active threat. Other concerns, including learning continuity and regular school operations, shall remain secondary until the threat has been neutralized and competent authorities have declared that regular operations may resume.

Attached herein is the School Safety Drill Sequence Guide (*See Annex B*), which shall serve as a reference in adapting the drill to the specific context and readiness of each school.

For strict compliance and appropriate action.



September 1, 2026

To: SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

For information, guidance and compliance.

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

For the Regional Director:


JOY T. SORIANO
Chief Education Supervisor, QAD
Officer-In-Charge

MEMORANDUM		Date: <u>09-03-2026</u>	Released (Records): <u>Queen</u>
To:	☒ PSDS/DICs	☒ Elem/Sec School Heads	
	☐ Private Schools	☒ Others:	
For:	☒ Information	☒ Dissemination	
	☒ Guidance	☒ Strict Compliance	
ORLANDO E. MANUEL PhD., CESO V Schools Division Superintendent			
By:	☐ ASDS ☐ CID Chief ☒ SGOD Chief ☐ AO ☐ Atty	Signature: 	

Annex A: Regional Ceremonial Venues

Region	Venue
Region I	Ilocos Norte National High School, Laoag City
Region II	Libag Integrated School, Tuguegarao City
Region III	Carlos F. Gonzales High School, San Miguel, Bulacan
Region IV A	Angelo L. Loyola High School, Carmona City
Region IV B	Sta. Monica National High School, Puerto Princesa City
Region V	San Fernando HS, Sto. Domingo, Albay
Region VI	Inzo Arnaldo Village Integrated School, Roxas City
Region VII	Ramon Duterte Memorial National High School, Cebu City
Region VIII	Leyte National High School, Tacloban City
Region IX	Rebokon Agricultural and Vocational High School
Region X,	Iligan City National High School
Region XI	Davao City National High School Davao City Division
Region XII	Lagao 2nd Bo. ES Gen. Santos Lapuz NHS South Cotabato Kidapawan City NHS
NCR	Felimon Javier Elementary School, Mandaluyong City
CAR	Baguio City High School Fort del Pilar National High School
CARAGA	Balite NHS, San Francisco, Surigao del Norte
NIR	Bago City Elementary School, Brgy. Poblacion, Bago City

from

National Simultaneous School Safety Drill

September 3, 2026; 9:00 AM

Carlos F. Gonzales High School, Maguinao, San Rafael, Bulacan

TIME	DURATION	ACTIVITY	LEAD
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	30 mins	Arrival of Guests, Registration	SDO Bulacan, DRRMS
9:30 AM - 9:35 AM	5 Mins	PRELIMINARIES National Anthem Song of Acclamation/Prayer	Audio Visual Presentation
9:35 AM - 9:40 AM	5 Mins	Welcome Remarks	CIPRIANO "GOTO" D. VIOLAGO JR. Municipal Mayor of San Rafael
9:40 AM - 9:50 AM	10 Mins	Message	SONNY ANGARA Secretary, Department of Education
9:50 AM - 9:55 AM	5 mins	Scenario Briefing	MALCOLM S. GARMA Undersecretary for Governance and Operations, DepEd
9:55 AM - 10:25 AM	30 Mins	Lockdown Drill Proper	Carlos F. Gonzales High School
10:25 AM - 10:50 AM	25 Mins	Drill Review and Evaluation	MARTIN AGUDA Incident Management Expert MANUEL M. LUKBAN JR. Local DRRM Officer RICHARD C. SANTOS OCD III, Officer P/LTC LAWRENCE GERALD A BATHAN Acting Chief of San Rafael MPS
10:50 AM - 10:55 AM	5 Mins	DILG: Emergency Hotlines	JED MABILOG Undersecretary for Public Safety, DILG
10:50 AM - 11:00 AM	5 Mins	Closing Remarks	MARK CHOLO VIOLAGO Rep, 3rd District of Bulacan
10:55 AM - 11:25 AM	30 Mins	Discussion of School Contingency Plan for Active Attacks	(For School Only) FELINO O. CASTRO V Director IV DRRMS

From