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Republika ng Pilipinas

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM
OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-03777

DEPED REGIONAL OFFICE 02
RECEIVED
DATE: 10/28/26
BY:
RECORDS SECTION

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
ALL SHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL SCHOOL HEADS
BARMM EDUCATION MINISTER
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
Date: 11 NOV 2026
Time: 3:57
By:
DIVISION OF NUEVA VIZ

FROM : **MALCOLM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

WILFREDO E. CABRAL
Undersecretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development

SUBJECT : **COMMEMORATION OF THE WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY FOR FY 2026**

DATE : September 11, 2026

Republic Act No. 11036, otherwise known as the *Mental Health Act*, and Republic Act No. 12080, otherwise known as the *Basic Education Mental Health and Well-Being Promotion Act*, mandate the Department of Education (DepEd) to pursue strategies and initiatives that promote and protect mental health and well-being in basic education, among others. In support of these mandates, the **Bureau of Learner Support Services – Learner Wellness Office (BLSS-LWO)** and the **Bureau of Human Resources and Organizational Development – Employee Welfare Division (BHROD-EWD)** have collaborated to develop initiatives that promote mental health and well-being among learners and DepEd personnel.

In this regard, **all offices across governance levels and schools are encouraged to conduct appropriate activities** beginning **October 10, 2026** (Saturday), in commemoration of **World Mental Health Day (WMHD).** As announced by the **World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH)** and the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, the theme for World Mental Health Day is **"Lived Experiences Heard: Real Voices, Real Change."** The theme highlights the importance of listening to and valuing the lived experiences of individuals in shaping responsive mental health policies, programs, and services.

MEMORANDUM	Date: 11/16/26	Released (Records):
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:

Through this celebration, DepEd brings together learners, personnel, and stakeholders and enjoins them to actively participate in initiatives that promote mental health, strengthen psychosocial support, and contribute to creating safe, supportive, and mentally healthy learning and working environments for all.

Recommended activities including references and materials to use for the observance can be accessed in this link: https://bit.ly/DepEd_MH2026.

Expenses for activities conducted in offices may be charged to the respective local funds, while expenses for activities involving learners may be charged to the Learner Support Funds (LSP) under the School-Based Mental Health Program (SMHP). Regional Offices and Schools Division Offices are requested to augment funds in cases of deficiencies or shortages. All expenses shall be subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

The following mechanisms shall be implemented to monitor participation in the observance:

1. Submission of Post-Activity Report. Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and Schools shall submit a short written post-activity report, with corresponding MOVs, in PDF format covering all activities conducted.
2. The PDF file of the activity report shall follow the prescribed file-naming convention:
    a. Schools: *Name of the School_SDO*
    b. Field Offices: *Name of the SDO_Region*
3. Online Submission. The post-activity reports shall be uploaded through the designated link: https://bit.ly/DepEd_MH2026Reports.

All mental health promotion activities or initiatives shall ensure that schools are in compliance with the **no-disruption of classes policy** stipulated in DepEd Order (DO) No. 9, s. 2005 titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith and the policy on off-campus activities stated in DO 66 s. 2017.

For more information, please contact **BLSS-LWO** through **Ms. Belle Beatrice D. Hombrebueno** at blss.lwd@deped.gov.ph, or **BHROD-EWD** through **Ms. Camille Balbuena** at bhrod.ewd@deped.gov.ph.

November 11, 2026

To: **Schools Division Superintendents**

Attention: Medical Officers
Nurses In-Charge

For your information and appropriate action.

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

For the Regional Director:

RODERIC B. GUINUCAY
Education Program Supervisor
OIC, Office of the Regional Director

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