

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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OM-OSEC-2025-0.03

APR 1 1 2025

TO

: ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS

ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

ALL SCHOOL HEADS ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM

SONNY ANGARA

Secretary %,

SUBJECT

REMINDERS ON ENSURING THE SAFETY OF LEARNERS IN

SCHOOLS

DATE

DepEd Order (DO) No. 40, s. 2012 or the *DepEd Child Protection Policy*, emphasizes the duties and responsibilities of both personnel and learners to refrain from committing acts of violence and possessing illegal articles such as deadly weapons, drugs, pornographic materials, poison, cigarettes, and other similar paraphernalia. While, DO 33, s. 2021, titled *School-Based Disaster Preparedness and Response Measures for Tropical Cyclones, Flooding, and Other Weather-Related Disturbances and Calamities*, mandates that the School Head, with the School DRRM Team, shall implement various measures to prepare the school for natural disasters and other calamities.

Furthermore, DO 7, s. 2024 or the Revised School-Based Management System Policy highlights the duty of the school and its community to ensure that the learning environment is learner-centered, empowering, healthy, safe, secure, inclusive, and resilient to achieve improved learning outcomes.

Pursuant to the aforementioned policies, all Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, and schools are enjoined to strictly monitor the safety and well-being of all learners and personnel through preventive measures including, but not limited to the following:

a. Fire, Earthquake, Flood, and other hazards inspection;

 Security procedures (e.g. bag inspection upon entry to the school, increased visibility of school security personnel, implementation of stringent protocols for guests, etc.);

 Strengthening of policy implementation against child abuse, exploitation, discrimination, bullying, gang and gender-related violence, and other similar cases;

d. Provision of necessary learner support services such as mental health and youth formation initiatives;



- e. Close coordination with the barangay and the local government unit to ensure the safety and security of the school; and
- f. Other activities that promote the protection and the improvement of the overall well-being of the learners, personnel, and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, local school programs that strengthen learner safety should be crafted and fully supported.

For your guidance and appropriate action.