



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

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JOINT MEMORANDUM
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CECILIA E. VALDERAMA, PhD, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent

FOR : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
HEADS OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : **MALCOLM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations
ATTY. EDSON BYRON K. SY
*Assistant Secretary, Officer-in-Charge,
Office of the Undersecretary for Finance*

SUBJECT : **AUTHORIZING THE UTILIZATION OF SCHOOL MAINTENANCE**
AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES (MOOE) FOR THE
PROCUREMENT OF METAL DETECTORS

DATE : June 25, 2026

In view of the Department's continuing efforts to ensure safe, secure, and conducive learning environments, and strengthening the school security arrangements, this Office reiterates the importance of strengthening preventive and protective measures in schools to safeguard learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel.

Consistent with existing policies governing the utilization of School Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), **school heads** are hereby authorized to utilize available school MOOE funds **for the procurement of metal detectors as part of school security and safety measures**, subject to the availability of funds and compliance with applicable Department policies, and existing budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement laws, rules, and regulations.

Schools that have not yet procured metal detectors are **strongly encouraged** to acquire the same as part of efforts to strengthen school safety and security measures. Schools with existing metal detectors may likewise procure additional units, as may be deemed necessary, to augment existing capacity and enhance the implementation of school security screening procedures.

Further, school heads are reminded that the conduct of bag inspections and other school security measures shall be undertaken **in accordance with the provisions of DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026**, or the "Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and

Motivating Learning Environment,” and shall at all times uphold the rights, dignity, privacy, and welfare of learners.

Regional Offices are hereby directed to identify and consolidate reports on schools with insufficient or unavailable funds for the procurement of metal detectors and transmit the report to the Central Office for appropriate assessment and corresponding action.

In view thereof, **this Office respectfully requests your widest dissemination of this Memorandum.**

For inquiries or further coordination, you may contact the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations through email at ougops@deped.gov.ph or via telephone at (02) 8633-5313 or the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Finance through their email at oasf@deped.gov.ph or via telephone at 8633-9342.