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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BULACAN

October 20, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

NO. 488 S. 2026

**INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF MONTHLY SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS IN ALL
PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BULACAN**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
Elementary and Secondary School DRRM Coordinators
All Others concerned.

1. In reference to the Department of Education Memorandum dated October 12, 2026, issued by the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations, entitled "Institutionalization of School Safety Drill," all public schools in the Schools Division of Bulacan are hereby directed to strengthen their school safety preparedness through the regular conduct of age-appropriate and trauma-informed safety drills.

2. All public schools are encouraged to conduct school safety drills that address the gaps and weaknesses identified during the National Safety Drill conducted on September 3, 2026. Schools shall review their previous drill observations, evaluations, and documented findings to identify priority areas for improvement, including but not limited to the following:

- a. evacuation procedures and the safe movement of learners and personnel;
- b. learner accountability and headcount procedures;
- c. emergency communication and information dissemination;
- d. coordination with emergency responders and relevant stakeholders; and
- e. other school-specific safety and preparedness concerns identified through risk assessment.

3. Beginning November 2026, all public schools shall conduct monthly school safety drills, with each drill highlighting a different threat or emergency scenario based on the school's risk assessment, identified vulnerabilities, and existing contingency plans. The schedule of drills shall be coordinated with relevant school authorities and stakeholders and as much as practicable, arranged to minimize disruption to



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classes and other essential school activities without compromising the effectiveness of the exercises.

4. To ensure systematic implementation and continuous improvement, all schools shall adopt the following cycle in conducting their safety drills:

a. Assess – Review school-level risks, previous drill findings, and identified preparedness gaps.

b. Drill – Conduct a safety drill based on a selected threat or emergency scenario.

c. Evaluate – Document observations, weaknesses, challenges, and lessons learned during the exercise.

d. Improve – Implement appropriate corrective actions and monitor progress during succeeding drills.

5. School Heads, in coordination with their respective School DRRM Coordinators and School DRRM Teams, shall ensure proper planning, implementation, evaluation, and documentation of the monthly drills. They shall also maintain appropriate records of the activities, including identified gaps, recommended corrective actions, and the status of improvement measures, to support monitoring and continuous enhancement of school safety mechanisms.

6. All drills shall be conducted in a manner that prioritizes the safety, dignity, and well-being of learners and personnel. Schools shall ensure that activities are age-appropriate, trauma-informed, and consistent with the school's risk profile and established emergency procedures.

7. The Schools Division DRRM Unit, through the School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD), shall provide technical assistance and guidance to schools, as necessary, in assessing preparedness, reviewing drill documentation, identifying appropriate corrective measures, and monitoring implementation.

8. All Public-School Heads are directed to disseminate this Memorandum to their respective School DRRM Coordinators and concerned personnel for immediate information, guidance, appropriate action and compliance.


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



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

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 *from*



SUBJECT : INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF SCHOOL SAFETY DRILL

DATE : October 12, 2026

As part of the observance of School Safety Week, a school safety drill will be conducted at Bangkal National High School, City of Makati, on Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. The activity will be live-streamed to provide schools with a practical demonstration of emergency preparedness and response procedures that may serve as a reference in strengthening their respective school safety mechanisms.

All public schools are encouraged to conduct their respective age appropriate and trauma-informed safety drills on the same date, focusing on addressing the gaps and weaknesses identified during the National Safety Drill conducted on September 3, 2026. Schools shall use their respective drill observations, evaluations, and documented findings to identify priority areas for improvement, including evacuation procedures, learner accountability, communication, and coordination with emergency responders, as applicable.

To continuously improve school safety mechanisms, all public schools shall conduct monthly safety drills beginning November 2026, with each drill highlighting a different threat or emergency scenario based on the school's risk assessment and identified vulnerabilities identified in their contingency plans. The schedule of monthly drills shall be agreed upon by school authorities and relevant stakeholders and, as much as practicable, arranged to minimize disruptions to classes and other essential school activities without compromising the effectiveness of the drills.



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Each drill shall be treated as part of a continuous improvement cycle:

Assess – Review school-level risks and findings from previous drills.

Drill – Practice a selected threat or emergency scenario.

Evaluate – Document observed gaps and lessons learned.

Improve – Implement corrective actions and assess progress during the next drill.

Schools are encouraged to maintain appropriate records of these steps to support follow-through and continuous improvement.

Regional Directors and Schools Division Superintendents are directed to provide technical assistance (TA) and guidance in the conduct of monthly safety drills, including support for the assessment of school-level preparedness, documentation of lessons learned, and identification of appropriate corrective measures.

For immediate dissemination.