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

October 20, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 42, s. 2026

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors (CID and SGOD)
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

**PREPARATORY AND MITIGATION MEASURES FOR THE EL NIÑO
PHENOMENON IN SCHOOLS**

1. Pursuant to national policies and directives on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), and the protection of learners and school personnel, this Office issues the following preparatory and mitigation measures to minimize the adverse effects of the El Niño phenomenon and ensure the safety, health, well-being, and continuity of learning and school operations.
2. All Public Schools District Supervisors (PSDSs) and School Heads are hereby directed to immediately undertake and ensure the implementation of the following precautionary and mitigation measures:

A. Health and Safety Measures

- a. Ensure the availability of adequate, safe, and potable drinking water within school premises and encourage learners and personnel to maintain proper hydration, particularly during periods of elevated heat index.
- b. Adjust, reschedule, or modify high-intensity outdoor activities, including Physical Education (PE) classes, sports training, and other strenuous activities, to cooler periods of the day, preferably during the early morning or late afternoon, when conditions permit.
- c. Ensure that classrooms and other learning spaces are properly ventilated and adequately shaded through the use of functional electric fans, open windows, appropriate shading devices, and other feasible measures.
- d. Ensure that the school clinic is adequately equipped with basic first-aid supplies and essential materials for the initial management of heat-related



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conditions, including heat cramps, heat exhaustion, dehydration, and other heat-related illnesses.

e. Establish appropriate heat-health monitoring and response procedures, particularly for learners and personnel who may be more vulnerable to extreme heat.

B. Water Conservation and Resource Management

a. Conduct regular inspection of water pipelines, faucets, toilets, water storage facilities, and other water systems and immediately repair leaks and defects to prevent water loss and wastage.

b. Implement and maintain appropriate water conservation measures, including the responsible use of water for drinking, sanitation, cleaning, gardening, and other school activities.

c. Maintain existing rainwater harvesting systems (RHS) and maximize collected rainwater, where appropriate and safe, for non-potable purposes such as cleaning, sanitation, and school garden maintenance.

d. Ensure that water storage facilities are properly covered, clean, and regularly maintained to safeguard water quality and prevent contamination.

C. Continuity of Learning and School Operations

a. In situations where extreme heat conditions or other El Niño-related hazards may pose a significant risk to the health and safety of learners and personnel; School Heads shall take appropriate measures to ensure the continuity of learning in accordance with existing DepEd policies and directives.

b. Where authorized and appropriate, schools may implement Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM), blended learning, or other appropriate learning modalities, in coordination with the Schools Division Office and consistent with prevailing DepEd guidelines.

c. School Heads shall ensure that learning activities and school operations are appropriately adjusted to prevailing environmental conditions without compromising the quality and continuity of education.

D. Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)

a. Integrate heat-risk awareness, proper hydration, water conservation, personal health and safety, and fire prevention into classroom discussions, homeroom activities, school assemblies, and other appropriate information campaigns.

b. Disseminate timely advisories to learners, parents/guardians, teaching and non-teaching personnel regarding heat index conditions, precautionary measures, and appropriate responses to heat-related risks.



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c. Strengthen coordination with parents/guardians and relevant local government and health authorities in addressing emerging health and safety concerns associated with the El Niño phenomenon.

E. Monitoring, Reporting, and Coordination

School Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (SDRRM) Coordinators shall closely monitor heat index forecasts, weather advisories, and other relevant information issued by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and other competent authorities.

School Heads shall ensure the immediate documentation and reporting of heat-related incidents, health emergencies, water shortages, and other El Niño-related concerns to the appropriate District and Division Office through the SGOD-DRRM Unit, following existing reporting protocols.

Public Schools District Supervisors shall monitor the implementation of these measures within their respective districts and provide the necessary technical assistance to schools, particularly those experiencing significant water shortages, extreme heat conditions, or other El Niño-related risks. All schools are encouraged to strengthen preparedness, inter-agency coordination, and community participation in mitigating the impacts of El Niño and ensuring the safety and uninterrupted delivery of basic education services.

Immediate and wide dissemination of, and strict compliance with, this Memorandum is hereby directed


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