



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Education  
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
No. 115, s. 2026

FEB 04 2026

**CONDUCT OF FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGD) SESSIONS AND  
SCHOOL VISITS FOR SCIENCE PROGRAMS**

To: Schools Division Superintendents of Bacolod City, Bayawan City, Dumaguete City, Negros Occidental, Siquijor and Victorias City  
All Others Concerned

- Attached is the DepEd Memorandum from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems on the Conduct of the Focus Group Discussions (FGD) Sessions and School Visits for Science Programs on February 5, 2026.
- The Negros Island Region (NIR) participants to join the online FGDs via MS Teams are the following:

SDO	NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL
Bacolod City	Christy Ann G. Banguanga	Master Teacher III	Mansilingan Agro-Industrial High School
Bayawan City	Hilda R. Gotladera	Principal 1	Bayawan City Science and Technology Education Center-Elem.
Dumaguete City	Ruel S. Torres	EPS- Science	Ramon Teves Pastor Memorial Dumaguete
	Dr. Daphne G. Nodado	Principal	Science High School
	Mrs. Dallie G. Elum	SST - 1	
Negros Occidental	Cheryl J. Tondo, PhD	Principal IV	Negros Occidental High School
Siquijor	Leah Lagudas	MT 1	Siquijor Integrated School
Victorias City	Rusil N. Sombito	EPS - Science	Negros Occidental National Science High School
	John Rey Ganne Dolorosa	Principal 1	
	Denisse Gaille T. Leonoras,	SST - 1	



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3. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III  
Regional Director

Encl.: As stated

Reference: As stated

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

CURRICULUM

ASSESSMENT

SPECIAL CIRCULAR PROGRAMS

MMPR/CLMD-RM-2026 Conduct of the Focus Group Discussions (FGD) Sessions and School Visits for Science Programs  
000/February 3, 2026



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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO** : **REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

**ATTENTION** : **REGIONAL SUPERVISORS/FOCAL PERSON ON SCIENCE PROGRAMS**

**FROM** : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**  
Assistant Secretary for Learning Systems  
*Chairperson, TWG- Science*

**SUBJECT** : **CONDUCT OF FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS (FGD) SESSIONS AND SCHOOL VISITS FOR SCIENCE PROGRAMS**

**DATE** : January 29, 2025

In line with the mandate of the Learning Systems Strand to undertake a systematic, evidence-based review of Science programs across basic education, the Learning Systems Strand – Technical Working Group (TWG) on Science shall conduct a series of Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and school visits as part of a qualitative, multi-site review of the implementation of Science programs nationwide.

The FGDs and school visits form part of a broader comparative study designed to examine the curricular designs, institutional goals, and implementation contexts of DepEd Science-oriented schools and programs, including:

- Regional Science High Schools (RSHS);
- Legislated Science High Schools (LSHS);
- Secondary Schools implementing the Special Program in Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE); and
- Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES).

Specifically, the FGDs and school visits shall serve as primary qualitative data-gathering strategies to elicit shared experiences, perceptions, and insights from teachers, school leaders, and supervisors who are directly involved in curriculum implementation and program management. These discussions and visits shall complement document analysis, key informant interviews, and school-level observations to ensure data triangulation and strengthen the validity of the findings.



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The data generated from the FGDs and school visits shall be used to inform the review of curriculum alignment; identify gaps and disparities in program implementation; assess resource adequacy, policy coherence, and implementation conditions; and support the formulation of evidence-based recommendations for program strengthening and policy refinement.

For inquiries and clarifications, please contact **Mr. George R. Labayog Jr.**, Supervising Education Program Specialist and TWG Science Focal Person, through email at [georgejr.labayog@deped.gov.ph](mailto:georgejr.labayog@deped.gov.ph), with a copy furnished to [oasct.eaae@deped.gov.ph](mailto:oasct.eaae@deped.gov.ph).

For information, guidance, and compliance.



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**Annex A**  
**Focus Group Discussions (FGD) Sessions and  
School Visits for Science Programs**

### I. Objectives

The Focus Group Discussions and school visits aim to:

- Generate qualitative evidence on the implementation of Science programs across regions and school contexts, particularly in specialized Science schools and programs, through stakeholder consultations and direct school-level observation;
- Examine similarities, differences, and alignment among the curricula implemented in Regional Science High Schools (RSHS), Legislated Science High Schools (LSHS), secondary schools implementing the STE Program, and Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES), as informed by stakeholder experiences and validated through on-site observations;
- Identify key challenges, effective practices, and implementation gaps related to curriculum delivery, learner support, teacher deployment, facilities, and governance, based on both reported experiences and actual implementation conditions observed during school visits; and
- Provide empirically grounded inputs to support curriculum enhancement, program rationalization, and policy decision-making at the Central Office level, drawing from triangulated data generated through FGDs, school visits, and document review.

### II. Schedule and Grouping

The FGDs shall be conducted via Microsoft Teams on the following dates and schedules:

Date and Time	Group	Regions
<b>February 4, 2026</b>		
9:00 AM – 12:00 NN	Northern Luzon	Regions I, II, III, and CAR
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Southern Luzon	Regions IV-A, IV-B, V, and NCR
<b>February 5, 2026</b>		
9:00 AM – 12:00 NN	Visayas	Regions VI, VII, VIII, and NIR
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Mindanao	Regions IX, X, XI, XII, and CARAGA

A separate memorandum shall be issued to provide the detailed guidelines, schedule, and arrangements for the conduct of school visits, including the identification of participating schools, coordination protocols, and logistical requirements.



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### III. Participants

Each region shall be represented by the following participants, as reflected in the participation matrix in Annex B:

- Two (2) Education Program Supervisors (Science);
- One (1) School Head each from Regional Science High Schools, Legislated Science High Schools, secondary schools implementing the Special Program in Science, Technology, and Engineering (STE), and Special Science Elementary Schools; and
- One (1) Science Teacher each from Regional Science High Schools, Legislated Science High Schools, secondary schools implementing the STE Program, and Special Science Elementary Schools.

Regional Offices are hereby directed to ensure the availability and participation of the designated representatives to facilitate informed and meaningful discussions.

### IV. Facilitation and Technical Support

The FGDs shall be facilitated by designated Central Office facilitators from the Learning Systems Strand – Technical Working Group (Science), with support from the Technical and Documentation Team, and members of the External Technical Working Group (TWG), as reflected in the attached schedule.

### V. Other Matters

The Microsoft Teams meeting links and additional instructions shall be issued separately by the Central Office. All participants are expected to actively engage in the discussions and come prepared to share relevant experiences and insights related to the implementation of Science programs.



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**Annex B**  
**FGD Session Matrix**

<b>February 4, 2026</b> <b>9:00 AM - 12:00 NN</b>					
Group 1 Northern Luzon	Supervisors	School Head (RSHS and Sec Sch with STE)	School Head (LHS and SSES)	Teachers (RSHS and LHS)	Teachers (Sec Schools and SSES)
Region 1	2	2	2	2	2
Region 2	2	2	2	2	2
Region 3	2	2	2	2	2
CAR	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
Facilitator	George Labayog Jr	Florentino Varron	Christian Jay Salazar	Jiosver Temporal	Joy Magallona
Head, Tech & Documenter	Julieven Abrea				
Documenter/Tech	Ailah Nicdao	Katrina Kai Guevarra	Jiebeth Bueno	Ryan Christian Fajardo	Renelda Carbonila
External TWG	Cerilina M. Maramag	Dr. Joel T. Maquiling;	Jamaica Ann A. Caras, MSc;	Edwehna Elinore S. Paderna, Ph.D.	Crist John M. Pastor, Ph.D.
	Jessie Mazeen Santos, Ph.D.		Cynthia Gayya		

<b>February 4, 2026</b> <b>1:30 PM - 4:30 PM</b>					
Group 2 Southern Luzon	Supervisors	School Head (RSHS and Sec Sch with STE)	School Head (LHS and SSES)	Teachers (RSHS and LHS)	Teachers (Sec Schools and SSES)
Region 4A	2	2	2	2	2
Region 4B	2	2	2	2	2
Region 5	2	2	2	2	2
NCR	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
Facilitator	George Labayog Jr	Florentino Varron	Christian Jay Salazar	Jiosver Temporal	Joy Magallona
Head, Tech & Documenter	Julieven Abrea				
Documenter/Tech	Ailah Nicdao	Katrina Kai Guevarra	Jiebeth Bueno	Ryan Christian Fajardo	Renelda Carbonila
External TWG	Dr. Joel T. Maquiling	Edwehna Elinore S. Paderna, PhD	Crist John M. Pastor, PhD	Jamaica Ann A. Caras, MSc;	Cerilina M. Maramag
	Jessie Mazeen Santos, PhD			Cynthia Gayya	



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<b>February 5, 2026</b> <b>9:00 AM - 12:00 NN</b>					
Group 3 Visayas	Supervisors	School Head (RSHS and Sec Sch with STE)	School Head (LSSHS and SSES)	Teachers (RSHS and LSSHS)	Teachers (Sec Schools and SSES)
Region 6	2	2	2	2	2
Region 7	2	2	2	2	2
Region 8	2	2	2	2	2
NIR	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Facilitator</i>	George Labayog Jr	Florentino Varron	Christian Jay Salazar	Jiosver Temporal	Joy Magallona
<i>Head, Tech &amp; Documenter</i>			Julieven Abrea		
<i>Documenter/Tech</i>	Ailah Nicdao	Katrina Kai Guevarra	Jiebeth Bueno	Ryan	Renelda Carbonila
<i>External TWG</i>	Edwehna Elinore S. Paderna, PhD	Crist John M. Pastor, PhD	Cerilina M. Maramag	Dr. Joel T. Maquiling	Jamaica Ann A. Caras, MSc
	Jessie Mazeen Santos, PhD	Cynthia Gayya			

<b>February 5, 2026</b> <b>1:30 PM - 4:30 PM</b>					
Group 4 Mindanao	Supervisors	School Head (RSHS and Sec Sch with STE)	School Head (LSSHS and SSES)	Teachers (RSHS and LSSHS)	Teachers (Sec Schools and SSES)
Region 9	2	2	2	2	2
Region 10	2	2	2	2	2
Region 11	2	2	2	2	2
Region 12	2	2	2	2	2
CARAGA	2	2	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>
<i>Facilitator</i>	George Labayog Jr	Florentino Varron	Christian Jay Salazar	Jiosver Temporal	Joy Magallona
<i>Head, Tech &amp; Documenter</i>			Julieven Abrea		
<i>Documenter/Tech</i>	Ailah Nicdao	Katrina Kai Guevarra	Jiebeth Bueno	Ryan Christian Fajardo	Renelda Carbonila
<i>External TWG</i>	Crist John M. Pastor, PhD	Jamaica Ann A. Caras, MSc	Elinore S. Paderna, PhD	Cerilina M. Maramag	Dr. Joel T. Maquiling
	Cynthia Gayya		Jessie Mazeen Santos, PhD		