



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 1218, s. 2026

OCT 22 2026

**REITERATION OF PROTOCOLS ON GADGET USE AND SAFEGUARDING
STANDARDS FOR CONTENT CREATION**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Chief, Education Support Services Division
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), disseminates the attached Memorandum OM-OUGOPS-2026-11-3725 from the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations titled **"Reiteration of Protocols on Gadget use and Safeguarding Standards for Content Creation,"** which is self-explanatory.
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.


RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III
Regional Director

Reference: As stated.

Incl: As stated.

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

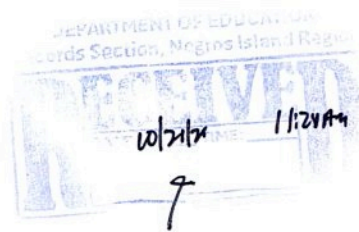
SCHOOLS TEACHERS LEARNERS
PUBLICATIONS

FJTS/ESSD/ Protocols on Gadget Use
___/October 22, 2026



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS



MEMORANDUM

OM-OUGOPS-2026-11-3725

**TO : REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOL DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations



**SUBJECT : REITERATION OF PROTOCOLS ON GADGET USE AND
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS FOR CONTENT CREATION**

DATE : 08 September 2026

The Department recognizes the beneficial use of digital platforms for communication, education, and advocacy. While responsible and authorized use of technology may support teaching and learning, unauthorized gadget use and content creation involving learners, school personnel, or school facilities may disrupt instruction, compromise privacy, expose learners to unnecessary risks, and undermine established child protection standards.

In line with the Department's commitment to providing quality basic education in a safe, secure, and motivating learning environment, this Memorandum reiterates policies and protocols on gadget use and safeguarding standards for content creation on school premises, particularly during instructional hours.

Compliance with Child Protection Standards

To uphold the rights, dignity, privacy, safety, and best interests of learners, **public schools shall obtain authorization from the Schools Division Office (SDO)** for partnership activities, especially those involving content creation. The SDO and the school shall ensure that learners and their parents are consulted regarding any potential exposure or representation on social media platforms and that their **consent is duly obtained**. Any activity that may expose learners to exploitation, abuse, discrimination, humiliation, cyberbullying, harassment, or unauthorized disclosure of personal information shall be strictly prohibited.

School heads, Child Protection Committees (CPCs), and DepEd personnel shall

remain vigilant in ensuring that all school-based activities comply with child protection standards and do not place learners at risk of harm.

Reiteration of DepEd Order (DO) No. 006, s. 2026

Item VI, Paragraph 5(g) of DO No. 006, s. 2026,¹ provides that schools and Community Learning Centers shall prohibit learners and personnel from using cellphones and other portable electronic devices during instructional periods. This measure is intended to minimize distractions and maintain the integrity of the learning environment. Exceptions may be granted in meritorious cases, specifically for:

- i. *Academic purposes:* Accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities.
- ii. *Emergency situations:* Facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns.

All schools are enjoined to strictly enforce these guidelines to maintain a safe, respectful, and learner-centered educational environment. DepEd personnel at all governance levels are likewise reminded to remain vigilant in safeguarding learners from activities that may adversely affect their well-being, privacy, security, and academic engagement.

For clarifications and/or requests for technical assistance, concerned offices may contact the Learner Rights and Protection Division at (02) 8632-1372 or email at lrpo@deped.gov.ph (cc: weprotectlearners@deped.gov.ph).

For strict compliance.

LRPD-LTCCH-RNF-CTC

¹ Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment.