



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
**NEGROS ISLAND REGION**

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**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

No. 546, s. 2026

JUN 05 2026

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
All Others Concerned

**ENSURING THE SAFE RETURN OF LEARNERS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027**

1. To adhere to **DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012**, otherwise known as the **Child Protection Policy**, particularly in promoting learners' rights, well-being, and welfare and in maintaining a safe, positive, and nurturing learning environment, this Office hereby directs all Schools Division Offices (SDOs) to implement the following measures to ensure the safe return of learners for School Year 2026–2027:

- protect learners from abuse, violence, exploitation, discrimination, bullying, and other forms of abuse;
- strengthen the implementation of anti-bullying activities pursuant to **Regional Memorandum No. 139, s. 2025** titled **Powering Empathy, Acceptance, and Connection Everyday (PEACE)**;
- ensure that healthy and nutritious food and beverages are available to learners in compliance with DepEd Order No. 13, s. 2017 titled **Policy and Guidelines on Healthy Food and Beverages Choices in Schools and in DepEd Offices**;
- enjoin compliance with DepEd Order No. 18, s. 2015 titled **DepEd Guidelines and Procedures on the Management of Children-at-Risk (CAR) and Children in Conflict with the Law (CICL)**;
- provide accessible health services to learners who exhibit signs and symptoms of illness or other medical conditions; and
- coordinate with the Local Government Units (LGUs) and request assistance from local law enforcement agencies to help maintain peace and order within and around school premises, particularly during the first week of classes.

2. The SDOs may include other guidelines/provisions/precautionary measures which are not contradictory to this Memorandum.



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

  
**RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III**  
Regional Director

Encl.: None  
Reference: As Stated  
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

POLICY  
PUPILS  
RULES & REGULATIONS  
STUDENTS  
TEACHERS

ACVD/PAU-NIRISSUANCES-RM  
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