



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 833, s. 2026

AUG 06 2026

**DISSEMINATION OF MEMORANDUM ON THE 2026 WHITE CANE SAFETY
DAY CELEBRATION (CULMINATING ACTIVITY)**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Division SNED Focal Persons
All Others Concerned

1. For the information and guidance of all concerned, this Office disseminates the attached Joint Memorandum regarding the 2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration (Culminating Activity) with the theme focusing on promoting the rights, safety, and inclusion of persons with visual impairments.
2. The activity aims to raise awareness about the significance of the white cane as a symbol of independence and safety for blind and visually impaired individuals, as well as to highlight government and community initiatives supporting inclusive education and mobility.
3. Schools Division Offices (SDOs) and schools are encouraged to support the celebration through localized, meaningful awareness activities, such as orientation on white cane safety, advocacy campaigns, and inclusion initiatives within their respective jurisdictions, ensuring that the conduct of such activities does not unduly disrupt instructional time. Appropriate measures shall be adopted to maximize time on task and minimize the loss of classroom learning opportunities.
4. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

FOR: 
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 CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

MSG/CLMD-RMWLC- White Cane Safety Day Celebration.
000/August 4, 2026



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
BUREAU OF LEARNING DELIVERY

ADVISORY

July 29, 2026

This is in reference to **DepEd Memorandum DM-OULS-2026-235** from the Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems relative to the **2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration (Culminating Activity)**, originally scheduled on August 1, 2026 within the National Capital Region. The theme of this activity is *Putting Baston: Simbolo ng Kalayaan, Pagkakapantay-pantay, at Ganap na Pakikilahok*.

Relative thereto, please be advised that this activity has been rescheduled to **August 29, 2026**. The specific venue shall be announced through separate advisory. The target participants from nearby regions such as Region III, Region IV-A, and NCR, as indicated in DM-OULS-2026-235, shall attend this activity. All other details stipulated in this Memorandum shall remain the same.

Further, participants from the abovementioned regions are also encouraged to take part in the following preliminary activities to be held in conjunction with the aforementioned celebration:

Activity	In Charge	Date	Venue
Career Connect	Resources for the Blind Inc.	August 1, 2026	Resources for the Blind Inc., Cubao, Quezon City
VISTA 13	PAVIC Inc.	August 8, 2026	PUP Main Campus, Sta. Mesa, Manila
2026 White Cane Walk	Philippine Blind Union	August 16, 2026	Tomas Morato Avenue, Quezon City

Other regions are likewise enjoined to hold their own celebration in their respective offices and/or schools in line with the theme.

For any additional inquiries or clarifications, please contact the BLD-SID through Mr. Allan R. Mesoga, Senior Education Program Specialist, through email at allan.mesoga@deped.gov.ph, telephone number at (02) 8637-4346, or cellphone number 0919-007-5907.

For information and guidance.

ATTY. ESTER A. FUTALAN
Schools Division Superintendent
Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Director IV



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Republic of the Philippines

Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

MEMORANDUM

DM-OULS-2026- 205

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS

FROM : **JANIR T. DATUKAN**
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Learning Systems *Janir*

SUBJECT : **PARTICIPATION IN THE 2026 WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY CELEBRATION**

DATE : June 9, 2026

In line with Republic Act No. 6759 or the White Cane Act, and the Department of Education's (DepEd) Five-Point Reform Agenda on ensuring an enabling learning environment through the improvement of teacher quality to address the diverse educational needs of learners with disabilities, the Learning Systems Strand, through the Bureau of Learning Delivery – Student Inclusion Division (BLD-SID) will spearhead the **2026 White Cane Day Celebration** on the following date and venue:

Date	Venue
August 1, 2026	TBA

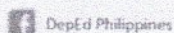
This activity aims to:

1. conduct nationwide sensitivity training for transport hubs and multi-platform educational activities to enforce the white cane's legal right-of-way, ensure public safety, and uphold the "Anti-Ridicule" mandates of RA 11650 and RA 9442;
2. empower learners with visual impairments by transitioning from traditional to AI-enhanced smart canes and assistive devices, using advanced technology to ensure safer navigation and equal access to learning; and
3. promote the national plan for the safety of person with visual impairment during disasters and calamities in public and private facilities.

The participants of the activities are learners with visual impairment, special needs education teachers handling learners with visual impairment, and parents of learners with visual impairment. Each Regional Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), is requested to identify the following number of participants for the activity:



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Activity	Region	Allocated number of Participants
2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration	Region III	10
	Region IVA	20
	NCR	107

Each Regional SNED Focal Person shall submit the list of identified participants, duly approved by the Regional Director, to the BLD-SID through email at bld.sid@deped.gov.ph, and ensure their online registration through this link: <https://forms.gle/htH9dDNa8Vtbni9> on or before **June 30, 2026** (See *Enclosure 1: List of Participants and Criteria for the Selection of Participants*). To ensure gender responsiveness, the number of identified participants per region should be equal or near equal between males and females, thereby fostering a balanced and diverse learning environment where gender-sensitive strategies in behavioral and emotional support can be effectively developed and shared.

Participants are expected to wear smart casual attire; and attend the sessions (See *Enclosure 2: Indicative Program of Activities*).

Expenses for meals and travel will be covered by 2026 SPED Current Funds, in compliance with standard government accounting and auditing regulations. While travel funds will be transferred directly to each participant's respective region, any costs exceeding the allocated amount should be covered by available local funds.

For inquiries or concerns, please contact the BLD-SID through email at bld.sid@deped.gov.ph, with copies furnished to Janine S. Buenrostro-Jocson, Supervising Education Program Specialist, at janine.buenrostrojocson@deped.gov.ph and Allan Mesoga, Senior Education Program Specialist at allan.mesoga@deped.gov.ph.

Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

Copy furnished:
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations



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Enclosure 1

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Region: _____

A. 2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration

NAME	GENDER	POSITION / DESIGNATION	SCHOOL / OFFICE	DIVISION
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Recommending Approval:

Signature over Printed Name

Approved:

Signature over Printed Name



Republic of the Philippines
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OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR LEARNING SYSTEMS

CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS

Criteria for the Selection of Participants in the 2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration

Participants are expected to engage fully in the scheduled activities for the entire duration of the celebration and possess the following qualifications:

For Learners with Visual Impairment (LVI)

- Currently enrolled learners in public basic education.
- Interested in utilizing AI-powered-enhanced canes and assistive technologies to access learning.
- Actively use or are transitioning to the white cane for daily independent navigation.

Teachers of Learners with Visual Impairment

- Currently practicing General Education Teachers (Receiving Teachers) of learners with Visual Impairment across all key stages (Kindergarten to Grade 12).
- Currently handling at least one learner with visual impairment in inclusive classroom.
- Demonstrate eagerness to learn and a positive attitude toward inclusive education, as evidenced by a brief intent statement or head teacher recommendation.
- Must be able to actively participate in all hands-on sessions, including physical simulations and collaborative workshops during the activity
- Must be committed to integrate accessible digital formats and AI tools into their teaching delivery.

Parents and Guardians of LVIs

- Primary caregivers focused on fostering their child's autonomy and independent living.
- Committed to reinforcing Orientation and Mobility (O&M) skills at home to ensure the white cane is used consistently beyond the school gates.
- Open to learning and utilizing AI-enhanced tools and accessible digital formats to support their child's home-based research and learning.
- Willing to participate in workshops focused on autonomy-building, shifting from a protective supervision role to a rights-based support role.

School Heads

- Currently serve as the school leaders of schools currently implementing inclusive education.
- Responsible for overseeing the practical setup and maintenance of AI-powered hardware and software to ensure learner accessibility.
- Willing to conduct physical accessibility audits of the school environment to remove hazards and optimize the environment for white cane users.

INDICATIVE PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES
2026 White Cane Safety Day Celebration
 August 1, 2026

Time	Activity	Person/Agency-in-Charge
7:30 AM – 8:30 AM	Registration	Secretariat
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Opening Program and Preliminaries - National Anthem - Doxology - Welcome Remarks - Presentation of White Cane Advocacy Videos	DepEd, NCDA, RBI, and others agencies
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Keynote Session	TBA
9:30 AM – 10:30 AM	Presentation of Programs of Government Agencies - Department of Education - Department of Health - Department of Transportation - National Council on Disability Affairs	DepEd, DOH, DOTr, and NCDA
10:30 AM – 12:00 NN	Panel Discussion on Technologies	TBA
12:00 NN – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Digital Transformation in Education and Creation - Introduction of Accessible Technologies for Persons and Learners with Visual Impairment - Booth Exhibits	TBA
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Afternoon Snacks	
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Panel Discussion on Current Accessibility of Digital Space	TBA
4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Synthesis and Closing Ceremony - Closing Message - Awarding of Certificates - Photo Opportunity	TBA