



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 879, s. 2026

AUG 20 2026

**AUTHORIZATION OF SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DELEGATES
AND THEIR TEACHER-ADVISERS TO PARTICIPATE IN
THE SCIENCE CASTLE ASIA 2026**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Education Support Services Division, disseminates the attached Joint Memorandum from the office of Undersecretary for Governance and Operations dated August 5, 2026 titled **"Authorization of Selected High School Student Delegates and their Teacher-Advisers to Participate in the Science Castle Asia 2026,"** which is self-explanatory.
2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

RAMIR B. UYTICO EdD, CESO III
Regional Director

Reference: As stated.

Incl: None,

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

PROGRAMS
LEARNERS
SCHOOLS

MPJDP/ESSD/ Authorization of Selected High School Student Delegates and their Teacher-Advisers to Participate in the Science Castle Asia 2026
August 7, 2026



Address: Batinguel, Dumaguete City, 6200
Telephone Nos:
Email Address: nir@depd.gov.ph
Website: //tinyurl.com/nir-gov-ph



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

JOINT MEMORANDUM

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS**

FROM : **MALCOLM S. GARMA**
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

WILFREDO E. CABRAL
Undersecretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development and Infrastructure

SUBJECT : **AUTHORIZATION OF SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT DELEGATES AND THEIR TEACHER-ADVISERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCIENCE CASTLE ASIA 2026**

DATE : August 05, 2026

The Science Castle Asia 2026, organized by Leave a Nest Malaysia, is scheduled to be held on August 22-23, 2026, in Dewan Tunku Canselor (DTC), University Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Nilai, Malaysia, and will provide a valuable platform for young researchers to engage with fellow student researchers from across Asia, wherein there will be opportunity to present and receive guidance from more than 40 distinguished researchers, professors, and experts from various STEM disciplines.

In this regard, Leave a Nest Malaysia respectfully requests the Department to authorize selected Philippine high school delegates who are participating as oral presenters and poster presenters along with their teacher-advisers in the activity.

As such, **this Office authorizes the selected high school delegates and their teacher-advisers to participate in the said activity**, provided that school heads may determine whether make-up classes or other appropriate learning interventions are necessary for the participating student-athletes, taking into consideration the instructional time missed, the availability of alternative means to complete academic requirements, and the well-being of the learners, given that the activity will be conducted during instructional days under the Three-Term School Calendar.

Attached herewith is the letter of request and the list of selected oral and poster presenters from Leave a Nest Malaysia for your reference.

For further inquiries or coordination, you may directly contact the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations or Undersecretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development and Infrastructure through email at ouops@deped.gov.ph/usec.hrod@deped.gov.ph or via telephone number 8633-5313/8633-7206.

For your information and dissemination.



22nd floor, Techzone Building, 213 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., San Antonio Village, Makati, Metro Manila, 1203
Telephone Nos.: (02) 8633-5313; (02) 8631-8492
Email Address: ouops@deped.gov.ph | Website: www.deped.gov.ph



ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN

Undersecretary, Office of the Secretary
Department of Education Central Office
Philippines

**REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT AND APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY TO TRAVEL FOR
PHILIPPINE DELEGATES TO SCIENCE CASTLE ASIA 2026**

Dear Atty. Panontongan,

Greetings from Leave a Nest,

Further to our previous letter regarding the accepted Philippine delegates for Science Castle Asia 2026, we respectfully seek the Department of Education's endorsement and approval of the Authority to Travel for the participating high school student delegates and their teacher-advisers.

The participation of the Philippine delegation holds particular significance to Science Castle Asia. During the previous conference, Science Castle Asia 2025 was officiated by H.E. Maria Angela A. Ponce, Ambassador of the Philippines to Malaysia. This year, we are also honoured to welcome a representative from the Embassy of the Philippines, further reflecting the continued support for Filipino student researchers and the strong relationship between the Philippines and the wider Asian scientific community.

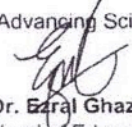
Science Castle Asia 2026 provides a valuable platform for young researchers to engage with fellow student researchers from across Asia, including Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, and the United Arab Emirates. Participants will also have the opportunity to present their research to, and receive guidance from, more than 40 distinguished researchers, professors, and experts from various STEM disciplines.

Through this international exchange, the students will strengthen their ability to communicate their research with greater depth and confidence while gaining constructive feedback and insights that will support the further development of their research projects. We believe this experience will contribute significantly to their academic growth and foster a deeper appreciation of scientific research, cultural exchange, and international collaboration.

Additional information about Science Castle Asia 2026 is attached to this letter for your reference. Should there be any further requirements or documents needed to facilitate the processing of the Authority to Travel, we would be grateful if you could inform us. We would be pleased to provide the necessary documents at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you very much for your time and kind consideration. We sincerely appreciate your support in providing Filipino student researchers with the opportunity to represent the Philippines on an international platform and to contribute meaningfully to the regional STEM community.

"Advancing Science and Technology for Global Happiness"



Dr. Ezral Ghazali
Head of Education Development Division,
Leave a Nest Malaysia Sdn. Bhd.

Science Castle Asia 2026 Conference Details and Provisional Timeline

Date : 22-23 August 2026 (Saturday - Sunday)

Time : 8.30 AM – 6.00 PM

Venue : Dewan Tunku Canselor (DTC), Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM), Nilai, Malaysia

Organizer: Leave a Nest Malaysia

August 22, 2026 (Saturday)		
Time	Activities	
8:30-9:30	Day 1 Registration	Booth Exhibition
09:30-11:15	Opening Ceremony - Opening Remarks by Leave a Nest - Officiating Remarks by Professor Dato' Ts. Dr. Sharifudin Md. Shaarani Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) - Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment 10th Anniversary Launch - KISAS Gamelan Performance - Keynote Speech by Ts. Dr. Norsuzlin Mohd Sahar, Head of Space Science Center, The National University of Malaysia	
11:15-12:30	VIP Visit to Poster and Exhibition Area Networking Session	
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00-16:30	Poster Presentations	
16:30-17:30	Day 1 Reflection	

August 23, 2026 (Sunday)		
Time	Activities	
8:30-9:30	Day 2 Registration	Booth Exhibition
09:30-10:00	Day 2 Opening Ceremony - Partners' Remarks - Remarks from the Dr. Kihoko Tokue - Head, Leave a Nest Education Research Institute as Head Oral Presentation Judge	
10:00-12:30	Oral Presentations	
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break	
14:00-16:30	Students Workshop Session	
16:30-18:00	Awarding and Closing Ceremony	

Science Castle Asia 2026
Selected Oral Presenters from the Philippines

1. Nueva Ecija High School – *Rambutan Nano-Sutures: The Future of Wound Care*
2. Tanza National Comprehensive High School (TNCHS) – *ARATI-LESS TUMOR*

Selected Poster Presenters from the Philippines

1. Acelo Badelles Memorial High School – *HALO-Bata: Semi-Automated Infant Health Monitoring Kit*
2. Acelo Badelles Memorial High School – *WISEFLOW: Automated IoT Water Monitoring & Filtration System*
3. Acelo Badelles Memorial High School – *Project BANTAY: LoRa-Based Marine Monitoring System*
4. Acelo Badelles Memorial High School – *B.L.I.N.D.*
5. Calbiga National High School – *Ethnobotanical Analysis of Herbal Plants in Sitio Mapaso, Brgy. Polangi, Calbiga, Samar*
6. Calbiga National High School – *Microplastic Ingestion in Penaeidae Shrimp: A Comparative Study in Samar*
7. Calbiga National High School – *Design and Development of an Incentive-Based Collection Machine*
8. Calbiga National High School – *Arduino-Based Automated Bird Control System*
9. Calbiga National High School – *Cocos Nucifera Vinegar as a Natural Growth and Health Promoter in Mus musculus*
10. Cavite National High School – *Calendula Faradiol Ester Control of Peach Aphids*
11. Cavite National High School – *RAGE: Rain-Powered Machine for Sustainable Energy*
12. Cavite National High School – *PareGrip: Therapeutic Glove for Hand Paresis*
13. Cavite National High School – *BREEZE: An Energy-Efficient Breath Regulation Device for Emergency & Community Healthcare*
14. Central Mindanao University Laboratory High School – *Antibacterial Activity of Lemon Leaf Extract as Hand Soap Against Staphylococcus aureus*
15. Central Mindanao University Laboratory High School – *Weeds as Antibacterials for Foodborne Pathogens*
16. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion (DepEd Region III, Schools Division of Bataan) – *Harnessing Sugarcane Bagasse Biochar for Sustainable Passive Cooling in Tropical Buildings*
17. Eastern Visayas Regional Science High School – *Physics-Informed and Spatiotemporal Forecasting for Clear-Air Turbulence (CAT) in the Philippines*
18. Gigaquit National School of Home Industries – *SAPGUARD: Nipa Sap-Based Dust Suppressant Solution for Dust Control in Mining & Construction Sites*
19. Gov. Efren B. Pascual Sr. Orani Integrated Central School – *BloomSentinel: Red Tide Tracking & Toxin Control*
20. Gov. Efren B. Pascual Sr. Orani Integrated Central School – *NitroWatch: Real-Time Ammonia and Temperature Monitoring with SMS Alerts*
21. Iligan City East National High School – *PAGTULTOL*

22. Kong Hua School – *Synergistic Degradation of Pre-Treated PET Using Putative Bacterial Co-Cultures*
23. Kong Hua School – *Photocatalytic Breakdown of PET and Polystyrene for Conversion into Sustainable Fuel Precursors*
24. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion – *CASHOO: Utilization of Cashew Nut Shells into a Botanical Pesticide for Pest Management*
25. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion – *HydroSapiens: A Modular AI-IoT Framework for Adaptive Multi-Crop Hydroponic Environments*
26. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion – *JACKTRAP: A Jackfruit-Derived Film for CO₂ Absorption*
27. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion – *Sarga-Bricks: Fire-Retardant Sargassum Bio-Bricks for Resilient Construction*
28. Mariveles National High School – Poblacion – *Biomethane: Utilization of Fish Guts and Vegetable Leftovers for Biogas Production*
29. Naguilian National High School – *(Co-CHAE) Machine for Streamlined, On-Demand Tooling of Thermoplastic Test Specimens and Molds*
30. Samar National High School – *In Silico Screening of Plant-Derived Ligand Inhibitors Against PBP2a of MRSA*
31. Samar National High School – *AIRES: AI-Driven Real-Time Environmental Safety System for Public Classroom Air Quality Optimization*
32. Samar National High School – *i-GASraq: IoT-Based Methane and Refrigerant Leak Detection with SMS Alerts*
33. Samar National High School – *HarvestShield: Solar-Powered Technology Protecting Crops from Weather and Pests*
34. Samar National High School – *SapLink: A Mobile-Based Application for Monitoring Plant Saplings for Sustainable Reforestation*
35. Top Link Global College Inc. – *PROJECT GINA: Geo-Restorative Intelligent Nature Augmentor*
36. University of the Philippines High School in Iloilo – *Modular Properties of Sophie Germain Primes*
37. University of the Philippines High School in Iloilo – *AQUASTRA: A Solar-Powered Climate-Resilient Automated Drip Irrigation System*
38. University of the Philippines High School in Iloilo – *Number-Theoretic Analysis of Emirp Differences*

Science Castle Asia 2026
Official Partners

1. Tenchijin – Main Partner
2. Ajinomoto Malaysia Berhad – Supporting Partner
3. Alphaswift – Supporting Partner
4. Artience – Supporting Partner
5. Cyberview – Supporting Partner
6. Focus Systems – Supporting Partner
7. Spacenome (GARAStem) – Supporting Partner
8. Merc Greenfield – Supporting Partner
9. MSIG Insurance (Malaysia) Berhad – Supporting Partner
10. SMFL Leasing (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. – Supporting Partner
11. Sumitomo Corporation Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. – Supporting Partner
12. Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation Malaysia Berhad – Supporting Partner
13. University of Tsukuba Malaysia (UTMy) – Supporting Partner
14. Cell AgriTech – Ecosystem Partner
15. Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA) – Ecosystem Partner
16. NAZ Group / Aurins-UiTM – Ecosystem Partner
17. TEASK – Ecosystem Partner
18. UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP) – Ecosystem Partner
19. Yayasan Mr. D.I.Y. – Ecosystem Partner

Science Castle Asia 2026 Guests and Judges

VIP Guests

1. H.E. Noriyuki Shikata - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Malaysia
2. Dr. Yukihiro Maru - Group CEO, Leave a Nest
3. Dr. Shuichiro Takahashi - Representative Director, Leave a Nest
4. Dr. Yuko Ueno - General Manager, Leave a Nest
5. Encik Ithnin bin Mahadi - Director of the Sports, Kokurikulum, and Arts Division, Malaysian Ministry of Education (KPM)
6. Mr. Abdul Hakim Sahidi - Managing Director, Leave a Nest Malaysia
7. Mr. Yong Kum Cheng - Executive Director, Ajinomoto Malaysia Berhad
8. Madam Norani Sulaiman - Non-Executive Director Ajinomoto (Malaysia) Berhad
9. Mr. Clement - Non-Executive Director Ajinomoto (Malaysia) Berhad
10. Dr. Shian Lee - CEO AlphaSwift

Oral Presentation Judges

1. Dr. Kihoko Tokue - Director, Education Research Institute, Leave a Nest
2. Prof. Hafizal Mohamad - Professor, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM)
3. Prof. Maki Tsujimura - Dean, University of Tsukuba, Malaysia
4. Dr. Shian Lee - CEO, AlphaSwift
5. Puan Norafiza Saleha binti Sahlan - Director, Malaysian Space Agency (MYSA)

Poster Presentation Judges

1. Dr. Ismayadi Ismail – Universiti Putra Malaysia
2. Assoc. Prof. Ts. Dr. Azian Azamimi Abdullah – Universiti Malaysia Perlis
3. Dr. Nur Syahidah Sabran – UCSI University, Kuala Lumpur
4. Ts. Dr. Mohd. Nazri Bin Abdul Rahman – Universiti Malaysia Sabah
5. Dr. Nur Syahirah Mohamed Hatta – Sunway University
6. Dr. Nurfarhana Ferdaos – Universiti Teknologi MARA
7. Ms. Nurhikmah Abu Aziz – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
8. Shariiful Akhmar Bin Nazrul Akhmam – Silverlake Axis
9. Nur Anisza Hanoum Binti Naseron – Politeknik Nilai
10. Rasyiqah Nabihah Binti Roslli @ Rosli – Universiti Putra Malaysia
11. Ms. Muhaini Binti Mohd Hussin – MILA University, Nilai
12. Dr. Zafira Madzin – Universiti Malaya
13. Atiqah Khamurudin – SARAHÁ Advisory
14. Ahmad Rafie Bin Kamalludin – Pertubuhan Skuad Bakti Malaysia

15. Syadiyah Binti Samsuri – Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia
16. Mr. Muhammad Aqil Fitri Bin Rosli – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
17. Ms. Nur Najibah Yusra – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam
18. Puan Nor Fazila Binti Sulaiman – National Institutes of Biotechnology Malaysia
19. Nur Azlina Binti Mohd Sharif – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
20. Dr. Nur Syafiqah Farhanah Binti Dzulkharnien – Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Sungai Buloh
21. Mrs. Syasya Binti Yusoff – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
22. Dr. Ummi Wahidah Binti Azlan – Vision University College
23. Ummi Kalthum Binti Azlan – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
24. Dr. Babul Airianah Othman – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
25. Assoc. Prof. Ir. Dr. Aida Isma Mohamad Idris – SEGi University
26. Datin Munira Mohammad – SEGi University
27. Dr. Nurul Izzatul Lydia Binti Za'ba – SEGi University
28. Dr. Mohd. Asraf Bin Mohd. Zainudin – Universiti Malaysia Perlis
29. Ts. Dr. Mohd. Ismifaizul Bin Mohd. Ismail – MIMOS Berhad
30. Dr. Hazeeq Hazwan Bin Azman – Universiti Selangor
31. Dr. Norefrina Shafinaz Md. Nor – Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
32. Dr. Rizal Ramli – Universiti Malaya
33. Mr. Muhammad Syukri Bin Abd. Rahman – Universiti Malaya
34. Dr. Muhammad Zaki Ramli – UniKL Royal College of Medicine Perak
35. Ahmad Arif Wasfi Bin Azmi – Universiti Malaya
36. Dr. Norain Ab. Latif – Universiti Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak
37. Ir. Dr. Hafisoh Ahmad – Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation