



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

16 JUL 2015

DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **77**, s. 2015

2015 WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Secretary, ARMM
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Republic Act (RA) No. 6759, *declaring August 1 of every year as White Cane Safety Day*, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Elementary Education (BEE), Special Education (SPED) Division, will celebrate the **2015 White Cane Safety Day** to support the efforts of the present administration in promoting good governance through respect and realization of all Human Rights. This year's theme is *Puting Baston: Gabay sa Pagsulong ng Karangalan at Kakayahan ng mga Taong May Kapansanan sa Paningin*.

2. The Celebration will commence with the activities celebrating the Sight-Saving Month in August. The activities aim to:

- a. stimulate public awareness on the rights and welfare of people who are blind and with low vision;
- b. promote recognition and acceptance of the white cane as symbol of mobility and safety for people who are blind and with low vision;
- c. strengthen and protect the physical, moral and social well-being of people who are blind and with low vision persons; and
- d. serve as a vehicle of information on the continuing development of programs being jointly worked and implemented, through partnerships between the public and private sectors, for the realization of the rights and fundamental freedoms of people who are blind and with low vision.

3. The White Cane Inter-Agency Committee has prepared the following activities, which may be conducted throughout the month of August and beyond:

- a. distribution of white canes and talking watches to selected blind pupils/students;
- b. showcasing of talents of blind and low vision pupils/students; through the *Himig Tanglaw*;
- c. sharing of information on best practices concerning the education of the visually impaired by inviting blind pupils/students or educators as resource persons and other professionals working for people who are blind and with low vision;
- d. conduct of free eye examination and screening to visually impaired pupils/students by the invited ophthalmologists or optometrists;

- e. holding of symposia, fora, workshops, panel discussions and sports, arts and cultural activities relevant to the prevention and rehabilitation of blindness; and
 - f. conduct of academic contests in: (1) Braille reading and writing; (2) Quiz VI (Visual Impairment); and (3) Cultural Shows, which will highlight the talents, skills, and rights of the visually impaired pupils/students.
4. Relevant activities may be conducted at the regional level through the initiative of the Regional Special Education Council (RSEC), and in cooperation with other government organizations (GOs), nongovernment organizations (NGOs), and civic organizations (COs).
5. All SPED centers, public and private schools with SPED programs are encouraged to observe the White Cane Safety Day with appropriate activities. However, activities to be undertaken should not disrupt classes as stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 entitled *Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith*.
6. A brief narrative and pictorial report on the celebration shall be submitted to **Ms. Mirla Olores**, Chief, Special Education (SPED) Division, Bureau of Elementary Education (BEE), Department of Education Central Office (DepEd CO), 2nd Floor, Bonifacio Building, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City at telephone no.: (02) 631-9993.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



BR. ARMIN A. LUISTRO FSC
Secretary

Reference:

DepEd Memorandum No.: 57, s. 2014

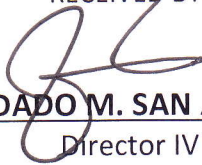
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS
CONTESTS
SCHOOLS
SPECIAL EDUCATION

2015 White Cane Safety Day

ACKNOWLEDGMENT RECEIPT

RECEIVED BY:



DIOSDADO M. SAN ANTONIO
Director IV

Schools Division Superintendent
Division of: _____

District Supervisor
District of: _____

RECEIVED AND DISSEMINATED BY:

School Principal

Name of School

District: _____

Division of: _____

ICT Unit

