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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON

16 September 2024

Regional Memorandum
No. 643 s. 2024

**CONDUCT OF CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL HEADS
ON ANTI-BULLYING**

To: **Schools Division Superintendents**

1. In reference to DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2013¹, and EDCOM report on bullying experienced by test-takers in the 2018 PISA, this Office through the Field Technical Assistance Division, directs the Schools Division Offices to conduct a conference among School Heads on Anti-Bullying.
2. The activity aims to increase understanding among the school heads about the prevalence, forms, and impact of bullying in schools nowadays and foster collaboration in combating bullying through collaborative efforts.
3. The participants in this activity are the School Heads of each Schools Division Offices. In lieu of the absence of the School Head, the guidance counselor/designate may attend as the Vice-Chairperson of the Child Protection Committee.
4. This also reiterates the roles and responsibilities of the Schools Division Offices and Schools as contained in the aforementioned DepEd Order to wit:

Section 8.3 Division Offices

The Division Offices shall:

- a. *Conduct information-dissemination and capacity-building activities for teachers, guidance counselors, and members of Child Protection Committees on handling bullying cases;*
- b. *Monitor the adoption of anti-bullying policies in all public and private elementary and secondary schools within the Division, maintain a repository of such policies, and submit reports on compliance to the Regional Office;*
- c. *Consolidate reports on incidents and cases of bullying in all schools in the Division and submit a Division report to the Regional Office;*
- d. *Assess and evaluate the implementation and enforcement by public and private schools of IRR;*

¹ Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013



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- e. *Resolve appeals in bullying cases in both public and private schools pursuant to the existing rules and regulations of the Department and DepEd Order No. 88, s. 2010, or the "Revised Manual of Regulations for Private Schools," respectively;*
- f. *Coordinate with appropriate offices and other agencies or instrumentalities for such assistance as it may require in the performance of its functions;*
- g. *Encourage and support activities and anti-bullying campaigns initiated by stakeholders; and*
- h. *Impose sanctions and penalties on erring non-teaching DepEd personnel*

Section 8.4

Public and private kindergarten, elementary, and secondary schools through their administrators, principals, and school heads, shall:

- a. *Adopt and implement a child protection or anti-bullying policy in accordance with this IRR and submit the same to the Division Office. The anti-bullying policy may be a part of the school's child protection policy;*
- b. *Provide students and their parents or guardians copy of the child protection or anti-bullying policy adopted by the school. Such policy likewise be included in the school's student and/or employee handbook and shall be conspicuously posted on the school walls and website, if there is any;*
- c. *Educate students on the dynamics of bullying, the anti-bullying policies of the schools as well as the mechanisms for the anonymous reporting of acts of bullying or retaliation;*
- d. *Educate parents and guardians about the dynamics of bullying, the child protection or anti-bullying policy of the school and how parents and guardians can provide support and reinforce the said policy at home;*
- e. *Devise prevention, intervention, protective, and remedial measures to address bullying;*
- f. *Conduct the capacity building activities for guidance counselors/teachers and the members of the Child Protection Committee;*
- g. *Ensure effective implementation of anti-bullying policy and monitor compliance herewith;*
- h. *Ensure the safety of the victim of bullying, the bully, the bystanders, and determine the students' need for protection;*
- i. *Ensure that the rights of the victim, the bully, and the bystanders are protected and upheld during the conduct of the investigation;*
- j. *Accomplish the Intake Sheet prescribed in "Annex B", whenever there is an incident of bullying, maintain a record of all proceedings related to bullying, and submit reports prescribed in "Annex A," of DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, to the Division Office;*

- k. *Maintain a public record or statistics of incidents of bullying and retaliation; and*
- l. *Coordinate with appropriate offices and other agencies or instrumentalities for appropriate assistance and intervention, as required by the circumstances.*

The school principal or any person who holds a comparable role shall be responsible for the implementation and oversight of the child protection and anti-bullying policy.

5. Relative to this, the powerpoint presentation to be used by the Schools Division Offices can be accessed through this link https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1WJjlyOpDAeUZCBAqvzG3cD_YgPD_LK5gs?usp=sharing.
6. Furthermore, the Division Learner Rights and Protection Focal Person must submit an Activity Documentation Report to the Regional Office on or before **October 30, 2024**.
7. For further details, you may contact Chief Michael Girard R. Alba via email at michael.alba@deped.gov.ph or Ms. Rochelle May M. Nisola via email at rochellemay.nisola@deped.gov.ph.
8. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is desired.


ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
Regional Director



TOP 1 in BULLYING ang Pilipinas (PISA 2018)

69.4% ng mga mag-aaral sa Pilipinas ay nagsabing na-bully sila ng ilang beses sa isang buwan (OECD, 2019).

Noong 2022, bagamat bumaba ang numerong ito, isa pa rin tayo sa pinakamataas sa mga sumaling bansa. **15%** ng mga sumagot na estudyante ay nagsabing nabu-bully sila sa isang buwan (OECD, 2023).



Source: *Bullying Experiences of Filipino Students: A Scoping Review* (Baldoy & Zapanta, 2024)

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