Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

March 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 168 s. 2026

2026 DIVISION FESTIVAL OF TALENTS
(STEMazing – Elementary Level)

To: OIC, Office of the Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors/PIDs/HTID
Heads of Public and Private Elementary and Integrated Schools
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) will conduct the **2026 Division Festival of Talents** with the theme **"Embracing Change, Redefining Excellence"** on March 19, 2026 to be held at Kalibo Pilot Elementary School Covered Court, Kalibo, Aklan.

2. Two learners per team is allowed per district (choose participant from Key Stage 2; only one per learner per grade level is allowed, e. g. the team is composed of 1 Grade 4 and 1 Grade 5 learner). Contestants must bring Basic CASIO calculator (e. g. mx- 12b). Measuring tools (ruler, tape measure, protractor, etc), and writing materials.

3. Attached are the Inclosure Nos. 1, and 2, the list of committees/persons involved during the conduct of the activity, the regional memorandum for 2026 RFOT and the mechanics for the 2026 DFOT ((STEMazing-Elementary Level), respectively.

4. There shall be NO registration fee. Travelling expenses of participants maybe charged to local/MOOE funds, subject to its availability and to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

5. It is understood that in the conduct of this activity, there shall be no discrimination on account of age, school, gender, civil status, disability, religion, or other similar factors/personal circumstances that run counter to the principles of equal opportunity.

Poblacion, Numancia, Aklan
Tel. No. (036) 265-3744; 265-3737; 265-3738 (Trunkline)
Website: http://www.depedaklan.org
Email Address: aklan.1958@deped.gov.ph

6. Immediate dissemination of the Memorandum is desired.

FOR THE SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT:

MICHAEL T. RAPIZ
Chief Education Supervisor
Schools Governance and Operations Division
In-charge of the Division

ETB/

Inclosures: 1 & 2
Reference: Regional Memorandum No. 256 s. 2026
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:

Contest Learners Numeracy Teachers

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Email Address: aklan.1958@deped.gov.ph

Inclosure No. __ to Division Memorandum No. 168, S. 2026

STEMAZING (ELEMENTARY LEVEL)

CONTEST DIRECTOR

Dr. Edselyn T. Biray

CONTEST MANAGERS

Dr. Abe Joy S. Isaran
Mr. Lhorence N. Reyes

STATION MASTERS

Dr. Edselyn T. Biray
Dr. Abe Joy S. Isaran
Mr. Lhorence N. Reyes
Churchill C. Gumboc
Rose Ann N. Presentation
Dr. Aylen M. Estrella
Allen D. Cawaling
Kim Berly A. Tumbagahan
Mila P. Perucho
Daisy D. De la Cruz
Melody M. Lopez
Christine D. Ingalla
Buenafe R. Casugbu
Vivina T. Dela Torre
Mary Karen N. Nobleza

CHECKPOINT MARSHALS

Shiela Mae G. Beltran
Riza N. Cahilig
Pamela E. Oquendo
Riomar B. Tambong
Omega Janine O. Alfaro
Marianne D. Gonzalez
Mary Ann I. Dela Cruz
Christy N. Zubista
Jay Anne M. Francisco
Wayne Rose H. Sugcang
Ma. Visitacion N. Macavinta
Karen A. Literal
Lino Casumpong
Cysie R. Rebutala
Randy P. Gubaton
Lucille F. Macavinta
Eden I. Ureta
Judy T. Valderas
Junry C. Timbas
Joyce V. Lomugdag

WORKING COMMITTEES

PROGRAM

Dr. Edselyn T. Biray
Rose Ann N. Presentation

ATTENDANCE

Mila P. Perucho
Juliet A. Guadalupe
Nieva Edna G. Gelito

DOCUMENTATION

Lorlyn S. Almero
Sylvia N. Quinisio
Junry C. Timbas

STAGE/ VENUE ARRANGEMENT/ STATION MARKERS

Antonette G. Ferrer
Marivic I. Botilo
Josefa J. Dolinog
Psyche Bernaldo
Joven Andrade

CERTIFICATES/ AWARDS/MEDALS

Judy T. Valderas
Eden I. Ureta
Lucille F. Macavinta
Allen D. Cawaling

FOODS/ REFRESHMENTS

Mary Jane I. Openiano
Joyce V. Lomugdang
Mila P. Perucho
Jay Ann M. Francsico

TABULATORS

Antonette G. Ferrer
Wayne Rose H. Sucgang
Cheryfil I. Perez
Nieva Edna G. Gelito
Christine D. Ingalla
Nestly E. Apa-ap

Specific Guidelines for the Different Contest of the 2026 Regional Festival of Talents (RFOT)

The specific guidelines for the different contests of the 2026 RFOT are provided as follows:

STEMazing

CATEGORIES	STEMazing for Elementary STEMazing for Secondary
KEY STAGE	Key Stage 2: Grades 4 to 6 Key Stage 3: Grades 7 to 10 Key Stage 4: Grades 11 to 12
NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	STEMazing for Elementary: 2 learners per team (choose participants from Key Stage 2; ***only one learner per grade level is allowed***, *e.g., the team is composed of 1 Grade 4 and 1 Grade 6 learner*) STEMazing for Secondary (Grades 7 to 12): 2 learners per team (choose participants from Key Stages 3 and 4; ***only one learner per grade level is allowed***, *e.g., the team is composed of 1 Grade 8 and Grade 10 learners, or 1 Grade 11 and 1 Grade 12 learners)*
TIME ALLOTMENT	180 minutes
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	The learners: • obtain scientific and technological information from varied sources about global issues that have an impact on the country. • acquire scientific attitudes that will allow them to innovate and/or create products useful to the community or country. • process information to get relevant data for a problem at hand • demonstrate proficiency in applying mathematical concepts to solve authentic, real-world challenges; • exhibit analytical and strategic thinking skills in approaching complex mathematical problems; • manifest effective communication and collaborative skills in mathematical discourse and team problem-solving; and show mastery in integrating concepts across various mathematical domains (Number & Number Sense, Measurement and Geometry, Data and Probability) in practical applications
21ST CENTURY SKILL/S	Critical thinking, communication skills, creativity, problem solving, collaboration, information, digital literacy, and technology and engineering skills
CREATIVE INDUSTRIES DOMAIN	▪ Digital Interactive Media Domain (through educational gaming and interactive mathematical applications) ▪ Creative Services Domain (through creative research and development, cultural and recreational services) ▪ Design Domain (through the creation of solutions that address mathematical and spatial problems)

	▪ Audiovisual Media Domain (through educational content development)	
DESCRIPTION	STEMazing is a Science and Mathematics adventure competition designed for Grades 4-12 learners that combines physical exploration, scientific research, mathematical investigation, and problem-solving in real-world contexts.	
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS		
A. MATERIAL, TOOLS, AND EQUIPMENT	To be provided by the participants: • ICT Tools such as laptops and chargers if necessary • Pocket WiFi • Extension cords, if necessary	To be provided by the event organizers: • Team identification badges • Station markers and QR code printouts • Scoring sheets and evaluation forms • Data collection forms • Emergency and first aid equipment • Maps and route guides • Activity Tables • Digital Timers • Science Laboratory Tools/Equipment • Scientific calculator • Measuring tools (ruler, tape measure, protractor, etc.) • Yarns and Ribbons • Tangrams • Writing materials (Ballpen, Pencil and Bond Paper) • Digital device for QR codes (*if allowed by organizers*) • Safety equipment (as specified in orientation) • Others
B. VENUE	School grounds or designated competition area with: • Multiple checkpoint stations • Investigation areas • Presentation space • Rest areas and first aid stations • Emergency assembly points	
CRITERIA FOR JUDGING		

Category	Maximum Points per Category	Maximum Points per Station *(if there are multiple stations per phase)*
Easy	30	10
Average	30	15
Difficult	40	20

- **The total cumulative number of points shall always be 100 points.**
- The points per station shall be determined by the organizer based on the nature of the task, provided that the total points and the points for any station do not exceed the maximum points allocated for its respective category.
- If there is only one (1) station in a category, the points assigned to that station may exceed the usual maximum score allocation per station but shall not exceed the maximum points allotted for that category.

For Stations that require a direct answer:

- Teams with correct answers shall receive full points, while teams with incorrect or unfinished tasks shall receive zero points.
- If the challenge is a written objective type, the number of points shall be based on the number of correct answers obtained by the team.
- The total time to complete the challenges shall be computed, but will not affect the score of each team for each station's task.
- In the event of a tie, the judges shall determine the winner based on the total completion time. The team that finishes in the shortest time shall be declared the winner.
- In the event of a tie in both score and time, the judges shall administer a **do-or-die question** to determine the winner.

For station/s with written and oral arguments, refer to the criteria below:

Written Proposal

Criteria	Score
Content Thematic Relevance and Organization	8
Feasibility of the proposed solution/output (Based on scientific, mathematical, technological, and other valid assumptions)	6
Relevance of data used	6

	Total | **20**

Oral Presentation/Argument

Criteria	Score
Discussion/Arguments/Delivery (Based on scientific, mathematical, technological, and other valid assumptions, the feasibility of the proposed solution)	8
Content / Organization	5
Ability to answer the questions	7
Total	**20**

- Written proposal and oral presentation activities can be placed under the difficult category.
- If only one component, either the written proposal or the oral presentation, is conducted, the score obtained for that component shall be multiplied by two (2).

e.g.

Oral Presentation		
Team	**Score**	**Score to Record**
A	15	**30**
B	18	**36**

- Refer to the Rubric for reference in scoring.

All forms and sample rubrics can be accessed via this link:

Mechanics

A. Pre-Competition Requirements/Rules

1. Teams shall complete online registration.
   - **Submission of Regional Team Registration Forms, including the following:**
   - ✓ Region number and name
   - ✓ Division/Schools Division Office
   - ✓ Name of Regional Science and Mathematics Supervisor
   - ✓ Name of Division Science and Mathematics Supervisor

   - **Team Composition Details:**
   - ✓ Official team name representing the region
   - ✓ Grade levels of each member
   - ✓ Certified true copy of school records proving grade levels
   - ✓ Regional team coach/adviser information with designation

	✓ Replacement of participants due to valid reasons, such as but not limited to sickness, is allowed, provided that it is duly endorsed by the regional director. 2. Equipment and Documentation Verification • **Pre-Event Documentation Checklist:** ✓ Individual Participant Form with parent consent ✓ Medical Certificate ✓ Equipment Checklist if any • **Equipment Inspection:** ✓ Basic calculator ✓ Measuring tools ✓ Writing materials ✓ Digital devices (if allowed) ✓ Safety equipment 3. The Technical Committee and panel of experts shall be at the venue one (1) hour before the contest, while the learner-participants, teacher-coaches, and audience shall be at the venue thirty (30) minutes before the competition. Late learner-participants may be permitted to join upon thorough assessment of their reasons. 4. Briefing of the participants shall be conducted thirty (30) minutes before the start of the event. All questions, clarifications, and points of order shall be entertained during the briefing. 5. The Technical Committee shall signal the start of the contest. Only the Technical Committee, panel of experts, official photographers, and learner-participants are allowed to be at the contest venue. 6. All teacher-coaches shall form part of the audience only and shall not be allowed to assist the learner-participants during the contest. **B. During Event / Competition Structure** • Teams shall navigate through multiple stations. • The total number of stations shall be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 10. There shall be at least one (1) station per category, and the difficult category shall have the fewest number of stations. For **STEMazing elementary**, the majority of the challenges shall focus on Mathematics competencies, while for **STEMazing secondary**, the majority of the challenges shall focus on Science competencies. • Each team shall solve challenges at every station, organized into three categories based on difficulty. Each phase may consist of a minimum of one (1) station to a maximum of four (4) stations.

For example:

Category	Designated Station/s
Easy	First to Third Station
Average	Fourth to Fifth Station
Difficult	Sixth to Seventh Station

- The **total cumulative points** for STEMazing shall always be **100 points**, regardless of the number of stations per category.
- The number of stations per category shall be flexible, allowing the organizer to determine the distribution based on factors such as the nature of challenges, availability of materials and equipment, and the contest venue.
- Samples of distributions of stations and points are shown below:

Challenges shall include:

- ✓ Application of scientific and mathematical concepts and analysis of real-world data;
- ✓ Developing scientific and mathematical solutions and solving problems; and
- ✓ Presenting solutions and findings.

- Each team shall start at Station 1. The next team shall proceed after the time interval set by the Technical Committee, based on the nature of the task.
- If the venue and resources can accommodate all teams simultaneously, they may start at the same time. However, if space or materials are limited, teams shall complete the tasks in batches. Teams waiting for their turn shall remain in the designated waiting areas until called.
- Each station shall be equipped with sufficient materials and equipment to accommodate at least five teams simultaneously.
- Each station shall have a time limit for completing the task, which shall be determined by the organizer. A digital timer shall be provided at every station, which the teams shall activate by themselves when they begin their task and deactivate once they finish or choose to discontinue.
- For challenges involving oral presentation, each team presentation shall be limited to two (2) minutes only, and followed by a five (5)-minute Question and Answer (Q&A) session.
- All members of the panel of experts may ask questions, provided the Q&A remains within the allocated five-minute timeframe.

	• Each team shall complete their presentation within two (2) minutes. For every additional minute beyond the allotted time, one (1) point shall be deducted from the team's score for that station. • A timer shall be assigned for the task. • Participants are not permitted to return to any previous station they chose to discontinue, even if they still have remaining time. Returning to discontinued stations shall result in disqualification from the contest. • The total maximum time allotted to complete the whole STEMazing challenge is 180 minutes. • A checkpoint marshal at each station shall validate the team's answer or output. • Any form of communication between the participants and other parties (e.g., coach, parents, classmates, teachers, etc.) shall warrant automatic disqualification from the competition. • At the end of the competition, the team with the highest cumulative score shall be declared the overall champion. In case of a tie, a tie-breaker question shall be given. • The decision of the panel of experts is final and irrevocable. **C. Safety and Compliance** ***General Safety Protocols*** • Teams shall stay within designated safe zones. • There shall be mandatory use of specified safety equipment. • There shall be access to water stations and rest areas. • There shall be compliance with station-specific safety guidelines. ***Supervision and Support*** • Station masters shall be present at each checkpoint. • Recognizable medical teams shall be on standby throughout the contest. • The safety officer shall oversee all activities. • There shall be a technical support team for digital components ***Emergency Response Procedures*** • There shall be a medical emergency response protocol. • There shall be weather emergency contingency plans. • There shall be technical failure backup systems. • There shall be a lost team search and recovery procedure. ***Incident Management*** • There shall be immediate reporting to the safety officer. • There shall be documentation through incident report forms.

	• There shall be implementation of appropriate response measures. • There shall be post-incident analysis and documentation. **D. Scoring and Awards** Scoring System Implementation • There shall be digital real-time scoring through station verification • There shall be individual judge scoring followed by panel consensus. • There shall be final verification by the chair of the panel of experts and Technical Committee. Winners Declaration: • The top five (5) teams shall be declared as the winners during the Awarding and Closing Ceremonies. **E. Post Competition Rule** • The main hall and waiting rooms shall be cleaned and organized by the teams before leaving their respective areas.

Scoring Rubrics for Scoring of Oral Presentations/Arguments of STEMazing

Criteria	Max Point	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Delivery/ Discussion of Arguments	8	**8 - 7 pts** Arguments are clear, logical, and strongly supported by scientific, mathematical, and technological principles; delivery is confident and engaging.	**6 - 5 pts** Arguments are mostly clear and supported by valid assumptions; delivery is generally good.	**4 - 3 pts** Arguments lack depth or clarity; limited support from valid assumptions; delivery needs improvement.	**2 pts – 1 pt** Arguments are weak, unclear, or unsupported; delivery is ineffective.
Content Presentation and Organization	5	**5 pts** Demonstrates full knowledge by presenting details with explanations and elaboration	**4 pts** At ease with presenting details without much elaboration	**3 pts** Uncomfortable with presenting information and is able to present details but without elaboration	**2 pts – 1 pt** Does not have a grasp of details during the presentation, cannot elaborate the information presented
Ability to Answer Questions	7	**7 pts** Accurate, confident, and well-supported answers	**6 - 5 pts** Mostly accurate, minor hesitation	**4 - 3 pts** Limited accuracy, vague answers	**2 pts – 1 pt** Incorrect or no answers
Total	**20**				

SAMPLE SUMMATIVE SCORESHEET

TEAM	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	AVERAGE TOTAL SCORE	TIME (in minutes:seconds)	Rank
1	93	94	96	94.33	170:40	2
2	94	96	95	95.00	160:17	1
3	79	80	82	80.33	175:22	9
4	96	93	94	94.33	178:05	3
5	85	88	87	86.67	180:00	7
6	87	85	88	86.67	179:22	6
7	73	74	75	74.00	180:00	10
8	84	86	85	85.00	178:05	8
9	90	92	91	91.00	175:22	4
10	89	92	90	90.33	160:25	5
11						
12						
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14						
15						
16						
17						
18						

Prepared by:

Signature over Printed Name
Member 1, Panel of Expert

Signature over Printed Name
Member 2, Panel of Expert

Signature over Printed Name
Member 3, Panel of Expert