



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

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In compliance with D.O No. 08, s. 2013
this advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO-28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd SDO Aklan officials, personnel/staff,
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**CLARIFICATION ON THE CONDUCT OF THE 2ND QUARTER NATIONWIDE
SIMULTANEOUS EARTHQUAKE DRILL DURING
THE INSTRUCTIONAL BLOCK**

Attached is the Advisory of the Department of Education Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service regarding the Clarification on the Conduct of the 2nd Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) during the Instructional Block, which is self-explanatory.

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Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICE

ADVISORY

Clarification on the Conduct of the 2nd Quarter Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill During the Instructional Block

The Department of Education recognizes the need to protect instructional time under the three-term school calendar. The instructional block shall remain reserved for teaching and learning and shall not be disrupted by unnecessary, ceremonial, prolonged, or poorly planned activities.

The Department also recognizes that earthquake preparedness is a necessary component of safety instruction, learner protection, and school readiness. The Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill (NSED) shall therefore be treated as a learning-linked safety activity and readiness validation exercise, not as an ordinary co-curricular interruption.

Safety must be embedded in instruction. Earthquakes may occur during class hours, while learners and personnel are inside classrooms, offices, laboratories, corridors, or other school spaces. Learners must therefore practice correct protective actions under supervised school conditions. A briefing alone does not complete earthquake preparedness. The actual drill is necessary to test Duck, Cover, and Hold, evacuation procedures when applicable, learner and personnel accounting, communication lines, assistance for learners requiring support, and post-drill corrective action.

All Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices, schools, and learning centers are hereby guided by the following:

1. Schools shall conduct NSED as a brief, purposeful, safe, inclusive, and time-bound activity linked to disaster risk reduction and resilience education.
2. Schools may integrate the earthquake preparedness briefing into appropriate lessons during the instructional block. The briefing shall cover earthquake hazards, Duck, Cover, and Hold, evacuation routes, assembly areas, buddy systems, learner accounting, and expected behavior during the drill.
3. The actual drill shall still be conducted with meaningful participation of learners, teaching personnel, non-teaching personnel, and School DRRM Team members. The drill shall not be reduced to a lecture, announcement, photo opportunity, or documentation activity.
4. Schools may adjust the exact timing of the drill within the school day when justified by local safety, operational, weather, health, security, or coordination considerations. Any adjustment must preserve the purpose of the drill and must allow learners and personnel to participate.
5. Schools shall not schedule the actual drill at a time when most learners have been dismissed or when only a small number of personnel remain in school. If a school conducts a personnel-only drill after dismissal, it must still conduct



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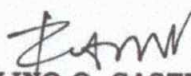
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a learner-participation earthquake drill or classroom-based protective action exercise during class hours.

6. Schools may adopt the following sequence:
 - a. conduct a short pre-drill briefing through classroom instruction;
 - b. conduct the actual earthquake drill at the scheduled or locally adjusted time within the school day;
 - c. account for learners and personnel;
 - d. conduct a short debriefing or reflection; and
 - e. document gaps and corrective actions.
7. School Heads shall designate the School DRRM Team to lead drill preparation, coordination, safety checks, timekeeping, observation, documentation, and post-drill review.
8. Teachers shall supervise learners before, during, and after the drill. They shall guide learners in correct protective action, orderly evacuation when applicable, learner accounting, and brief processing of the activity as part of safety learning.
9. Non-teaching personnel shall participate based on assigned emergency functions, including communication, gate management, records protection, first aid support, route safety, and assistance to learners and personnel requiring support.
10. Schools shall apply child-centered, inclusive, disability-accessible, and Do No Harm standards. Reasonable accommodation shall be provided for learners with disabilities, learners with medical needs, young learners, pregnant learners, and other learners requiring assistance.
11. Schools shall coordinate with LGUs, Local DRRM Offices, OCD, PDRRMOs, CDRRMOs/MDRRMOs, BDRRMCs, health offices, and first responders as necessary. Coordination with external partners shall support, and not replace, DepEd authority over learners, personnel, school operations, and learning continuity.
12. Regional Offices and Schools Division Offices shall provide technical assistance to schools in harmonizing NSED implementation with the three-term school calendar. They shall monitor the conduct of the activity based on functionality, learner participation, safety, inclusion, and corrective action, not documentation alone.

The instructional block protects teaching and learning. NSED complies with this policy when schools conduct it as safety instruction, readiness validation, and learner protection. It shall be implemented in a manner that strengthens learning, protects life, and prepares schools to act correctly during an actual earthquake.

For guidance and compliance.


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