



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

July 16, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 390, s. 2026

**SCHOOL SAFETY, LEARNER PROTECTION, AND
PREVENTION OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE**

- To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors, Principals In-Charge of the District
Head Teacher In-Charge of the District
Senior/Education Program Specialist
Heads of Public and Private Elementary/Integrated/Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned
1. Attached is the Regional Memorandum No. 670, s. 2026 dated July 01, 2026, titled "School Safety, Learner Protection, and Prevention of School Violence" which is self-explanatory.
 2. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

FELICIANO C. BUENAFE JR., CESO V
School Division Superintendent

Encl.: As Stated

Reference: Regional Memorandum No. 670, s. 2026

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index

Under the following subjects:

LEARNERS

PERSONNEL

RIGHTS AND PRTECTION

ACCS



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI-WESTERN VISAYAS

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 670, s. 2026

JUL 01 2026

**SCHOOL SAFETY, LEARNER PROTECTION, AND
PREVENTION OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a Messaging Guide from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs and External Partnership Public Affairs Service dated June 2026, titled *School Safety, Learner Protection, and Prevention of School Violence*, which is self-explanatory.
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.


CRISTITO A. ECO, CESO III
Regional Director

Encl.: As stated

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

SAFETY EDUCATION SCHOOLS STUDENTS OFFICIALS

PBC/CAO-RM- *School Safety, Learner Protection, and
Prevention of School Violence*
062/June 30, 2026



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III. MESSAGE GUIDE FOR MEDIA QUESTIONS

1. SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY

- We understand why parents and communities are worried. When incidents like these happen, it naturally raises questions about whether our schools are safe.
- Our schools are being asked to revisit their security measures, review their protocols, and identify areas that may need strengthening.
- We welcome the support of the PNP, local governments, and community partners in helping ensure safer school environments.
- At the same time, school safety is not only about gates, fences, or security personnel. It is also about making sure learners feel supported, heard, and protected.
- Our goal is not simply to respond after incidents occur, but to prevent them from happening in the first place.

2. RECENT INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE INVOLVING LEARNERS

- While circumstances may differ from case to case, these incidents remind us that many learners are facing pressures and challenges that adults may not immediately see.
- This is why we need to strengthen not only school safety measures, but also the systems that help identify learners who may be struggling.
- The conversation should not stop at what happened. It should also focus on what more we can do to protect and support our children moving forward.
- This is a responsibility that schools cannot carry alone. Families, communities, local governments, and other stakeholders all have an important role to play.

3. ROLE OF PARENTS AND FAMILIES

- Parents remain the most important influence in a child's life.
- Teachers may see learners for a few hours a day, but families are often in the best position to notice changes in behavior, emotions, or relationships.
- We encourage parents to keep communication lines open and to check in regularly with their children. Sometimes what a child needs most is someone who listens before a problem becomes a crisis.
- The strongest learner protection programs are those where schools and families work together.

4. BULLYING AND LEARNER PROTECTION

- Regardless of the findings of any ongoing investigation, bullying remains a serious concern that schools continue to address.
- We want learners to know that they should never feel alone when facing bullying, harassment, or any form of abuse.

- Schools are expected to maintain reporting and intervention mechanisms so concerns can be addressed early.
- Prevention starts with building school communities rooted in respect, empathy, and accountability.

5. PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

- One of the biggest lessons from incidents like these is the importance of recognizing warning signs early. Changes in behavior, withdrawal from peers, emotional distress, or other concerning patterns should never be ignored.
- Schools are being encouraged to strengthen guidance services, learner monitoring, and referral systems.
- We also encourage parents and communities to be active partners in identifying learners who may need additional support. The earlier we intervene, the greater our chances of helping a learner before challenges escalate.

6. MENTAL HEALTH AND LEARNER WELL-BEING

- Behind every incident is a young person, a family, and a community that may be carrying unseen struggles. This is why learner well-being must remain at the center of our efforts.
- Schools are strengthening psychosocial support, guidance services, and mental health promotion activities.

7. RESPONSIBLE DISCUSSION OF VIOLENT INCIDENTS

- We encourage everyone to approach these incidents with care, responsibility, and compassion. Speculation can cause additional pain to families and communities who are already grieving or affected.
- We also ask everyone to be mindful of how incidents are discussed online, especially when young people are involved.
- Our shared objective should be to learn from these incidents, support those affected, and work together to prevent future harm.

8. ACCOUNTABILITY AND INVESTIGATIONS

- We owe it to the victims, their families, and the public to allow investigations to proceed based on facts. Accountability is important, but it must be guided by evidence and due process.
- At the same time, every incident should prompt us to examine whether there are lessons that can strengthen our policies and practices moving forward.
- Our focus remains on finding the facts, supporting those affected, and improving systems where needed.

DO'S

- ✓ Speak with empathy and concern for victims and families.
- ✓ Stick to verified facts and official information.
- ✓ Emphasize actions being taken by DepEd and good practices of schools.
- ✓ Highlight learner welfare, safety, and mental health support.
- ✓ Reinforce that protecting children is a shared responsibility.
- ✓ Encourage responsible reporting and social media use.
- ✓ Redirect discussions toward prevention and solutions.
- ✓ Recognize actions taken by the LGUs and other stakeholders.

DON'TS

- ✗ Do not speculate on motives or causes.
- ✗ Do not confirm unverified reports or rumors.
- ✗ Do not assign blame to teachers, schools, parents, or learners.
- ✗ Do not disclose information involving minors.
- ✗ Do not use sensational or inflammatory language.
- ✗ Do not share graphic details of the incident.
- ✗ Do not make statements that may encourage copycat behavior.