



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

July 22, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 407 s. 2026

**REITERATION OF POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF
THE INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES**

To: **Schools Division Superintendent**
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors, CID and SGOD
Public Schools District Supervisors
School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to **Regional Memorandum No. 686, s. 2026** and **Memorandum DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660** dated June 30, 2026 from the Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations regarding the **Reiteration of Policies on the Safe and Responsible Use of the Internet and Related Devices**, this Office reiterates the strict implementation of and compliance with existing policies and guidelines concerning the promotion of safe and responsible use of the internet and related devices to ensure the welfare, safety, security, and protection of all learners and personnel.
2. As anchored on DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026, titled **Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE)**, the use of portable electronic devices during instructional hours by both learners and personnel is strictly prohibited.

Exemptions are granted only in meritorious cases, specifically for:
 - **Academic Purposes:** Accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities.
 - **Emergency Situations:** Facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns.
3. Unless covered by the explicit exemptions above, activities such as social media usage, playing online games, content creation, and vlogging during class hours remain strictly prohibited.
4. Guided by the ESMLE Framework, a **whole-of-society approach is emphasized to guide learners effectively**. School heads and teachers are encouraged to engage parents, Local Government Units (LGUs), law enforcement agencies, and civil society organizations to foster responsibility and empathy among learners both inside and outside the classroom.
5. All Public Schools District Supervisors and School Heads are hereby directed to ensure the immediate and widest dissemination of this



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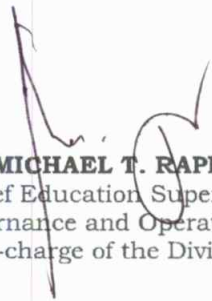


Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

Memorandum to all stakeholders and to intensify local campaigns promoting digital safety and responsibility.

6. For immediate compliance and strict implementation of all concerned.

FOR THE SCHOOL DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT


MICHAEL T. RAPIZ

Chief Education Supervisor
School Governance and Operations Division
In-charge of the Division

Encl.: As stated

Reference:

Regional Memorandum No. 686, s. 2026 and Memorandum DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660

/FPJ



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

JUL 07 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 686, s. 2026

**REITERATION OF POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE
USE OF THE INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES**

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is Memorandum DM-OUGOPS-2026-06-1660, from **Atty. Fatima Lipp D. Panontongan, Undersecretary and Chief of Staff, Atty. Filemon Ray L. Javier, Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs and Hon. Malcolm S. Garma, Undersecretary for Governance and Operations**, dated June 30, 2026 regarding the **Reiteration of Policies on the Safe and Responsible Use of the Internet and Related Devices**, which is self-explanatory.
2. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


CRISTITO A. ECO, CESO III
Regional Director

Incl: As Stated
Reference : DM- OUGOPS-2026-06-1660
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

LEARNERS
POLICY
RIGHTS

JRJ/ESSD-RM-Reiteration Use of Internet
104/July 2, 2026



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Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

DM-OUOPS-2026-06 - 660

TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION RECEIVED RECORDS SECTION, REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VI	
JUN 01 2026	
By: <i>[Signature]</i>	TIME:

FROM : **ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN**
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff

ATTY. FILEMON RAY L. JAVIER
Undersecretary for Legal and Legislative Affairs

MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT : **REITERATION OF POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE
USE OF THE INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES**

DATE : **JUN 30 2026**

Pursuant to the Department of Education's (DepEd) commitment to promote and uphold the welfare, safety, security, and protection of all learners and personnel, this Office reiterates the strict implementation of and compliance with existing policies and guidelines concerning the promotion of safe and responsible use of the internet and related devices.

DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026, titled *Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE)*, expressly **prohibits the use of portable electronic devices during instructional hours by both learners and personnel**. However, **exemptions are granted** in meritorious cases, specifically for **academic purposes** (e.g. accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities) and **emergency situations** (e.g. facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns). This includes the prohibition of the usage of, but not limited to, social media, online games, content creation, and vlogging during class hours.

Guided by the ESMLE Framework, a **whole-of-society approach is necessary** in order to **properly guide learners**. Parents, Local Government Units, Police and other Law Enforcement agencies, other government agencies and instrumentalities, Non-Government Organizations/Civil Society Organizations, and all other stakeholders



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Effectivity	03/23/23	Page	1 of 2



each have a collective role to play to ensure that the learners develop responsibility and empathy towards others, even outside the classroom.

In the interest of further promoting the aforementioned values, all field offices and schools are hereby directed to ensure the widest dissemination of these policies to all stakeholders and to **intensify the campaign on the safe and responsible use of the internet and related devices.**