



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
SOCCSKSARGEN REGION

October 7, 2022

REGION MEMORANDUM
ESSD No. 126 s. 2022

**DESIGNATION OF DIVISION FOCAL PERSON FOR CHILD PROTECTION,
SUBMISSION OF SCHOOLS CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE
COMPOSITION AND INCIDENTS OF CHILD
ABUSE AND BULLYING**

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. It has come to the attention of this Office that incidents of bullying, riots and retaliation involving learners have become prevalent with the resumption of face-to-face classes as news of such incidents are circulating in the local news, online and/or in the social media platforms.
2. Relative to the mandate in ensuring that the rights of the child in basic education are respected, protected, promoted, and fulfilled through a strengthened implementation of the Child Protection Policy, the creation and activation of the **Child Protection Unit (CPU)** in all levels of the Department is reiterated.
3. Pursuant to Department Order No. 003, s. 2021, otherwise known as **Creation of the Child Protection Unit and the Child Rights in Education Desk in the Department of Education**, the lead office for child protection at the regional level shall be the Education Support Services Division (ESSD), while at the Division Level the **Schools Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)**. For the School Level, the Child Protection Committee, created under DO No. 40, s. 2012 or the Child Protection Policy, shall be the structure for planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, reporting, and coordination of child protection concerns.
4. Pertinent to the functions of the Child Protection Unit, among others, is to serve as the lead office of the Department in planning, implementing, coordinating, monitoring, and evaluating programs, projects, and activities, including intervention mechanisms, related to child protection.
5. As such, and in view of the incidents of bullying involving students and learners circulating online and in the local news, all concerned are reminded of strict adherence to due process, procedure, intervention, referral and fact-finding investigation and documentation, to name a few, as embodied in DO No. 40, s. 2012 and Department Order No. 55, s. 2013 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act (RA) No. 10627 Otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013).
6. Anent this, it cannot be overemphasized the directive for all schools division offices to submit the name/s of their respective designated focal person/s for Child Protection Program to Ismael N. Ngitngit, Jr at ismael.ngitngit001@deped.gov.ph copy furnished rol2.legal@deped.gov.ph not later than October 12, 2022. Thereafter, the designated focal persons shall consolidate the list of all schools' current SY 2022-2023 Child Protection Committee and submit the same to the above-stated email addresses not later than October 31, 2022, along with the reports on incidents of child abuse and bullying for the previous school year 2021-2022.



Address: Regional Center, Brgy. Carpenter Hill, City of Koronadal
Telefax No.: (083) 2288825/ (083) 2281893
Website: depedroxii.org
Email: region12@deped.gov.ph





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7. Failure to comply with the submissions mentioned above shall be subject to applicable administrative proceedings as called for under Section 14 of DO No. 55, s. 2022 considering that an earlier Region Memorandum ESSD No. 13, s. 2022 on the same matter has already been issued on January 19, 2022.

8. Further, DO No. 55, s. 2013 provides for the reporting requirement as requisite of RA No. 10627, to wit:

“Section 5. *Reporting Requirement.* xxx

xxx. And every first week of the school year thereafter, schools shall submit a report to their respective schools division superintendents all relevant information and statistics on acts of bullying or retaliation. The schools division superintendents shall compile these data and report the same to the Secretary of the DepEd who shall likewise formally transmit a comprehensive report to the Committee on Basic Education of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Section 6. *Sanction for Noncompliance.* – In the rules and regulations to be implemented pursuant to this Act, the Secretary of DepEd shall prescribe the appropriate administrative sanctions on school administrators who shall fail to comply with the requirements under this Act. In addition thereto, erring private schools shall likewise suffer the penalty of suspension of their permits to operate.”

9. Schools subject of current online and/or local news with the same incidents are also enjoined to submit the complete records of the case/s to be evaluated and monitored by the division CPU focal person in coordination with the division legal unit.

10. Questions or clarifications may be directed via text or call to Ismael Ngitngit Jr. at 09101879877 or Herald Barnuevo at 09484654990; or via email to the addresses provided above.

11. For strict compliance and immediate dissemination.


CARLITO D. ROCAFORT
Director IV

Encl.: None

Reference: DO 40, s. 2012

DO 55, s. 2013

RA No. 10627

DO 49, S. 2006

RM ESSD No. 13, s. 2022

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

CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM AND SERVICES SECTION



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