



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION XII
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF SOUTH COTABATO

**Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent**

17 Oct 2023

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
SGOD No. **127** s. 2023

GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY 2023

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Division Chiefs and Unit Heads
Public Schools District Supervisors/Principals In-Charge
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
School WinS Coordinators
All Teaching and Non-Teaching Personnel
School Health Section Personnel
All Public Elementary and Secondary Learners
All Others Concerned

1. Global Handwashing Day is celebrated every 15th day of October. This year's theme "**Clean Hands are Within Reach**", follows the recent initiative calling on all of society to save lives by handwashing with soap. Cognizant to the provisions of DO No. 16 on **Policy and Guidelines in the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Wash) in Schools (WinS) Program**, handwashing and toothbrushing activities shall be highlighted and conducted per school for both elementary and secondary level anytime from October 18 to 31, 2023 instead.
2. This program aims to:
 - a. implement WHO's global recommendations on hand hygiene to prevent and control diseases, and
 - b. work toward universal access and practice of handwashing with soap.
3. Immediate and wide dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

LEONARDO M. BALALA, CESE
Schools Division Superintendent

SDOSC-OSDS-DIO-NM-v3.0r0.0, effective 04/06/2020



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Encl.: As stated

Reference: DO 10, S. 2016
DM 14, S. 2020

MSBT/DM - global handwashing day 2023
0000/October 17, 2023

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
BUREAU OF LEARNER SUPPORT SERVICE

Office of the Director

ADVISORY
October 11, 2023

1. The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) shall spearhead **this year's celebration of the Global Handwashing Day** with the theme "**Clean Hands are Within Reach**." This global advocacy is celebrated annually every 15th day of October and is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding on the importance of handwashing with soap as an effective and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives.
2. This advisory is being issued to inform the field offices across governance levels that the activity for the **2023 Global Handwashing Day** shall be rescheduled and broadcasted **via the DepEd Philippines Facebook Page** on **October 18, 2023 at 1:30-2:30 p.m.** (this was originally scheduled on October 13, 2023 per OUOPS Memorandum No. 2023-03) to give enough time for the technical team to consolidate and edit all the videos submitted by the different regions. For the collaterals, please access this link: [bit.ly/GHD 2023](https://bit.ly/GHD_2023).
3. For questions and clarifications, you may contact Mr. Vonerich B. Berba, Education Program Specialist II through (02) 8632-9935 or email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph.


NENNETH ESPLANA-ALAMA, PhD
Director IV, Bureau of Learner Support Services