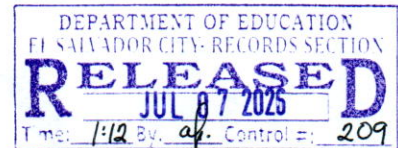




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X- NORTHERN MINDANAO
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY



July 6, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
NO. 209, s. 2026

REITERATION ON THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF AUSTERITY MEASURES IN THE
CONDUCT OF ALL REGIONAL, DIVISION, AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors, SGOD and CID
All Education Program Supervisors
All Public Elementary & Secondary School Heads
All Public Elementary & Secondary Teachers
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to DM-OUOPS-2026-02-01202 titled "*Reiteration on the Observance of Austerity Measures in the Conduct of all Regional, Division, and School Activities*," this Office strongly reminds the field to practice prudent fiscal management and efficient utilization of government resources across all local operations. This directive stands in strict consistency with DepEd Order No. 61, s. 2004, DepEd Memorandum No. 018, s. 2026, and DepEd Memorandum No. 022, s. 2026.

2. To ensure that public funds are utilized judiciously and responsibly, all school heads and program managers shall strictly implement the following austerity protocols during the planning and execution of meetings, conferences, trainings, seminars, and similar undertakings:

- **Priority Use of Existing DepEd Facilities:** Particular priority shall be given to utilizing existing DepEd facilities, division halls, or school grounds as venues for official functions to uphold cost-efficiency without compromising programmatic objectives.
- **Alternative Venues:** In instances where official DepEd facilities are completely unavailable or structurally unsuitable, the utilization of alternative government-owned facilities or controlled local government venues is highly encouraged as a viable and economical option.
- **Engagement of Private Venues:** Booking private commercial venues shall only be resorted to when absolutely necessary. Any such engagement must be backed by an explicit written justification and remains subject to rigorous accounting, budgeting, and auditing rules and regulations.
- **Expenditure Caps:** All offices are strongly advised to severely limit unnecessary expenditures related to venue rentals, accommodations, meals, and other high incidental costs. Wherever feasible and appropriate, program managers must explore alternative modalities including virtual or blended delivery arrangements.

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3. All field offices and school heads are hereby directed to foster a strong culture of accountability, transparency, and tight fiscal discipline in the discharge of their respective administrative and educational functions.

4. This Office shall adhere to the Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP) in the steps undertaken for this purpose. Hence, all decisions and actions shall be based on guidelines set forth, with no discrimination on the account of age, gender, identity, sexual orientation, civil status, disability, religion, ethnicity, or political affiliation.

5. Immediate dissemination and strict compliance with this Memorandum are hereby directed.


RANDOLPH B. TORTOLA
Schools Division Superintendent

Attachment.: As stated
Reference: DM-OUOPS-2026-02-01202
To be included in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects

AUSTERITY MEASURES POLICY