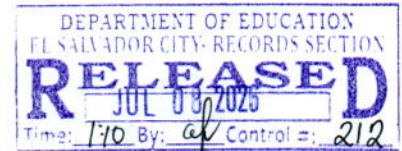




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY



July 7, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
 NO. 212, s. 2026

STRENGTHENING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES

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

1. Pursuant to the DepEd Order No.6, s. 2026 titled Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE) and approved OUOPS Memorandum 2026-06-1660 entitled Reiteration of policies on the Safe and Responsible Use of the Internet and Related Devices, all school heads shall ensure strict compliance with the prohibition on the use of cellphones and other portable electronic devices for both learners and personnel during instructional hours.
2. The Department's commitment is to maintain a safe, secure, and productive learning and working environment. This measure is intended to minimize distractions and maintain the integrity of the learning environment.
3. Further, exception may be granted in meritorious cases, specifically for:
 - a. Academic purposes: Accessing educational platforms, digital resources, or participating in authorized online collaborative activities.
 - b. Emergency situations: Facilitating communication during disasters, medical crises, or other immediate safety concerns.
4. Moreover, prohibitions of the use of cellphones and other portable electronic devices include, but not limited to, social media, online games, content creation, and vlogging during class hours.
5. To ensure accountability, any violations of this policy by teaching or non-teaching personnel, as well as learners, shall be subject to administrative sanctions and penalties as outlined in the standardized disciplinary framework (stated on DepEd Order No. 6, s. 2026 - see attached Annex G).
6. This Office shall adhere to 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.

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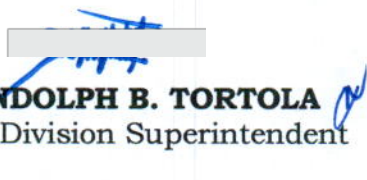
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Doc. Ref. Code	SDO-OSDS-F001	Rev	00
Effectivity	08.29.25	Page	1 of 2



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SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY

10. This Office directs the immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum.


RANDOLPH B. TORTOLA

Schools Division Superintendent

ATCH.: As stated

Reference: DEPED ORDER 6, s.2026 & OUOPS Memorandum 2026-06-1660

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

SAFE AND SECURITY
DRRM PROGRAM

RE: STRENGTHENING COMPLIANCE WITH POLICIES ON THE SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE
INTERNET AND RELATED DEVICES

SGOD/DRRM/jee



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

DM-OUOPS-2026-06-1660

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

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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Doc. Ref. Code	DM-ENDORSE	Rev	01
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.**

ANNEX G: ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS AND PENALTIES FOR USING PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES DURING INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS

A. **For Learners** - the sanctions subject to the minimum requirement of due process are as follows:

1. **1st Offense**

- a. Temporary confiscation of the portable electronic devices and return at the end of the subject period (specific designated time allocated for a particular subject)
- b. Documentation using the Confiscation Slip (*see Annex J*)

2. **2nd Offense**

- a. Temporary confiscation of the portable electronic devices and return at the end of the class hours (total time allocated for instruction within a school day)
- b. Documentation using the Confiscation Slip (*see Annex J*)
- c. Parental notice, through formal communication, to inform the parent/guardian of the incident

3. **3rd and Succeeding Offense**

- a. Confiscation of portable electronic devices that will be deposited at the Office of the School Head/Administrator
- b. Documentation using Confiscation Slip and Call Slip (*see Annex J and K*)
- c. Return of the portable electronic devices until the parent/guardian retrieves the same
- d. Imposition of proper Disciplinary action

B. **For Teaching, Teaching-related, and Non-Teaching Personnel** - Violations shall be a ground for administrative disciplinary action, which the disciplining authorities can initiate. Schools and CLCs shall be responsible for the following:

1. Inform the learners and parents, guardians of this Order at the beginning of every school year through orientation, advisories, and conferences; and
2. Implement suitable technical and organizational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of the learners' Personally Identifiable Information (PII); prevent unauthorized use, access, or disclosure; and ensure that the PII is used solely for the stated purpose and not disclosed to any party or public forum (e.g., social media) without the explicit consent of the learner and their parent/legal guardian, unless such disclosure is legally mandated or essential for the school to perform its essential functions.

Further, schools and CLCs shall encourage the parents/legal guardians to manage the learner's responsible use of portable electronic devices and to support the implementation of this Order.