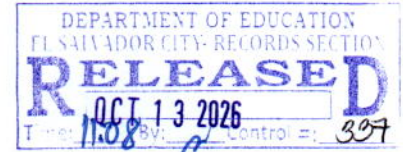




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY



October 13, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 337 s. 2026

2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

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

1. Pursuant to Regional Memorandum No. 819, s. 2026, titled, 2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration, this office joins the global observance of the **2026 Global Handwashing Day** on October 15, 2026 (Thursday), with the multi-year theme "Be a Handwashing Hero".
2. This activity aims to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing with soap as a simple, effective, and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. The celebration is aligned with **DepEd Order No. 10, s. 2016, or the Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program**, which promotes proper hygiene and sanitation practices and supports the provision of a clean, safe, and healthy school environment.
3. Hence, all Divisional and School WinS Coordinators, as well as personnel stakeholders who champion Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives, are encouraged to participate in a virtual celebration on October 15 (Thursday). The Schools Division Offices (SDOs) shall ensure and monitor the participation of personnel and learners concerned in the virtual celebration.
4. Further, the SDOs shall undertake the following activities:
 - a. Select and submit one (1) existing 3 to 4 minute handwashing or WinS related jingle video produced by the SDO or its schools for possible presentation during the virtual programs.
 - b. Conduct a simultaneous handwashing activity involving learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents, and other stakeholders on October 1, 2026. Schools shall determine an appropriate schedule for the activity, ensuring that it does not disrupt regular classes and school operations;
 - c. Where feasible, broadcast or feature the simultaneous handwashing activity through the official Facebook pages of the schools and/or SDOs; and
 - d. Cross-post the virtual broadcast of the Global Handwashing Day celebration through the official DepEd Philippines Facebook Page, as appropriate.



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

5. The following hashtags are recommended for official social media posts related to the celebration:

#2026GlobalHandwashingDay
#BeAHandwashingHero
#WASHinSchools
#ForTheWinS
#InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins

6. This activity shall adhere to Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP) in the conduct of this activity. Hence, all decisions and actions shall be based solely on the guidelines set forth, with no discrimination on the account of age, ethnicity, gender, marital status, religion and political affiliation.

5. For information and compliance.

RANDOLPH B. TORTOLA
Schools Division Superintendent

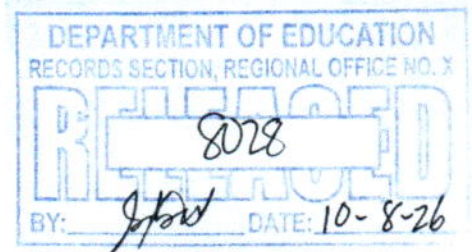
For the Schools Division Superintendent:

ROLLY B. LABIS
Officer-in-Charge, Chief, SGOD

ATCH: RM No. 819 s. 2026,
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:
WinS 2026 Global Handwashing Day
SGOD/SHNU/*vpt*



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO



October 6, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 819, s. 2026

2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

To: Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) Regional Office X, through the School Health and Nutrition Unit, joins the global observance of the **2026 Global Handwashing Day** on October 15 (Thursday), with the multi-year theme "Be a Handwashing Hero."
2. Global Handwashing Day aims to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing with soap as a simple, effective, and affordable way to prevent diseases and save lives. It also provides an opportunity to strengthen the practice of proper hand hygiene among learners, personnel, families, and communities.
3. The celebration is aligned with **DepEd Order No. 10, s. 2016**, or the **Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program**, which promotes proper hygiene and sanitation practices and supports the provision of a clean, safe, and healthy school environment. The WinS Program contributes to improved health and learning outcomes, increased school attendance, and the development of sustainable hygiene and sanitation practices among learners and the school community.
4. Hence, all Divisional and School WinS Coordinators, as well as personnel and stakeholders who champion Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives, are encouraged to participate in a **virtual celebration on October 15 (Thursday)**. The specific time and virtual link will be communicated through the appropriate channels soon. The Schools Division Offices (SDOs) shall ensure and monitor the participation of personnel and learners concerned in the virtual celebration.
5. Further, the SDOs shall undertake the following activities:
 - a. Select and submit one (1) existing 3- to 4-minute handwashing or WinS-related jingle video produced by the SDO or its schools for possible presentation during the virtual program;
 - b. Conduct a simultaneous handwashing activity involving learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents, and other stakeholders on October 15, 2026. Schools shall determine an appropriate schedule for the activity, ensuring that it does not disrupt regular classes and school operations;
 - c. Where feasible, broadcast or feature the simultaneous handwashing activity through the official Facebook pages of the schools and/or SDOs; and
 - d. Cross-post the virtual broadcast of the Global Handwashing Day celebration through the official DepEd Philippines Facebook Page, as appropriate.

6. The Regional Office (RO) personnel and officials shall submit a short pledge or commitment video expressing their support for the activity.

7. The following hashtags are recommended for official social media posts related to the celebration:

#2026GlobalHandwashingDay
#BeAHandwashingHero
#WASHinSchools
#ForTheWinS
#InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins

8. The celebration is intended to reinforce a practice that must be sustained beyond the observance. All schools and offices should continuously promote proper handwashing and hand hygiene practices throughout the year as part of the implementation of the WinS Program.

9. The SDOs shall submit their selected handwashing/WinS jingle video and pledge of commitment video presentations through hnu.regionx@deped.gov.ph on or before October 9 (Friday).

10. For further information and clarification, please contact Dr. Ernesto C. Anteola Jr., DMD, program focal person, School Health and Nutrition Unit, at 0918 925 2836, or through ernestojr.anteola@deped.gov.ph or hnu.regionx@deped.gov.ph.

11. This Office directs the immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum.

Digitally signed by
Legaspi Ruth Fuentes
Date: 2026.10.07
15:45:17+08'00'
DR. RUTH L. FUENTES, CESO III
Regional Director

ATCH.: As stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH ADVOCACY PROGRAMS WINS

RE: 2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration

ESSD/junanteola