DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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DIVISION OF SIARGAO

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DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 11-340 s. 2026

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

OBSERVANCE OF THE 34th NATIONAL CHILDREN'S MONTH AND NATIONAL STUDENT'S DAY 2026

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 10661, otherwise known as the *National Children's Month Act*, which designates November of every year as National Children's Month, and Republic Act No. 11369, otherwise known as the *National Students' Day Act*, this Office hereby announces the month-long observance of the **34th National Children's Month (NCM)** and **National Students' Day (NSD)** this November 2026, carrying the national theme, *"Manindigan, Tumugon at Kumalinga: Batang Handa, Mas Ligtas ang Bansa,"* and the DepEd sub-theme, *"Adhika: Alamin at Damhin ang Kalagayan, Higit na Magmalasakit, Kumilos para sa Kabutihan."*

2. NCM 2026 aims to promote children's rights and responsibilities, strengthen disaster preparedness, resilience, and meaningful child participation, and foster safe, inclusive, and nurturing learning environments where every learner is protected and empowered to thrive.

3. National Students' Day (NSD), observed annually every November 17 pursuant to Republic Act No. 11369, recognizes the invaluable contributions of student activism and leadership to Philippine democracy. It also aims to foster social responsibility and solidarity.

4. All public schools in the Division, through their respective Project Development Officer I, Supreme Elementary Learner Government (SELG) and Supreme Secondary Learner Government (SSLG) Focal Persons, in collaboration with the School Guidance Designates and School Guidance Associates, are encouraged to conduct relevant activities in observance of the 34th National Children's Month (NCM) and National Students' Day (NSD). See Annex A for the suggested activities.

5. The 2026 NCM Toolkit and Official collaterals issued by the CWC may be accessed and downloaded at https://tinyurl.com/26ncmcollaterals1. Schools are enjoined to use these materials in their activities.

6. The following guidelines shall be observed:

a. Activities shall be conducted without compromising instructional time and may integrated into existing classes, homeroom guidance, and co-curricular activities;
b. Participation of learners shall voluntary and age-appropriate, and no fees or Contributions shall be collected from learners or parents;
c. The safety, dignity, and well-being of learners shall be ensured at all times, consistent with the Department's child protection policies;
d. Consent of parents or guardians shall be secured before posting photos or videos of learners, in compliance with RA No. 10173 (Data Privacy Act of 2014, DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012, and DepEd OM-OUOPS-2024-05-03942; and
e. Expenses relative to the activities may be charged against MOOE and/or other available funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

7. For monitoring and documentation purposes, all schools are directed to submit their accomplishment reports which should include a brief narrative of the conducted activities, photo documentation and a summary of learner participation through the following official links **on or before December 2, 2026**.

a. NCM Reports: https://bit.ly/NCMAR2026
b. NSD Reports: https://bit.ly/NSDAR2026

8. For queries and clarifications, please contact Division Learner Formation Coordinators through the email address christinejoy.camingue@deped.gov.ph and glenda.racho@deped.gov.ph.

9. For information, guidance and strict compliance.

MANUEL O. CABERTE
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl: As stated
Reference: As stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:
ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS NCM NSD

SGOD/cjcd
11/10/2026

Annex A

National Children's Month and National Student's Day suggested activities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

a. Display the official 2026 NCM tarpaulin, posters, and other information, education, and communication (IEC) materials in visible and strategic areas within the school premises;

b. Conduct a kick-off or culminating activity during the flag ceremony, which may include a learners' pledge reaffirming their commitment to uphold children's rights;

c. Organize child rights awareness sessions, advocacy activities, and learner forums focusing on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), child protection, and positive discipline;

d. Implement child-centered disaster preparedness and safety initiatives aligned with the celebration's theme, such as preparedness orientations, emergency drills, and identification or mapping of safe spaces within the school;

e. Conduct wellness, mental health, and psychosocial support activities in coordination with the school's guidance personnel;

f. Facilitate learner-led initiatives through the Supreme Elementary Learner Government (SELG) and Supreme Secondary Learner Government (SSLG) to promote meaningful child participation and provide learners with opportunities to express their views on matters affecting them;

g. Organize age-appropriate competitions and creative activities, such as poster-making, slogan-writing, essay-writing, word challenges, and digital art contests, anchored on the celebration's theme; and

h. Conduct orientations and advocacy activities for parents and community stakeholders to strengthen awareness of children's rights and emphasize the shared responsibilities of parents, schools, and other duty-bearers in ensuring children's protection and welfare.