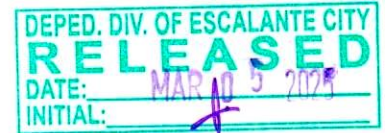




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
DIVISION OF ESCALANTE CITY



March 5, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 142, s. 2025

REITERATION OF DO 22, S. 2024 TO ON CLASS SUSPENSION AND STRENGTHENED MONITORING AMIDST INCREASED HEAT INDEX LEVELS

To: OIC Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
 Chief Education Supervisors
 Education Program Supervisors/Specialists
 Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads/TIC's
 All others concerned

1. Enclosed is a copy of Joint Memorandum OM-OSEC-OUPS-2025-01-01456 titled **“REITERATION OF DO 22, S. 2024 TO ON CLASS SUSPENSION AND STRENGTHENED MONITORING AMIDST INCREASED HEAT INDEX LEVELS”** for information and appropriate action.
2. To facilitate evidence-based decision making and ensure a prompt institutional response, all school heads affected are requested to report on the link below every Friday before 12:00 noon.
<https://forms.gle/fsDWXZWEvFHNvfMC8>
3. This directive shall take effect immediately. Strict compliance is hereby enjoined by all concerned offices and personnel.
4. Immediate dissemination this Memorandum is highly directed.

PETER J. GALIMBA

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
 OIC-Schools Division Superintendent

Encl.: As stated
 Reference: DO No. 022 s. 2024
 To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
 under the following subjects:

PREPAREDNESS

ACTIVITIES

SAFETY

SGOD - DRRM



Binalingay Hanjenda Fe, Escalante City, Negros Occidental
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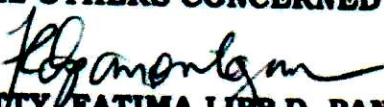


Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JOINT MEMORANDUM
OM-OSEC-OUOPS-2025-01-01456

TO : **UNDERSECRETARIES**
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES
BUREAU AND SERVICE DIRECTORS
REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM:


ATTY. FATIMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff


MALCOLM S. GARMA
Assistant Secretary, Officer-In-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Operations

SUBJECT : **REITERATION OF DO 22, S. 2024 ON CLASS**
SUSPENSION AND STRENGTHENED MONITORING AMID
INCREASED HEAT INDEX LEVELS

DATE : 3 MARCH 2025

1. In view of the anticipated escalation of heat index levels, which may pose a substantial risk to the health, safety, and overall well-being of learners and personnel, this Office hereby reiterates the provisions of DepEd Order (DO) No. 22, s. 2024, titled "Guidelines on Class and Work Suspension in Schools During Disasters and Emergencies."
2. Pursuant to said issuance, the authority to suspend face-to-face classes in response to extreme heat conditions shall be exercised at the discretion of the Local Chief Executives (LCEs) or the Schools Division Superintendents (SDS). In such instances, affected schools shall transition to modular distance learning, performance-based tasks, projects, or make-up classes to meet prescribed learning competencies.



2/F Rizal Building,, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City 1600
Telephone No.: (02) 8687-2922; 8687-4177; 8636-4995; 8636-4876. Website: www.deped.gov.ph

3. **Mandate for Heightened Monitoring and Granular Assessment** - All Regional Offices (ROs) and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are hereby directed to:

3.1. Conduct continuous surveillance of local heat index levels and environmental conditions, utilizing data from the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and other relevant authorities.

3.2. Undertake periodic assessments of school facilities, in consultation with LGUs and relevant health agencies, to determine the sufficiency of heat mitigation measures.

3.3. Implement precautionary strategies, including but not limited to, the modification of school hours, reinforcement of ventilation systems, and provision of adequate hydration facilities.

3.4. Identify schools that necessitate the deployment of Alternative Delivery Modes (ADM) due to intolerable heat exposure.

3.5. Ensure full compliance with DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2021, which mandates the installation of at least two (2) units of 16-inch oscillating wall fans per classroom where natural ventilation is inadequate.

4. **Periodic Reporting and Situation Updates** - To facilitate evidence-based decision-making and ensure a prompt institutional response, all ROs, SDOs, and school heads shall:

4.1. Submit weekly situational reports detailing class suspensions and alternative learning arrangements necessitated by extreme heat conditions. **Reports shall be submitted every Friday by 5:00 PM to ensure timely consolidation and analysis;**

4.2. Include in said reports the number of affected learners, specific interventions instituted, and any requisite administrative or logistical support.

4.3. Conduct regular environmental audits to ascertain adherence to optimal classroom temperature parameters, specifically within the range of 20-25°C, to promote cognitive function and academic performance.

4.4. Proactively implement remedial actions in cases where classroom temperatures exceed 33°C, a threshold at which the risk of heat exhaustion and related medical conditions becomes critical.

4.5. Coordinate with the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) for the consolidation of reports, issuance of advisories, and formulation of strategic response measures.

4.6. Ensure the comprehensive documentation of all health-related incidents attributed to extreme heat exposure within school premises.

5. **Mandate for DRRMS to Issue Regular Situation Reports (SITREPS)** - The Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS) is hereby directed to:

5.1. Publish periodic public advisories and SITREPS concerning the operational status of schools amidst fluctuating heat index levels.

5.2. Extend technical assistance and formulate policy recommendations for the implementation of ADM as necessitated by prevailing conditions.

5.3. Aggregate and analyze reports submitted by ROs and SDOs to inform data-driven policies/ standards and responsive interventions.

5.4. Disseminate PAGASA heat index advisories to all concerned entities to bolster awareness, preparedness, and contingency planning at all levels.

6. This directive shall take immediate effect. Strict compliance is hereby enjoined from all concerned offices and personnel.

7. For immediate dissemination and compliance.

