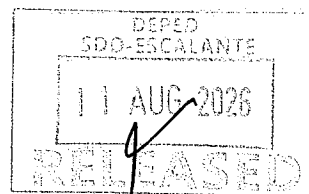




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NEGROS ISLAND REGION
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ESCALANTE CITY



August 10, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

NO. 332, s. 2026

**MANDATORY SET-UP AND PROVISION OF SCIENCE LABORATORY IN ALL
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

1. In line with the K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum and DepEd's thrust to deliver quality, learner-centered, and inquiry-based Science Education, the Department emphasizes the importance of hands-on learning through **functional science laboratories**. Pursuant to DepEd Order No. 48, s. 2006 on the Observance of Safety Measures in Science Laboratories, DepEd Order No. 118, s. 2009 on the Prescribed List of Science and Mathematics Equipment, and DepEd Order No. 89, s. 2011 on the Science and Technology Equipment Project, all schools are enjoined to provide facilities and ensure the functionality of science equipment to support Science Instruction.
2. All public Elementary and Secondary schools in the Division are hereby **REQUIRED** to set up a functional Science Laboratory within School Year 2026-2027. This is to ensure that learners are engaged in practical, inquiry-based science activities with well-equipped teachers in delivering the Science Curriculum effectively.
3. Schools with **existing laboratory** shall upgrade and ensure compliance with safety standards: proper ventilation, at least two exit doors, fixed working tables with sinks, storage and control room, and first aid kit. While Schools **without a dedicated laboratory** room shall identify and convert an available classroom or space as a temporary or permanent Science Laboratory. Coordination with LGU, PTA, and stakeholders for support is highly encouraged.
4. Procurement of Science Equipment, Laboratory Glassware and Consumables shall be based on DO 118, s. 2009. School Heads shall include laboratory set-up and maintenance in their Annual Improvement Plan and School MOOE.
5. Division, District, and School personnel shall tap possible sources: LGU funds, SEF, PTA projects, alumni, and other stakeholders.
6. School Heads shall designate a Science Teacher/Laboratory In-Charge to manage the laboratory.
7. All laboratory activities must follow the safety protocols in DO 48, s. 2006, which features key elements and requirements to all public and private schools having Science Labs to follow strict safety standards to protect Students and Teachers
8. Orientation of learners on lab rules is required before conducting any experiment. This will be strictly observed and practiced in all Science Laboratory activities at all times.



Barangay Hacienda Fe, Escalante City, Negros Occidental
Telephone Nos. (034) 445-9704/445-2686
Email Add: escalante.city001@deped.gov.ph



DepEd Tayo Escalante City



deped.escalantecity.weebly.com



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9. The Curriculum Implementation Division, through the Division Science Supervisor, together with Public Schools Heads, shall conduct monitoring and inventory of the mandatory set-up of science laboratories starting **October 2026**. A consolidated report on the status of laboratories per school shall be submitted to the Office of the SDS on or before November 15, 2026.
10. Attached is the monitoring tool for reference.
11. Immediate dissemination and compliance with this Memorandum is directed.


PETER J. GALIMBA

Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
OIC, Office of the Schools Division Superintendent 

Enclosure: Mandatory Set Up and Provision of Science Laboratory
Allotment: *Division Order No.1, s. 2019*
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subjects:
INVENTORY SCIENCE LABORATORY LEARNING TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT
August 10 , 2026 | Cabus, Floyd G.

MANDATORY SET-UP AND PROVISION OF SCIENCE LABORATORY MONITORING AND UTILIZATION TOOL

Schools Division:
School Year:
School:
School Head:
Level: ☐ Elementary ☐ Junior HS ☐ Senior HS
Date of Monitoring:
Monitored by:

PART I: LABORATORY SET-UP AND COMPLIANCE
(Based on DO 48 s.2006 & DO 118 s.2009)

Indicator	Status	Remarks/Evidence
A. Physical Facilities		
Dedicated Science Laboratory Room	☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Shared	
Adequate space for mobility	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Proper ventilation + 2 exit doors swing out	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Fixed lab tables with sinks and faucets	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Storage room + Control room with cabinets	☐ Yes ☐ No	
First Aid Kit available and accessible	☐ Yes ☐ No	
B. Equipment & Materials		
Equipment based on DO 118 s.2009 inventory	☐ % complete	
Chemicals properly labeled and stored	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Glassware complete and functional	☐ Yes ☐ No	
C. Personnel & Safety		
Designated Lab In-Charge	☐ Yes ☐ No	Name:
Lab rules posted and oriented to learners	☐ Yes ☐ No	

PART II: LABORATORY UTILIZATION AND INSTRUCTIONAL USE
(Emphasis on Usage, not just existence)

Indicator	Data/Evidence	Remarks
A. Frequency of Use		
No. of science classes per week	_ classes	
No. of classes that conducted lab activities this quarter	_ / _ total	__%
Average lab hours per week per grade level	_ hours	
B. Quality of Use		
Lesson Plans with indicated lab activity	☐ Yes ☐ No Sample checked:	
Teachers facilitate hands-on, inquiry-based activities	☐ Always ☐ Sometimes ☐ Never	
Students actively manipulate materials/equipment	☐ 80-100% ☐ 50-79% ☐ <50%	
Lab activities aligned to MELCs/PESLC/PSSLC	☐ Yes ☐ No	
C. Documentation		
Laboratory Utilization Logbook updated	☐ Yes ☐ No Last entry:	
Borrowers' log for equipment	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Photos/videos of lab activities on file	☐ Yes ☐ No	

PART III: TEACHER CAPACITY AND SUPPORT

Indicator	Status	Remarks
No. of Science Teachers trained on lab safety/equipment		
Training/Seminar on improvisation conducted	☐ Yes ☐ No	When:
Technical assistance provided by CID/EPS	☐ Yes ☐ No	When:

PART IV: CHALLENGES, ACTIONS TAKEN, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Key Challenges Identified:
- B. Actions Taken by School:
- C. Technical Assistance Needed from Division:

PART V: OVERALL RATING AND ACTION

(Overall Lab Status)

- ☐ Functional & Highly Utilized (Lab exists, at least 75% use, aligned to curriculum)
- ☐ Functional but Low Utilization (Lab exists, at least 50% use)
- ☐ Needs Improvement - Incomplete facilities/equipment
- ☐ Non-functional - No lab / cannot be used

Agreed Action Plan:

Area for Improvement	Action	Person Responsible	Target Date
1.			
2.			

Validated by:

Lab In-Charge / Science Coordinator

Noted by:

School Head

Monitored by:

Division Science Supervisor

How to use this tool:

End of Term monitoring by Division Science Supervisor

Monthly self-assessment by School Head + Lab In-Charge, Science Teacher
(Using Part II)

Data consolidation at Division level to identify schools needing equipment vs.
training vs. Motivation

The focus here is: **“A lab that is not used is just a storage room.”** So Part II forces
schools to show proof of actual manipulation and teaching.