



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NORTHERN SAMAR

February 10, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 112, s. 2026

**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NORTHERN SAMAR
2026 NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Schools Governance and Operations Division Chief
Curriculum and Implementation Division Chief
Education Program Supervisors
Selected District Supervisors/Principals In-Charge
Selected Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In accordance with DepEd Memorandum No. 010, s. 2026 on the 2026 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC), the Schools Division of Northern Samar joins the nationwide observance of the National Women's Month Celebration throughout March, anchored on the campaign banner **"WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society"** and the **2026 sub-theme "Lead like the Babaylans, Filipinas!"**
2. The said celebration highlights women's leadership anchored in wisdom, empathy, mediation, and moral guidance, and calls for shared responsibility and collective investment toward gender equality and an inclusive society.
3. Aligned with the DepEd Central Office's Memorandum, schools/districts are encouraged to:
 - a. conduct school-based Women's Month-related activities, subject to strict compliance with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2025 (Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith). Accordingly, schools are encouraged to schedule culminating/kick-off programs and similar celebrations in the afternoon, when learners and teachers are already free from classes, to avoid disruption of instructional time.
 - b. integrate NWMC-themed messages into flag-raising ceremonies and in classroom lessons;
 - c. utilize the All-Women Cast Lupang Hinirang music video that can be downloaded from <https://library.pcw.gov.ph/lupang-hinirang-all-women-cast/>

- d. conduct activities that recognize and honor women employees' leadership, achievements, and contributions;
- e. organize mini recognition activities highlighting women leaders, teachers, and student leaders who inspire others;
- f. conduct capacity-building and women-in-governance dialogues;
- g. implement the #GADtoKnow campaign and other awareness initiatives on women's leadership and gender-responsive services;
- h. offer "Serbisyo para sa Kababaihan" (tokens/priority lanes/freebies/discounts) on March 8 or throughout March;
- i. organize cultural and artistic events highlighting women's creativity, leadership, and contributions;
- j. organize activities in support of Girl Child Week and Women with Disabilities Day Celebration;
- k. support #PurpleWednesdays by wearing purple throughout the month;
- l. use the official hashtag #WEcanbeEquALL and official collaterals in digital advocacy;
- m. undertake other programs/initiatives aligned to the 2026 NWMC theme.

4. In support thereof, this Division, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Catarman and the University of Eastern Philippines, shall conduct the **Run for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society on March 14, 2026 (Saturday)**, from 4:00 AM to 8:00 AM, within Catarman, Northern Samar, with the program proper to follow at the Catarman Freedom Park (see enclosure for further details). Highlight of the program is the **Gawad Gintong Babaylan: Honoring Women Leaders Who Lead with Wisdom, Care, and Inclusion**, a recognition of SDO's women leaders with their exemplary leadership and contributions in advancing inclusive and gender-responsive education.

5. All confirmed participants from the schools (confirmed through the District GAD Focal Persons) shall register at the Cashier Section and pay the amount of **Php 550.00** (inclusive of advocacy shirt, finisher medal, and meals/refreshments) to be charged against the 2026 School Gender and Development (GAD) Fund (included in the 2026 School GAD Plan and Budget and indicated in the Annual Implementation Plan).

6. All expenses related to the conduct of these activities may be charged against the respective office's GAD Budget, following the existing procurement, accounting, auditing, and financial regulations. Likewise, the same may be included in their respective GAD Accomplishment Reports.

7. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


GAUDENCIO C. ALJIBE JR., PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



Mabini St., Brgy. Acacia, Catarman, 6400, Northern Samar
Telefax: (055) 500 9801
Email: northern Samar@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://northern Samar.deped.gov.ph>

DepEd Northern Samar

RELEASED

By: 
Date: 06 MAR 2026
Page 2 of 5

Enclosure: As stated

References: As stated

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

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT 1 BILLION RISING VAWC
SGOD-HRDS-PRB



Annex A

RUN FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

March 14, 2026

4:00 AM – onwards

Admin Notes

- 1. Registration Fee and Payment** (for confirmed School-Based Participants whose participation is charged against their respective School GAD Fund)
 - 1.1. Only CONFIRMED participants from schools whose participation is charged against their respective School GAD Fund, as coordinated through the District GAD Focal Person, shall proceed with payment and final registration.
 - 1.2. Confirmed school-based participants shall register and pay the registration fee of **Php 550.00** (inclusive of advocacy shirt, finisher medal, and meals/refreshments) at the SDO Cashier/Cashier Section, following existing accounting and auditing rules.
 - 1.3. Participants are advised to keep their Official Receipt (OR) and present proof of payment when claiming their race kit (as applicable).

- 2. Assembly Time, Call Time, and Punctuality**
 - 2.1. All fun run participants must be at the Catarman Freedom Park by 4:00 AM for assembly and initial check-in.
 - 2.2. Attendance/check-in activities will begin early; participants are encouraged to arrive ahead of time to avoid congestion and ensure an orderly start.

- 3. Gun Start and Run Proper**
 - 3.1. The Fun Run will start promptly at 5:00 AM for both the 3K and 5K categories. (Follow marshal instructions and route signage at all times.)
 - 3.2. Participants must stay within the designated route, follow course marshals/traffic aides, and observe road safety protocols at all times.

- 4. Pre-Program Wellness Warm-up**
 - 4.1. A “*Babaylan Beat Wellness Warm-Up*” (guided Zumba-style dance warm-up) will be conducted before the program proper to prepare participants physically and prevent injuries.

- 5. Program Proper**
 - 5.1. The Program Proper will start exactly at 7:00 AM at the Catarman Freedom Park. All participants are expected to be within the venue before 7:00 AM.

6. Program Highlights

- 6.1. One of the highlights of the program is the recognition of women leaders of the Schools Division of Northern Samar through: “Gawad Gintong Babaylan: Honoring Women Leaders Who Lead with Wisdom, Care, and Inclusion.

7. Meals and Post-Run

- 7.1. Meals/refreshments will be served after the program. Participants are advised to proceed to the designated meal distribution area and follow the ushering/marshal system for an orderly distribution.
- 7.2. After finishing, participants are encouraged to keep moving (light walking/cooldown) and hydrate to support recovery.

8. Safety and Precautionary Measures (Health and On-Site Safety)

- 8.1. Participants with medical conditions (e.g., hypertension, asthma, heart conditions, recent illness/injury) are strongly advised to seek medical clearance prior to joining and to bring maintenance medicines if needed.
- 8.2. Hydrate before the run. Participants may bring personal tumblers/water bottles; hydration support/aid may be available along the route as identified by organizers.
- 8.3. Be mindful of uneven road surfaces, curbs, and congestion. Watch your step, especially in low-light conditions, and follow marshal instructions.
- 8.4. In case of emergency or discomfort (dizziness, chest pain, shortness of breath), STOP immediately and seek assistance from event marshals/medical team.

9. What to Bring / Wear (Participant Readiness)

- 9.1. Wear comfortable running shoes and attire that you have already used in prior activities (advocacy shirt will be given)—avoid trying new shoes/clothing on event day to prevent blisters/discomfort.
- 9.2. Bring basic essentials: water/tumbler, small towel, and (if applicable) light outer layer for early-morning cool weather.
- 9.3. Secure personal items. Participants are advised to bring minimal valuables. If no baggage counter is provided, keep belongings with you at all times

10. Venue Discipline and Environmental Responsibility

- 10.1. Observe “Clean As You Go.” Dispose of cups, wrappers, and other waste in designated bins to help maintain cleanliness in the venue and along the route.
- 10.2. Follow venue rules and event marshals for orderly assembly, movement, and dispersal.

Fun Run Route

