



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

August 17, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 326, s. 2026

2026 DIVISION SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
CID and SGOD Chiefs
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Principals-in-Charge
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
School Paper Advisers/Coaches, Public and Private Schools
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 7079, otherwise known as the Campus Journalism Act of 1991, and its implementing rules and regulations under DepEd Order No. 94, s. 1992, the Schools Division Office of Northern Samar announces the conduct of the **2026 Division Schools Press Conference (DSPC)** on **September 2-5, 2026**, in **Catarman, Northern Samar**, with the theme: "Voices of the Youth, Anchored in Truth: Advancing Meaningful and Responsible Campus Journalism".
2. The 2026 DSPC aims to:
 - a. Strengthen learners' journalism skills through writing, editing, broadcasting, visual journalism, and publishing;
 - b. Promote truthful, accurate, ethical, and responsible campus journalism; and
 - c. Foster healthy competition and recognize outstanding student-journalists for representation at the 2026 Regional Schools Press Conference.
3. The participants in this activity shall include elementary and secondary student-journalists from public and private schools, school paper advisers/coaches, journalism coordinators, Education Program Supervisors, District Heads, members of the Technical Working Group (TWG), contest supervisors, contest facilitators, and other authorized personnel.
4. The 2026 DSPC shall feature individual and group contests in English and Filipino for elementary and secondary levels, including the following:
 - a. **Individual Contests** (English and Filipino, Elementary and Secondary)
 - i. News Writing
 - ii. Feature Writing



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- iii. Editorial Writing
- iv. Sports Writing
- v. Copyreading and Headline Writing
- vi. Science and Technology Writing
- vii. Photojournalism
- viii. Editorial Cartooning
- ix. Column Writing

b. Group Contests

- i. Radio Script Writing and Broadcasting (seven members per team with one coach, English and Filipino, elementary and secondary)
- ii. Collaborative Desktop Publishing (seven members per team with one coach, English and Filipino, elementary and secondary)
- iii. Online Publishing (five members per team with one coach, English and Filipino, secondary)
- iv. TV Script Writing and Broadcasting (seven members per team with two coaches, English and Filipino, secondary)

5. The 2026 National Schools Press Conference Guidelines shall serve as the primary basis for the conduct of the different contest categories, including the mechanics, qualifications of participants, contest procedures, judging criteria, use of equipment, and other pertinent provisions.

6. The School Paper Contest Category shall be in a separate issuance. Participating schools that intend to join this category shall submit their school publications in accordance with the prescribed contest mechanics and submission requirements.

7. A campus journalist from a public or private elementary or secondary school shall be allowed to participate in only one (1) contest event, either in the individual or group category, and in only one medium, English or Filipino, subject to the applicable 2026 Schools Press Conference Guidelines.

8. The winners in the various contest categories shall be appropriately recognized. The student-journalists who will represent the Schools Division of Northern Samar in the 2026 RSPC shall be determined in accordance with the applicable regional guidelines and qualification requirements.

9. The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and irrevocable.

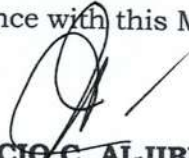
10. The checking and verification of laptops, SD cards, flash drives, cameras, and other equipment to be used in contests requiring such equipment shall be conducted on September 2, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at Catarman I Central School Covered Court. Only equipment permitted under the applicable contest guidelines shall be allowed during the actual competitions.

11. The Management and Technical Working Group shall not be liable for any damage to or loss of personal belongings and equipment. All participants are advised to take the necessary precautions to safeguard their personal property throughout the activity.

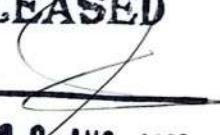
12. All participating schools shall accomplish the prescribed pre-registration form at <https://bit.ly/2026DSPCPREREGISTRATION> on or before August 28, 2026. The information provided shall serve as the basis for participant validation, billeting

arrangements, preparation of contest materials, venue assignments, and other logistical requirements.

13. A registration fee of One Hundred Fifty Pesos (P150.00) per student-journalist and One Hundred Fifty Pesos (P150.00) per coach/school paper adviser shall be paid in advance on or before September 1, 2026, through the DepEd Northern Samar Cashier's Office to help defray the expenses of the 2026 DSPC TWG and other management-related expenses. Registration fees, travel and meal expenses, delegate T-shirts, and other incidental expenses shall be charged against school MOOE, local funds, journalism funds, or Special Education Fund (SEF), subject to the availability of funds and existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
14. The 2026 DSPC shall formally commence with an Opening Parade on September 3, 2026, at exactly 7:00 a.m., with the participation of all delegates from the 46 districts. The assembly area shall be at Sacred Heart Plaza, Catarman, Northern Samar. Immediately after the parade, all delegates shall proceed to Catarman Freedom Park, Catarman, Northern Samar, for the Grand Entrance and Opening Program.
15. A preparatory and/or consultative meeting with school paper advisers/coaches and other concerned personnel shall be conducted on September 2, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. at Catarman SPED Center. Matters concerning contest mechanics, registration, equipment, and other logistical arrangements shall be discussed during the meeting.
16. Since the activity shall be conducted face-to-face, parental consent shall be secured for all learner contestants by their respective school advisers or delegation heads. The signed parental consent forms shall be submitted to the designated registration committee upon arrival at the venue.
17. All participating schools and delegations shall make the necessary arrangements for the transportation, food, bedding, and other personal needs of their respective participants.
18. The following shall be issued as enclosures to this Memorandum:
 - a. Enclosure No. 01 – 2026 DSPC Matrix of Activities;
 - b. Enclosure No. 02 – 2026 DSPC Program Management Team and TWG; and
 - c. Enclosure No. 03 – REGISTRATION FORM.
19. This Memorandum shall serve as the Authority to Travel for all authorized participants throughout the various phases of the 2026 DSPC.
20. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum are desired.


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

DepEd Northern Samar
RELEASED

By: 
Date: **18 AUG 2026**

Enclosure No. 01 to Division Memorandum No. 320, s. 2026

**2026 DIVISION SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE
September 2-5, 2026**

MATRIX OF ACTIVITIES

Day 0 (September 2, 2026)			
TIME	ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS	VENUE
8:00 AM	Arrival	All delegates	Catarman I CS
10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Checking of equipment, laptops, SD cards, flash drives, cameras	Student-journalists and coaches	Catarman I CS Covered Court
3:00 PM	Consultative Meeting	Advisers, Coaches, TWG	
Day 1, September 3, 2026			
6:00 AM	Assembly and Preparation for the Parade	All delegates	Sacred Heart Plaza (assembly area)
7:00 AM	Parade	All delegates	around town proper
8:00 AM	Grand Entrance Opening Program	All delegates with the management and staff	Catarman Freedom Park
10:00 – 10:30 AM	Break/Preparations for Contest Proper		
10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Individual Contests -News Writing -Feature Writing -Copyreading and Headline Writing Group Contest -TV Scriptwriting and Broadcasting (refer to the 2026 NSPC DepEd Memorandum for the contest mechanics)	contestants, facilitators, TWG	Catarman SPED Center St. Michael Academy
12:00 – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break		
1:00 – 3:00 PM	-Editorial Writing -Science and Technology Writing -Column Writing	contestants, facilitators, TWG	Catarman SPED Center
3:00 – 5:00 PM	-Editorial Cartooning -Sports Writing -Photojournalism	contestants, facilitators, TWG	Catarman SPED Center

Day 2 (September 4, 2026)			
Time	Activity	Participants	Venue
7:30 AM	Group Contests	contestants, facilitators, TWG	Catarman SPED Center
	-Collaborative Desktop Publishing		
	-Online Publishing		
	-Radio Broadcasting (elementary)		
	Radio Scriptwriting and Broadcasting (secondary, English)		Northern Samar Colleges
	Radio Scriptwriting and Broadcasting (secondary, Filipino)		Catarman Freedom Park
Day 3 (September 5, 2026)			
9:00 AM	Wrap-up, Awarding and Closing Ceremony	All delegates with the Management, TWG and Staff	Catarman Freedom Park

Enclosure No. 02 to Division Memorandum No. 320, s. 2026

2026 DIVISION SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE
September 2-5, 2026

List of Contest Supervisors, Technical Working Group, and Support Staff

Contest Supervisors	Technical Working Group	Support Staff
Esther dela Cruz	Michael Jay Morales	Beatrice Olmedo
Janette Cerbito	Ma. Ruffa Vibar	Merry Lou Niegas
Ruth Capaz	Nolly Nacis	Alvin Marino
Mary Jane Aguirre	Mark Kim Jazmin	Marynold Peter Bato
Raquel Perfas	Rhodora Borja	Allan Paul Loyogoy
Rosalyn Sosing	Violeta Frances Aplan	Janjan S. Del Rosario
Marivic Estavillo	Nerra Castillo	Steven Rico Loyogoy
Lucio Lobos	Julien Tiza Madronio	Shella Rodriguez
Joey Tadeo	Rhea Sobito	Kintsol C. Cainday
Ral Pito	Arvin Lebico	
	Zhanne Ocanada	
	Kymberly Balero	
	Vicky Rance Catubig	
	Edd Vincent Tortoles	
	Wilmar Sumalisid	
	Nessa Jean Lobos	
	Frances Candy Anonuevo	
	Mary Joy Fajardo	
	Edmark John Acquiat	
	Rafael Madronio	
	Christian Turla	

Enclosure No. 03 to Division Memorandum No. 320, s. 2026

**2026 DIVISION SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE
September 2-5, 2026**

REGISTRATION FORM

District: _____
School: _____

Student Journalists	Contest Category	Amount Paid
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
Advisers/Coaches		
1.		
2.		
3.		
Total Participants	Total Amount Paid:	

Note: Please use an extra sheet for the remaining contestants/coaches if needed. Kindly provide one copy to the Cashier's Office for reference and documentation purposes.

Prepared by:

Signature over Printed Name of Delegation Head