



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

August 18, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

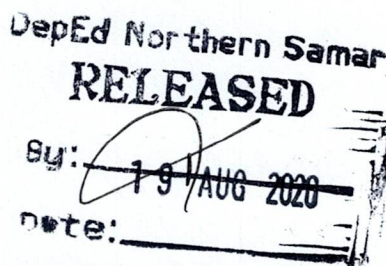
No. 331, s. 2026

DISSEMINATION OF DEPED REGION VIII ADVISORY NO. 127, S. 2026

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Division Chiefs, CID and SGOD
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors/District In charge
School Heads of Junior & Senior High School
All others concerned

1. This is to disseminate the herein attached Regional Advisory No. 127, s. 2026, entitled "Branch Forward: A Four-Part Virtual Webinar Series" referring to the letter request of the STEM Engine.
2. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum are hereby directed.

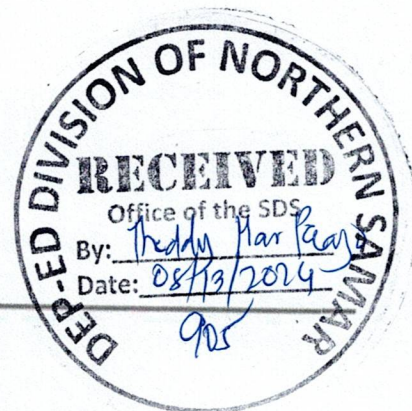

GAUDENCIO C. ALJIBE, Jr., PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



Address: Mabini St., Brgy. Acacia, Catarman, 6400, Northern Samar
Telephone Nos: (055) 500 1020
Email: nsamardivision@deped.gov.ph
Division Official Website: northernsamardivision@deped.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VIII - EASTERN VISAYAS



Advisory No. **127**, s. 2026
August 10, 2026

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2013
This advisory is issued not for endorsement per DO 28, s. 2001,
but only for the information of DepEd officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public.
(Visit deped.in/region8.deped.gov.ph)

BRANCH FORWARD: A FOUR-PART VIRTUAL WEBINAR SERIES

Attached is a letter from the STEM Engine on the launching of the Branch Forward, a four-part webinar series designed to assist Grade 10 and Senior High School (SHS) students in their college preparations.

The said webinar series will be happening on August 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 4:00-8:00 PM via Zoom and Facebook Live. This activity will provide students with early exposure to varying admission processes, university cultures, and entrance exam strategies to help them make informed decisions about their academic paths.

Other details of the activity such as registration link and promotional primer are all stipulated in the attach letter from STEM Engine.

More information and clarification on the registration and application may be inquired from:

JOSHUA MENESES

STEM Engine President

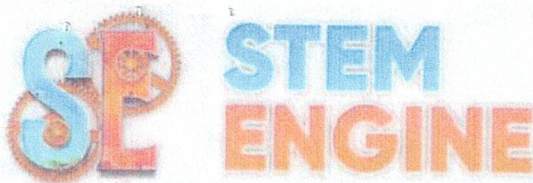
Email Add: stemengineofficial@gmail.com

Considering that this is an Advisory, Schools Division Superintendents are given the discretion to act on this matter.

CLMD-EPP

↓

127
8/324
✓



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RECEIVED
RECORDS SECTION
REGIONAL OFFICE NO. VIII
DATE: 8/4/26
TRACKING #: 8097
9:32 AM
SIGNATURE: [Signature]
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
SIGNATURE: [Signature]

03 August 2026

Subject: Request for Information Dissemination for Branch Forward 2026

Greetings from the Big to the Bang!

STEM Engine (fb.com/STEMEngineOfficial) is a youth-led organization focused on promoting and communicating Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) to the general Filipino public through an active social media presence, information dissemination, and academic activities.

In line with our commitment to guiding the youth, we are launching **Branch Forward**, a four-part virtual webinar series designed to assist Grade 10 and Senior High School (SHS) students in their college preparations. Happening on Saturdays (**August 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2026**) from **16:00 to 20:00 PhST** via Zoom and Facebook Live, this initiative will provide students with early exposure to varying admission processes, university cultures, and entrance exam strategies to help them make informed decisions about their academic paths.

In this regard, we are humbly requesting your good office to assist us in the information dissemination of Branch Forward 2026 to the Grade 10 and Senior High School students across your region or division. We recognize that this request is purely for information dissemination purposes and does not constitute an official endorsement from the Department, and that student participation will be strictly on a voluntary basis and with accordance with the no-disruption-of-classes policy stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s.2005.

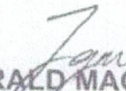
Attached to this letter is the official event promotional primer containing the program flow and further details about the initiative. Interested students and schools may register through this link: bit.ly/BranchForward2026. You may also view and share our official online announcement here: fb.com/share/p/1EbDucnze3/.

For concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Event Relations Head, Emarie Andalajao, at andalajaoe5@gmail.com, or reach us through our official email at stemengineofficial@gmail.com.

Thank you for your time, kind consideration, and continued support for the development of the Filipino youth.

Staying Liquid for Science and Society,


EMARIE ANDALAJAO
Branch Forward Relations Head


JERALD MAGCALAS
Branch Forward Director


JOSHUA MENESES
STEM Engine President

Branch Forward

Promotional Primer

I. ABOUT STEM ENGINE

STEM Engine is a youth-led online-based organization that primarily focuses on promoting and communicating Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) to the general Filipino public through active social media presence, information dissemination, and academic activities. It was founded on 13 October 2017, by Calvin John Pontawe, Aubrey Magundayao, and Vincent Valdez.

II. EVENT OVERVIEW

Branch Forward is a series of virtual sessions designed for grade 10 and senior high school (SHS) students as they begin exploring universities and preparing for college admissions. The event brings together current university students from different institutions across the Philippines to share their experiences, discuss admission processes, and introduce their academic programs.

This event addresses the information gap among upper secondary students who are beginning to plan for college but may not yet fully understand how university admissions work. Because each institution has different requirements and processes, this exposure helps students prepare strategically and confidently for the application season.

Specifically, the activity aims to:

- provide upper secondary students with early and timely exposure to university admission processes across various higher education institutions in the Philippines;
- introduce students to different universities and the general procedures involved in applying for college admissions;
- help students understand common admission requirements and entrance examination preparation strategies; and
- encourage upper secondary students to prepare early for their college applications.

III. PERTINENT DETAILS

Schedule	Saturdays, August 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2026, 16:00 – 20:00 PhST
Format	Zoom-based multi-session program with Facebook livestreaming
Target Audience	Grades 10, 11, and 12 students (Upper Secondary Students)
Organizing Body	STEM Engine Facebook: fb.com/STEMEngineOfficial
Point Person	Emarie Andalajao, Event Relations Head Email: andalajaoe5@gmail.com Facebook: fb.com/maarieeyaa

IV. SPEAKER LINEUP

To provide participants with exposure to possible academic pathways, the event features a diverse lineup of student leaders and scholars who will share experience-based insights.

Session and Date	University	Speaker Information
Branch Forward I: Roots and Routes 08 August	University of Sto. Tomas	Camila Mae Puse <i>Architecture</i>
	Tarlac State University	Vienna Iel Laxamana <i>Public Administration</i>
	Batangas State University	Kate Francine Coro <i>Chemical Engineering</i>
	Central Mindanao University	Brindon Cabatuan <i>Education, M in Science</i>
Branch Forward II: Shoots and Strides 15 August	University of San Carlos	Trisha Marie Rebayla <i>Literary and Cultural Studies</i>
	Bicol University	Xy Aldrae Murillo <i>Chemistry</i>
	Ateneo de Manila University	Daniel Aiken Eduardo <i>Management Engineering</i>
	Pangasinan State University	Reera Milo <i>Nursing</i>
Branch Forward III: Leaves and Leaps 22 August	Caraga State University	Marie Francesca Serafica <i>Agriculture, M in Soil Science</i>
	De La Salle University	Kyzer Campos <i>Psychology</i>
	Bulacan State University	Shaney Hernandez <i>Journalism</i>
	Silliman University	Maraim Claire Bacallan <i>Physical Therapy</i>

Branch Forward IV: Blooms and Booms 29 August	Central Luzon State University	Achilles Limuel De Leon <i>Statistics</i>
	University of the Philippines	Matt Laurence Mendoza <i>Physics</i>
	Mindanao State University	James Bernard Monteza <i>Microbiology</i>
	Polytechnic University of the Philippines	Sophia Lara Yvonne Bona <i>History</i>

Legends	NCR	North Luzon	South Luzon	Visayas	Mindanao
---------	-----	-------------	-------------	---------	----------

V. PROGRAM FLOW

The program is designed to balance formal speaker presentations, audience interaction, and organizational promotions within the four-hour online schedule. Each speaker is allocated sufficient time to present their experiences and program information, followed by a Q&A segment that allows participants to clarify concerns about university admissions.

Time	Activity	Lead(s)
16:00 – 16:05	Ingress	Technical Team
16:05 – 16:15	Opening Plenary	Hosts
16:15 – 16:20	Introductory Remarks	Sesh 1: President Sesh 2: AVP for Exte Sesh 3: AVP for Educ Sesh 4: Director
16:20 – 16:25	Introduction to the First Speaker	Hosts
16:25 – 16:55	First Speaker's Presentation	Speaker 1
16:55 – 17:00	Introduction to the Second Speaker	Hosts
17:00 – 17:30	Second Speaker's Presentation	Speaker 2
17:30 – 17:40	BREAK	Technical Team

17:40 – 17:55	Question and Answer Portion 1 for speakers 1 and 2	Communications Head
17:55 – 18:00	Introduction to the Third Speaker	Hosts
18:00 – 18:30	Third Speaker's Presentation	Speaker 3
18:30 – 18:35	Introduction to the Fourth Speaker	Hosts
18:35 – 19:05	Fourth Speaker's Presentation	Speaker 4
19:05 – 19:15	BREAK	Technical Team
19:15 – 19:30	Question and Answer Portion 3 for speakers 3 and 4	Communications Head
19:30 – 19:40	[PRE-RECORDED VIDEO] SE Opportunities and Partner Organization Promotions	Technical Team
19:40 – 19:45	Presentation of Tokens	Relations Head
19:45 – 19:50	Closing Remarks	Sesh 1: Director Sesh 2: SE Founder Sesh 3: AVP for Inte Sesh 4: President
19:50 – 19:55	Photo Opportunity	Technical Director
19:55 – 20:00	Egress	Technical Team

VI. STEERING COMMITTEE

For any questions or clarifications, please reach out to our team:

Jerald Magcalas Director jmagcalas@nip.upd.edu.ph	Emarie Andalajao Relations Head andalajaoe5@gmail.com	Joshua Meneses Technical Head meneses.joshua.g@gmail.com
--	--	---

SE READY TO CHART YOUR COURSE TO COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE?

16 CAMPUSES • 4 SATURDAYS

One Clear Path Forward

ROOTS & ROUTES

08 AUGUST

- University of Sto. Tomas Architecture
- Tarlac State University Public Administration
- Batangas State University Chemical Engineering
- Central Mindanao State University Education

SHOOTS & STRIDES

15 AUGUST

- University of San Carlos Literary & Cultural Studies
- Bicol University Chemistry
- Ateneo de Manila University Management Engineering
- Pangasinan State University Nursing

LEAVES & LEAPS

22 AUGUST

- Caraga State University Agriculture
- De La Salle University Psychology
- Bulacan State University Journalism
- Siliman University Physical Therapy

BLOOMS & BOOMS

29 AUGUST

- Central Luzon State University Statistics
- University of the Philippines Physics
- Mindanao State University Biology
- Polytechnic University of the Philippines History

All sessions run from
16:00–20:00 PHT

REGISTER HERE



bit.ly/BranchForward2026



In Partnership With:

