



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

October 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 438, s. 2026

2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

Chiefs of Curriculum Implementation and School Governance and Operations Divisions

Public Schools District Supervisors

Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads

School Health Coordinators

School Nurses

All Other Concerned

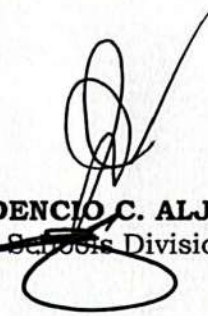
1. In line with DepEd Memorandum No. OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-04005 dated October 4, 2026, entitled "2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration," the Schools Division of Northern Samar enjoins all public elementary and secondary schools to participate in the celebration of **Global Handwashing Day on October 15, 2026 (Thursday)**, with the theme "**Be a Handwashing Hero!**"
2. All concerned schools are directed to undertake the following key activities in support of the celebration:
 - a. Conduct a **simultaneous handwashing activity** on October 15, 2026, involving learners and school personnel;
 - b. Participate in the virtual celebration on October 15, 2026, from **10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon** through the official DepEd Philippines Facebook Page;
 - c. Promote proper handwashing practices and strengthen school-based water, sanitation, and hygiene initiatives; and
 - d. Document and share the activities through appropriate communication channels, including the use of the prescribed hashtags.
3. All activities shall be appropriately scheduled and conducted **without disrupting the instructional block or interfering with scheduled teaching-learning activities**. School Heads shall ensure the active participation of learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and other stakeholders, while Public Schools District Supervisors shall oversee school participation in their respective districts.
4. For the detailed activity guidelines, program, documentation requirements, and other relevant instructions, all concerned are directed to **refer to the attached DepEd**



Mabini St., Brgy. Acacia, Catarman, 6400, Northern Samar
Telefax: (055) 500 1020
Email: northersamar@deped.gov.ph
Division Official Website: <https://northersamar.deped.gov.ph>

Memorandum No. OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-04005 dated October 4, 2026, including its annexes, which forms an integral part of this Memorandum.

5. The School Health Section shall provide technical guidance and coordination in support of the celebration. For clarifications and further information, concerned personnel may contact **Ms. Nilma S. Regulacion, Division Focal Person for the WinS Program, at 0919-950-1184.**
6. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is directed.


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

DepEd Northern Samar
RELEASED

By: 
14 OCT 2026
Date: _____



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

OM-OUGOPS-2026-01-04005

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND BARMM EDUCATION MINISTER
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOL HEADS**

FROM : **JOCELYN DR ANDAYA** 
Assistant Secretary
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Undersecretary for Governance and Operations

SUBJECT : **2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION**

DATE : October 4, 2026

The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division – Nutrition and Hygiene Unit (BLSS-SHD-NHU), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will spearhead this year's celebration of **Global Handwashing Day** with its multi-year theme, **"Be a Handwashing Hero."** This global initiative is celebrated every 15th of October which aims to raise awareness about the significance of handwashing with soap as a simple yet effective means to prevent diseases and save lives.

The **DepEd Order 10, s. 2016 (DO 10, s. 2016)** or the **Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WinS) Program**, aims to promote proper hygiene and sanitation practices, and advocates for creating a clean environment in and around schools, ensuring the safety and health of learners. DO 10, s. 2016 is designed to enhance learning and health outcomes while improving learners' attendance through a comprehensive, sustainable, and scalable school-based program for water, hygiene, sanitation, and deworming. This aligns with the State's mandate, as established in the 1987 Constitution, to uphold children's rights to adequate care and nutrition and to protect them from harmful conditions. Additionally, it seeks to promote public health and instill health consciousness within the community.

In this regard, all Regional, Division, and School WinS Coordinators as well as those who champion WASH across settings are requested to participate by tuning in at the broadcast of the event on **October 15, 2026 (Thursday)** from **10:30am to 12:00nn** via the **DepEd Philippines Facebook Page**.

The Regional Offices (ROs) and Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are enjoined to ensure and monitor the participation of personnel and learners to the said virtual program. Refer to **Annex A** for the program details.

Annex A

"Be a Handwashing Hero!"

15 October 2026 (Thursday) at 10:30 am - 12:00 nn

(A virtual program in support of the 2026 Global Handwashing Day celebration)

Indicative Program

Time	Duration	Session/Topic	Speaker
Preliminaries and Opening Program			
10:30-10:40 a.m.	10 mins	WinS Promotional Video	Playback Video Emcee
		Opening Remarks	Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
		Message	Roger B. Masapol Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations - Education Governance
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the Lens of Public School System			
10:40-11:00 a.m.	20 mins	Sustaining the Gains of the Philippine WASH in Schools (WinS) program and Updates in the Handwashing Initiatives in the Public-School Setting	Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
Clean Hands, Safer and Healthier Learning Institutions			
11:00-11:20 a.m.	20 mins	The New WHO Global Guidelines on Hand Hygiene: What do they mean to WASH in Schools (WinS) program in the Philippines	Mr. Jon Michael Villaseñor UNICEF WASH Officer
Nutrition and Hygiene Unite: #FortheWinS			
11:20-11:40 a.m.	20 mins	Linking Nutrition and Hygiene for Better Health	Ms. Elmira Bacatan UNICEF WASH Officer
Promoting WASH Behaviors in Schools Through Engaging Jingles			
11:40-11:50 a.m.	10 mins	Presentation of WASH Jingles of Selected Schools	Emcee AVP
Closing Program			
11:50-12:00 nn	10 mins	Pledge of Commitment Closing	ALL DepEd Regions and Central Office Emcee

Further, the DepEd Regional Offices are hereby requested to:

- select and submit one (1) 3- to 4-minute video presentation of your existing handwashing jingle or WinS-related jingle (Only 2-3 regional handwashing/WinS jingle shall be chosen to be broadcasted via the DepEd Philippines FB page);
- encourage Regional Office employees and officials to submit a short commitment video to show support to this year's global theme. For details, please see **Annex B** (Guidelines for recording the requested commitment video presentation of each region);
- conduct simultaneous handwashing among learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents and other stakeholders. Schools shall designate a specific time to conduct the said activity in time for the celebration of Global Handwashing Day on October 15, 2026, ensuring that there would be no disruption of classes. If possible, the schools and/or the School Division Offices (SDOs) may broadcast the simultaneous handwashing activities in their respective Official Facebook Pages. The use of the following hashtags for this event is recommended: #2026GlobalHandwashingDay, #BeAHandwashingHero, #WASHinSchools, #ForTheWinS, #InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins; and
- cross-post the virtual broadcast of the event via DepEd Philippines FB Page.

While the 15th day of October every year is designated as the Global Handwashing Day, the public is encouraged to sustain the initiatives to achieve the objectives of the celebration throughout the year.

Kindly submit the handwashing/WinS Jingles and pledge of commitment video presentation to wins@deped.gov.ph on or before **October 9, 2026 (Friday)**.

For further details, **Ms. Magdalene Portia T. Cariaga**, Supervising Health Program Officer, **Mr. Vonerich B. Berba**, Education Program Specialist II, or **Mr. Dranoel Cyrus C. Baguio**, Technical Assistant II of BLSS-SHD, may be contacted at 8632-9935 or email at wins@deped.gov.ph or blss.shd@deped.gov.ph. Attached is the Concept Note for ready reference.

Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Annex B

Guidelines for Recording the Requested Commitment **Video Presentation of Each Region**

1. The video presentation to be submitted by each region should highlight their commitment to supporting this year's theme of Global Handwashing Day. Recommended spiel is as follows:

**“Here at DepEd Region _____,
we are all Handwashing Heroes For-The-WinS”**

2. The duration of the video presentation must be **10 seconds to 20 seconds (must not exceed 20 seconds)**;
3. The following procedures are recommended when recording a video:
 - a. Subject must be positioned at the center of the frame;
 - b. Medium Shot (from the top of their head to roughly their waist) is recommended;
 - c. Give at least an inch for the head room for the subject;
 - d. Set audio recording to Stereo;
 - e. Choose a good background, face the window instead and use it as a source of light;
 - f. Illuminate your face using a ring light or any source of light;
4. Video format should be MP4 with 1080p or 720p resolution;
5. Recommended minimum specifications for videos:
 - a. File Format: MP4
 - b. Dimensions: 1920px x 1080px (16:9)
 - c. Orientation: Landscape
 - d. Frame Rate: 30fps