



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS
Schools Division of Bohol

Office of the Schools Division
Superintendent

July 17, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
NO. 447 S, 2025

SAFE SCHOOLS 360° INITIATIVE

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs, CID and SGOD
Public Schools District Supervisors/ Acting PSDSs
Private/ Public Secondary and Elementary School Principals
Teacher Advisers of Supreme Learner Government
All Others Concerned

1. Attached herewith Regional Memorandum No. 0701 s, 2025 entitled **“SAFE SCHOOLS 360° INITIATIVE”**, a program launches by the Regional Office for a learner protection and safety initiative that combines internal school-based interventions with external community-based partnerships.
2. To understand more about the contents of this initiative, its objectives, full implementation and reporting mechanism, please see the attached memorandum.
3. For your information, guidance, and strict compliance.


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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

NO. 0701 S. 2025

09 JUL 2025

SAFE SCHOOLS 360° INITIATIVE

TO: Assistant Regional Director
Schools Division Superintendents and OICs
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents and OICs
Regional Office Chiefs of Functional Divisions
All Concerned

In pursuit of the Department of Education's unwavering commitment to ensure that all learners thrive in a safe, nurturing, and enabling learning environment, the Department of Education Region VII officially launches the **SAFE SCHOOLS 360°**— a learner protection and safety initiative that combines internal school-based interventions with external community-based partnerships.

This initiative serves as a proactive response to address bullying, violence, and learner-related crimes in schools and communities. It adopts a **whole-of-school and whole-of-community approach** to safeguard learners' rights and well-being, both within and beyond the school premises.

The key objectives of the SAFE SCHOOLS 360° Initiative are to:

1. Strengthen internal mechanisms that deter bullying, substance abuse, and violence within the school system;
2. Enhance strategic partnerships with Local Government Units (LGUs), barangays, and community organizations to ensure learner safety outside of school grounds; and
3. Institutionalize timely and responsive reporting, monitoring, and escalation systems that enable immediate interventions when threats to learner safety arise.

I. SCHOOL-LEVEL STRATEGIES

All School Heads together with the Master Teachers/head Teachers are enjoined to exercise **visible and accountable leadership**, particularly during critical periods such as student arrival, recess, lunch breaks, and dismissal. Their presence serves as both a preventive measure and a model for proactive discipline.

School-based learner organizations, such as the **Supreme Learner Government (SLG)**, **Barkada Kontra Droga (BKD)**, **Boy Scouts (BSP)** and **Girl Scouts (GSP)**, shall



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be empowered to conduct sustained peer-led anti-bullying, anti-drugs and anti-violence campaigns, promoting a culture of mutual respect, empathy, and responsible citizenship.

In coordination with their respective LGUs and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), school heads shall **prioritize the installation of Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras** in strategic locations within the school using MOOE or Special Education Funds (SEF). These installations must strictly comply with the provisions of the Data Privacy Act of 2012. Furthermore, schools are encouraged to utilize support from the **Adopt-a-School Program**, Local School Board (LSB), and other external partnerships to improve school infrastructure — including the construction of **perimeter fences and the assignment of guards or barangay tanods** in critical zones.

Each learner shall be provided with free **school ID cards** before the end of the first quarter of SY 2025-2026, which must be worn at all times while inside school premises. Whenever feasible, students may also be issued with **emergency whistles** as a low-cost personal safety tool.

Regular classroom attendance must be monitored daily by teachers. Learners who are found to be **cutting classes** must be reported immediately to the school head for appropriate intervention, in coordination with their parents or guardians.

II. COMMUNITY AND EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIES

In ensuring learner protection beyond school grounds, DepEd Region VII emphasizes the importance of engaging external stakeholders. Schools and Schools Division Offices shall actively collaborate with **Local School Boards, Peace and Order Councils**, and **local police units** to deploy School Safety Officers and conduct regular visibility patrols during start and end-of-class hours.

Barangay units shall be mobilized to designate tanods and community volunteers as **guard multipliers** around school perimeters. Each school is encouraged to **establish a dedicated reporting hotline or mechanism** to receive community feedback or incident reports, particularly for off-campus learner behaviors such as drinking alcohol, gang involvement, or curfew violations.

Partnerships with **faith-based organizations and religious leaders** shall be strengthened to provide regular **values formation programs** and support learner development initiatives aligned with the moral and civic aspirations of the department.

III. DIVISION AND REGIONAL OVERSIGHT

Schools Division Offices, through the **School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)** and **Public Schools District Supervisors (PSDS)**, shall ensure the integration of school safety indicators and community engagement outcomes in their regular monitoring and technical assistance frameworks. Consolidated reports must be submitted to the Regional Office on a **quarterly basis** for evaluation, policy enhancement, and targeted support.

At the regional level, the **Education Support Services Division (ESSD)**, led by its Chief and the Regional Youth Formation Coordinator, shall serve as the **Secretariat of the SAFE SCHOOLS 360° Initiative**. The Regional Office shall spearhead coordination with the **Regional Development Council (RDC)** and relevant national agencies such as the **DILG, PNP, DSWD, DOH**, and other stakeholders to institutionalize an inter-agency approach to school safety and learner protection.

IV. POLICY ALIGNMENT AND ISSUANCES

All levels of governance — school, division, and regional — are directed to review and align local safety and learner protection protocols with the following DepEd issuances, among others but not limited to:

- **DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012** – Child Protection Policy
- **DepEd Order No. 55, s. 2013** – Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as Anti-Bullying Act of 2013
- **DepEd Order No. 66, s. 2017** – Revised Guidelines on Off-Campus Activities
- **DepEd Order No. 18, s. 2015** – Guidelines and Procedures on the management of Children-at-Risk (CAR) and Children-in-Conflict with the Law (CICL)

V. COMPLIANCE AND SUBMISSION TIMELINE

All Schools Division Superintendents are hereby directed to issue corresponding Division Memoranda for the full implementation of the SAFE SCHOOLS 360° Initiative in their respective divisions. Public elementary and secondary schools are instructed to update and submit their **School Safety Plans** to their SDOs **within thirty (30) days** from the issuance of this Memorandum.

Likewise, Schools Division Superintendent through the SGOD Chiefs shall transmit **quarterly consolidated school safety reports** to the Office of the Regional Director, through the ESSD, for monitoring and appropriate action.

Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.



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Regional Director

STJ/FYA/ESSD/TTP/AA