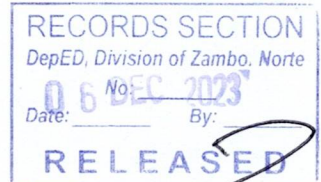




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

REGION IX
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE



Division Advisory No. 115, s. 2023
December 5, 2023

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8 s.2013
This advisory is issued for the information of DepEd
Division of Zamboanga del Norte officials,
personnel/staff, as well as the concerned public
www.depedzn.net

**GUIDELINES IN THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS WITHIN
THE SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE**

In accordance with DepEd Order Number 052, s. 2022, an order providing for the guidelines in the celebration of Christmas within the Department of Education, the Schools Division of Zamboanga del Norte emphasizes the following guidelines in the celebration of the yuletide season in simple and meaningful ways in all school across the Schools Division of Zamboanga del Norte, to wit:

A. For Pre-Event Activities and Preparations

1. The SDO strongly uphold the no collection policy. However, the Schools Division Superintendent clarified that the policy does not restrict voluntary sharing by parents or students who can afford it. No learner or DepEd personnel shall be excluded from joining the Christmas celebration by reason of their failure to give the voluntary contribution or absence of a prepared gift;
2. DepEd personnel are not allowed to solicit, whether in cash or in kind, for Christmas Parties and Holiday Celebrations;
3. Venue of the activity must be within the school premises;
4. Christmas parties, themes, costumes, decorations, and gift are strictly voluntary
5. The date of the activity must adhere to DepEd Order No. 22, s. 2023.
6. The time of the activity must not go beyond 4:00 pm and shall not extend at another venue, date, or time;
7. Food preparation must be handled properly;
8. Learners must secure parents' consent;
9. School Officials are also requested to seek assistance from local law enforcement entities to ensure peace and order during the activity and advised to coordinate with barangay officials to avoid any untoward incident.

B. For Event Day Activities

1. The event must be facilitated by the class adviser or teacher;
2. Only stakeholders are allowed within the school premises;
3. Participants must adhere to the latest Department of Health (DOH) and Local Government Units (LGUs) protocol;



Address: Capitol Drive, Estaka, Dipolog City 7100
Email: zn.division@deped.gov.ph
FB: DepEd Tayo- Schools Division of Zamboanga del Norte

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[Signature]



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4. Stringent rules against unauthorized persons must be imposed to avoid bringing in of alcoholic drinks and others.

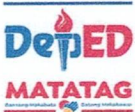
C. For Post Event Activities

1. All learners must be out of the school premises after the activity;
2. Leftovers must properly be disposed of;
3. The venue of the activity must be cleaned, arranged, and sanitized;
4. Electrical connections, wall outlets, electric fans and the like must be de-energized.

Immediate dissemination of this advisory is desired.

For any queries and/or further clarification, you may Contact the School Governance and Operations Division, through Mr. Ervie A. Acaylar, Education Supervisor, SGOD @ landline number 212-1129 or mobile number 09277122119.

EAA/Advisory re: Christmas celebration/12052023



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

02 DEC 2022

DepEd ORDER
No. **052**, s. 2022

**AN ORDER PROVIDING FOR THE GUIDELINES IN THE CELEBRATION
OF CHRISTMAS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Philippines, one of the six predominantly Christian countries in Asia, boasts the earliest, longest, and perhaps, the most colorful Christmas season in the world. Amidst the worst calamities, crises, losses, and pandemic, we Filipinos always carry resilient spirits and joyful hearts in celebrating Christmas and the holiday season.
2. The first Christmas set the pattern for how Jesus Christ lived His whole life here on earth: with humility, simplicity, and obedience. Every Christmas is an invitation and a challenge for humanity to imitate and imbibe these virtues.
3. To this end, the whole Department of Education (DepEd) community is urged to strive for a genuine celebration of hope, unity, and service for others every Christmas season. Celebrations in public schools and DepEd central and field offices should be simple yet meaningful, keeping in mind the true spirit of the season and the austerity called for by the difficult economic times.
4. In line with the foregoing, the following guidelines should be observed:
 - a. All Christmas parties, themes, costumes, decoration, and exchange gifts are voluntary. No learner or DepEd personnel should be forced to contribute, participate, or use their money for the celebration;
 - b. No learner shall be excluded from joining the Christmas celebration by reason of their failure to give the voluntary contribution or absence of a prepared gift;
 - c. Celebrations in schools and in DepEd offices, as far as practicable, should be simple yet meaningful. Christmas party themes should not result to expenses that will become a burden on parents, students, and DepEd personnel;
 - d. Contributions for celebrations in schools or offices, whether in cash or in kind, should be strictly voluntary;

- e. Old Christmas decors should be recycled, purchase of new decors are not encouraged. No learner or DepEd personnel will be required to make decors specifically for a party.;
 - f. Christmas parties in schools may be organized within class hours so long as it does not interfere with the scheduled lesson plans intended to be taught to the students;
 - g. The conduct of Christmas get-togethers and other similar year-end activities should not compromise the provision of departmental services;
 - h. Gift-giving should be guided by the spirit of sharing and should not lead to extravagant spending;
 - i. DepEd personnel should be reminded that solicitations, whether in cash or in kind, are not allowed for Christmas parties or holiday celebrations.
5. The provisions of this Order cover all DepEd schools and offices in the country.
6. Schools Division Offices may issue additional guidelines based on their local customs and traditions, subject to the abovementioned guidelines.
7. Private schools, community learning centers, as well as state/local universities and colleges (SUCs/LUCs) may choose to adopt the provisions of this DO as basis in the conduct of their own Christmas parties or celebrations.
8. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is directed.

Reference:

None

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

BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CELEBRATIONS
EMPLOYEES
FESTIVALS
POLICY
PROGRAMS

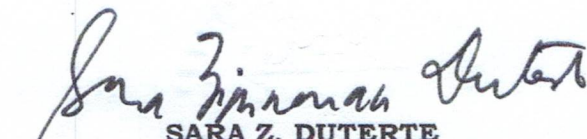
JDMC, MPC DO Christmas and Holiday Celebrations in DepEd
0386 – December 1, 2022



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please scan the QR code



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SARA Z. DUTERTE
Vice President of the Philippines
Secretary of the Department of Education