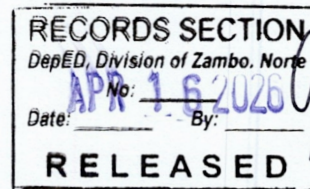




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION IX

SCHOOLS DIVISION OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE



Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

April 13, 2026

Division Memorandum
 No. 206, s. 2026

CASCADING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND CONSOLIDATION OF THE CHILD AND ADOLESCENT RISK SCREENER (CARS)

To: Public Schools District Supervisors
 Elementary & Secondary School Heads
 District Guidance Designates/ Advocates
 School Guidance Designates/ Advocates
 School Health Personnel
 All others concerned

1. In line with the Department of Education's commitment to safeguarding learners' mental health, promoting early identification and psychosocial risks, and strengthening school-based mental health interventions, and in compliance with Republic Act (RA) 11036 or the Mental Health Act and RA 12080 Basic Education mental health and Well-being Promotion Act, this Office enjoins all schools of the roll out of the Children and Adolescent Risk Screener (CARS) for all learners pursuant to DepEd Memorandum No. 50, s. 2025.

2. This roll out shall be implemented in schools districts by nurses together with the designated representatives who have already completed the required training on the administration and utilization of the CARS tool, as stipulated in Division Memorandum Nos. 12 and 37 s. 2026. The conduct of this activity ensures that screening procedures are carried out ethically, accurately, and in accordance with learner mental health safeguarding, child protection policies and data privacy protocols.

3. The school-level conduct of CARS among learners shall be implemented starting second week of August 2026 subject to proper coordination with School Principals and adherence to the prescribed guidelines.

4. Standardized CARS tools and parental consent forms shall be provided. Only learners with duly signed informed consent from parents or legal guardians shall be included in the conduct of the screening. The identified Guidance Advocate or Designate shall be responsible for the proper distribution and collection of consent forms.

5. The district consolidated CARS result shall be submitted to the Division Program Focal on or before the 2nd week of October 2026. Trained personnel are advised to:

- A. Coordinate closely with the PSDSs and SHs in the conduct of cascading and learner-level implementation;
- B. Ensure proper administration of the CARS to learners after the cascading activity;



Address: Dipolog Drive, Estaka, Dipolog City 7100 Tel. No.: (065) 212- 5843

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DepEd Taysan Schools Division Office Zamboanga del Norte

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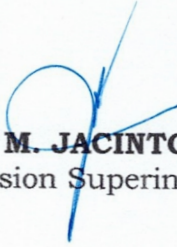



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C. Maintain confidentiality and proper handling of all learners' data; and
D. Facilitate the timely submission of complete and accurate consolidated reports through the School Mental Health Program Focal (SMHP).

6. For any questions or further information, please contact the SMHP Focal at 09477110030 loc 1102.
5. Widest dissemination of this memorandum is desired.


MAJARANI M. JACINTO EdD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent 

SHNU/jud/DM-CascadingCARS
DM No. 34 04/13/2026



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Zamboanga del Norte