



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF BATAAN

August 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 314 s. 2026

**REMINDER ON THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA
BY ALL DEPED PERSONNEL**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to the Memorandum dated August 11, 2026 issued by the Office of the Secretary, signed by **Atty. Fatima Lipp D. Banontongan, Undersecretary and Chief of Staff**, this Office reminds all personnel of their responsibility in the use of social media, as reports have surfaced of online posts inconsistent with the professional standards expected of DepEd employees.
2. Pursuant to **DepEd Order No. 049, s. 2022** amending DO 047, s. 2022, all personnel must exercise caution when sharing posts, avoid spreading false information, refrain from online attacks against colleagues, and must not disparage the Department.
3. On the other hand, in line with **DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026**, teachers and personnel are reminded to uphold professionalism and ethics, protect learners' rights and privacy, and maintain safe physical and online environments.
4. All personnel must exercise professionalism, prudence, and sound judgment in their online activities. The use of personal accounts does not exempt employees from ethical standards, especially when content involves learners, school activities, or school premises.
5. Teachers and personnel who directly interact with learners must maintain appropriate professional boundaries. Social media content featuring learners or classroom activities must be consistent with legitimate educational purposes and must not expose learners to ridicule, harassment, or controversy.
6. Schools and Community Learning Centers are directed, pursuant to DO 006, s. 2026, to inform learners and parents about these policies at the beginning of



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every school year and to implement measures to secure learners' Personally Identifiable Information (PII).

7. Pursuant to **DepEd Order No. 007, s. 2026** or the Media Management Guidelines, personal social media accounts may be subject to regulation when they appear to issue official DepEd communications or adversely affect the image and reputation of the Department.
8. All personnel must therefore avoid repurposing classroom activities or learners' participation for personal social media content in ways that compromise professional responsibilities or expose learners to unwarranted public scrutiny.
9. Personnel are reminded that discussions of current events and public matters may serve legitimate educational purposes, but such activities must never be exploited for personal gain or online popularity at the expense of learners' dignity and protection.
10. School heads are instructed to monitor compliance, provide regular reminders, and ensure that teachers and staff are oriented on these policies during in-service trainings and faculty meetings.
11. Violations of these policies may be subject to administrative disciplinary action under existing DepEd Orders. Disciplining authorities are empowered to initiate proceedings when necessary to uphold the integrity of the Department.
12. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is directed for the information and strict compliance of all concerned.

CAROLINA S. VIOLETA, EdD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

To be included in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:

Responsible Use of Social Media
Professionalism in Online Activities
DepEd Order No. 049, s. 2022
DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026
DepEd Order No. 007, s. 2026
Learner Protection Policies
Administrative Accountability



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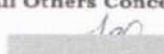
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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO : Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureaus and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads and Teachers
All Others Concerned

FROM : 
ATTY. FATMA LIPP D. PANONTONGAN
Undersecretary and Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary

SUBJECT : **Reminder on the Responsible Use of Social Media by All DepEd Personnel**

DATE : August 11, 2026

1. This Office has received reports of social media posts involving teachers and other school personnel that may not be consistent with the standards of professionalism expected of DepEd personnel. These reports highlight the need to exercise appropriate judgment and responsibility in the use of social media, particularly where online activities involve learners, classroom activities, school premises, or otherwise arise from the performance of official functions.
2. In view thereof, this Office deems it appropriate to reiterate existing Department of Education (DepEd) policies on the responsible use of social media and the standards of conduct expected of all DepEd personnel in their online activities, whether undertaken in their personal capacity or in connection with the performance of their official functions.
3. DepEd Order (DO) No. 049, s. 2022, or the Amendments to DO No. 047, s. 2022 (Promotion of Professionalism in the Implementation and Delivery of Basic Education Programs and Services), was issued to further strengthen professionalism within the Department and expressly introduced additional provisions on the responsible use of social media. Under the same Order, DepEd officials and employees are expected to treat learners and stakeholders with the **highest degree of professionalism, skill, and excellence**, respect the rights of others, and desist from acts that may compromise their integrity as government employees or the honor of DepEd.
4. These standards expressly extend to the use of social media. DO 049, s. 2022 requires employees and officials to consider the legal restrictions imposed by existing laws, rules, and DepEd issuances in their use of social media, whether for personal



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use or as a tool in carrying out their mandate. It further directs personnel to exercise caution when sharing posts or other content and to remain mindful of the reputation and honor of the Department.¹

5. Accordingly, all DepEd personnel are expected to exercise professionalism, prudence, and sound judgment in their online activities. The use of personal social media accounts does not, by itself, dispense with the professional and ethical standards applicable to DepEd personnel, particularly where the content is connected with the performance of their official functions, identifies or represents them as DepEd personnel, or involves learners, school activities, or school premises.

6. For teachers and other personnel who directly interact with learners, particular care must be exercised when creating or publishing social media content involving learners or classroom activities. Teachers occupy positions of trust and exercise authority and influence over learners. Thus, they are expected to maintain appropriate professional boundaries and to exercise sound professional judgment where content features learners under their supervision or makes use of classroom activities or school premises.

7. This responsibility is further reinforced by DO 006, s. 2026, titled Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment, which applies learner-protection measures in both physical and virtual settings and supplements and harmonizes existing DepEd policies, including DOs 047 and 049, s. 2022. DO 006, s. 2026 emphasizes the responsibility of teaching, teaching-related, and nonteaching personnel to uphold professionalism and ethics, protect learners' rights, autonomy, and personal boundaries, and maintain safe physical and online environments. In this regard, DO 006, s. 2026 likewise regulates the use of portable electronic devices during instructional hours and requires safeguards against the unauthorized use, access, or disclosure of learners' Personally Identifiable Information, including through social media.²

¹ Department of Education DO 049, s. 2022 amending DO 047, s. 2022. Item 3. Employees and officials must consider the legal restrictions imposed by existing statutes, rules, and DepEd Orders in the use of social media. Whether it be for personal use of the DepEd official or employee, or as an essential or an incidental tool in carrying out their mandate, social media rules should be complied with. As such, employees and officials of the DepEd:

- a. Shall exercise caution when sharing posts or other contents and should not participate in the spreading of rumors and false information;
- b. Shall not unduly post online attacks against fellow DepEd employees and must utilize legal and human resource mediation procedures; and
- c. Shall not disparage DepEd and must always be mindful of the reputation and honor of the organization.

² Department of Education DO 006, s. 2026. Annex G. Administrative Sanctions and Penalties for Using Portable Electronic Devices During Instructional Hours.

B. For Teaching, Teaching-related, and Nonteaching Personnel

For Teaching, Teaching-related, and Nonteaching Personnel — Violations shall be a ground for administrative disciplinary action, which the disciplining authorities can initiate. Schools and CLCs shall be responsible for the following:

1. Inform the learners and parents/guardians of this Order at the beginning of every school year through orientation, advisories, and conferences; and
2. Implement suitable technical and organizational measures to ensure the security and confidentiality of the learners' Personally Identifiable Information (PII); prevent unauthorized use, access, or disclosure; and ensure that the PII is used solely for the stated purpose and not disclosed to any party or public forum (e.g., social media) without the explicit consent of the learner and their parent/legal guardian, unless such disclosure is legally mandated or essential for the school to perform its essential functions.

Further, schools and CLCs shall encourage the parents/legal guardians to manage the learner's responsible use of portable electronic devices and to support the implementation of this Order.



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8. Taken together, these policies underscore that DepEd personnel must exercise appropriate professional judgment in creating and sharing social media content, particularly where it involves learners or classroom activities. While discussions of current events and public matters may serve legitimate educational purposes, personnel should refrain from repurposing such activities or learners' participation for personal social media content in a manner that may compromise their professional responsibilities or expose learners to unwarranted public scrutiny, ridicule, harassment, or controversy.

9. DO 007, s. 2026, or the Media Management Guidelines, is likewise instructive. While the Guidelines generally do not address the personal use of social media by DepEd personnel, they recognize that personal social media accounts may nevertheless be subject to regulation when they appear to contain official DepEd communications or adversely affect the image, reputation, or functions of DepEd, its officials, employees, or personnel.³

10. In view of the foregoing, all DepEd personnel are reminded to exercise professionalism, prudence, and sound judgment in their use of social media, whether for personal purposes or in connection with the performance of their official functions. In particular, personnel are expected to maintain appropriate professional boundaries with learners and ensure that social media content involving learners, classroom activities, or school premises is consistent with legitimate educational purposes and the professional and ethical responsibilities of DepEd personnel.

11. Immediate dissemination of this Order is directed.

DR. M. Margarita M. Alayon, Director of Schools Division Office of Bataan

³ Department of Education DO 007, s. 2026, Section II.



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BY:.....

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