



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 SOCCSKSARGEN REGION

09 Jul 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
 ESSD-2026-159

**IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICE REGIONAL OFFICE (PRO) 12 CAMPAIGN PLAN
 ESKWELAHAN FOR SCHOOL SAFETY, SECURITY, AND CRIME PREVENTION**

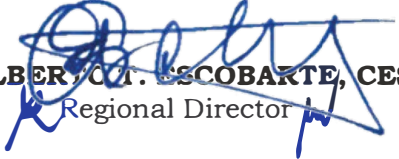
To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the Department of Education (DepEd) SOCCSKSARGEN Region and Police Regional Office (PRO)12 on July 6, 2026, all Schools Division Offices and Schools are hereby directed to support the implementation of **PRO 12 Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN**. This initiative aims to foster a safe, secure, and conducive learning environment in all public and private schools in the region.
2. The implementation of the Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN aims to:
 - a. Strengthen collaboration among schools, communities, and law enforcement agencies,
 - b. Enhance police visibility and positive engagement within school communities;
 - c. Increase learner awareness on crime prevention, violence prevention, and responsible citizenship,
 - d. Deliver timely interventions that address emerging school safety and security concerns, and
 - e. Support learner protection and the overall well-being of learners, teaching personnel, non-teaching personnel, and other stakeholders.
3. Schools Division Offices and school heads shall extend the necessary support and facilitate the conduct of approved activities within their respective jurisdictions. Accordingly, PRO 12—through its Provincial Police Offices, City Police Offices, Municipal Police Stations, and other operational units—shall coordinate with SDOs and schools to implement school safety engagement activities, including:
 - a. Regular school visitations and police visibility activities,
 - b. Lectures, seminars, dialogues, and other educational activities,
 - Anti-Bullying Awareness
 - Anti-Gangsterism Campaign
 - Project Resistance Education Against Drugs for the Youth (R.E.A.D.Y.)
 - Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)
 - Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign
 - Child Protection and Rights of Children
 - Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313)
 - Anti-Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC)
 - Sex and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Awareness
 - Online Safety and Cybercrime Prevention
 - Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness
 - Other relevant youth and community safety concerns



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- c. Participation of PNP personnel in school activities such as flag ceremonies, physical fitness activities, foundation celebrations, sports events, junior and senior proms, and similar school-based activities,
 - d. Dialogue and interaction with learners, teachers, parents, school administrators, security personnel, and other stakeholders,
 - e. Distribution of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials,
 - f. Use of whistle in school by the hired watchman/school guard/BPAT, and
 - g. Other collaborative activities promoting safety, discipline, responsible citizenship, and learner protection.
4. To ensure high participation in the suggested activities without disrupting instructional time, all School Heads are directed to formulate an implementation plan that includes:
- a. coordination between their schools and the concerned PRO 12 units;
 - b. participation of learners, teachers, non-teaching personnel, parents, and other stakeholders in program activities;
 - c. Support the conduct of school safety, learner protection, anti-bullying, anti-drug abuse, and crime prevention initiatives within their respective schools;
 - d. Assist in the monitoring and evaluation of program implementation; and
 - e. Establish reporting mechanisms to appropriate authorities on school safety and security concerns requiring urgent intervention.
5. Schools Division Offices shall provide the necessary guidance and monitoring of schools to ensure the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding.
6. Enclosed is the signed Memorandum of Understanding for reference and guidance.
7. For queries or clarifications, contact Ismael N. Ngitngit, Jr-PDO IV, at 09649304626 or through email at ismael.ngitngit001@deped.gov.ph


ATTY. ALBER C. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
Regional Director

Encls.: Copy of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
References: MOU between DepEd SOCCSKSARGEN Region and PRO 12
Allotment: None
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

PARTNERSHIPS
PROGRAMS



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INN/ESSD/RM- IMPLEMENTATION OF PHILIPPINE REGIONAL OFFICE (PRO) 12 CAMPAIGN PLAN "ESKWELAHAN" FOR SCHOOL SAFETY, SECURITY, AND CRIME PREVENTION
0174/July 9, 2026

ROE2

Enclosure:

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is entered into this 6th day of July 2026 at Camp Gen Paulino T Santos, Tambler, General Santos City, by and between

The POLICE REGIONAL OFFICE (PRO) 12, a government agency under the Philippine National Police (PNP), created pursuant to Republic Act No. 6975, as amended by Republic Act No. 8551, with principal office at Camp Gen Paulino T Santos, Tambler, General Santos City, represented herein by PBGEN ALAN B MANIBOG, Acting Regional Director, hereinafter referred to as the "FIRST PARTY",

-and-

The DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd) SOCCSKSARGEN REGION, with office address at Prime Regional Government Center, Barangay Carpenter Hills, Koronadal City, South Cotabato, represented herein by ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II, Regional Director, hereinafter referred to as the "SECOND PARTY"

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the SECOND PARTY annually implements the "Oplan Balik Eskwelahan" Program in partnership with government agencies, local government units, communities, and civil society organizations to ensure the readiness, safety, and welfare of learners during the opening of classes,

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police is one of the key partner agencies tasked to assist the SECOND PARTY in promoting peace and order, ensuring school safety, and protecting students, teachers, parents, and school personnel from threats to their security and well-being,

WHEREAS, while Oplan Balik Eskwela has been instrumental in ensuring a safe and orderly opening of classes, emerging security concerns require a more sustained and year-round approach to school safety and crime prevention,

WHEREAS, recent incidents of violence occurring within educational institutions have highlighted the need for stronger preventive interventions, increased police-community engagement, and enhanced awareness among students and school personnel regarding safety and security concerns,

WHEREAS, in June 2026, reports of a shooting incident inside a secondary school that resulted in the death and injury of several students, as well as a separate stabbing incident involving learners, alarmed the public and underscored the growing need for collaborative efforts to prevent violence and criminality in schools;

WHEREAS, the PNP, pursuant to its constitutional mandate to serve and protect, recognizes the importance of strengthening police visibility, crime prevention education, youth engagement, and community participation in creating a safe and secure learning environment,

WHEREAS, both parties acknowledge that schools must remain safe, secure, and conducive to learning; and that proactive interventions, including information and education campaigns, lectures, dialogues, and strengthened police-community-school partnerships, are essential in preventing and addressing bullying, gangsterism, violence,

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illegal drug involvement, and other forms of misconduct or threats that may endanger the safety, well-being, and development of students, and

WHEREAS, the FIRST PARTY, seeks to institutionalize the "PRO 12 Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN" as a sustainable program that promotes safety awareness, crime prevention, and positive engagement between law enforcement agencies and educational institutions throughout the SOCCSKSARGEN Region.

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing premises, the parties hereby agree as follows.

I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding establishes a collaborative framework between the FIRST PARTY and SECOND PARTY for the implementation of the PRO 12 Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN, a year-round school safety and crime prevention initiative aimed at:

- a) Strengthening police-community-school partnerships;
- b) Enhancing police visibility and presence within school communities in a preventive and educational capacity;
- c) Promoting awareness on crime prevention, violence prevention, and responsible citizenship among learners;
- d) Providing timely interventions and educational programs that contribute to a safe, secure, and conducive learning environment; and
- e) Supporting DepEd's efforts in safeguarding learners, teaching personnel, non-teaching personnel, and stakeholders against emerging threats to school safety.

II. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- a) **Oplan Balik Eskwela** – DepEd's annual multi-sectoral program that ensures readiness and safety for the opening of classes.
- b) **Anti-Bullying** – Programs, policies, and interventions designed to prevent and address bullying behaviors among learners.
- c) **Bullying** – Any severe, repeated, or unwanted verbal, physical, social, psychological, or cyber act directed toward another learner that causes fear, intimidation, humiliation, or harm.
- d) **Gangsterism** – Participation in or association with groups engaged in delinquent, violent, criminal, or disruptive activities that threaten school safety and order.
- e) **Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)** – A preventive education program designed to help young people resist illegal drug use, violence, and other risky behaviors.
- f) **Project Resistance Education Against Drugs for the Youth (R.E.A.D.Y.)** – a youth-focused drug prevention and awareness program designed to educate young people about the dangers of substance abuse and to develop skills that help them make healthy, informed decisions.
- g) **Safe Spaces Act** – Refers to Republic Act No. 11313, otherwise known as the "Safe Spaces Act," which protects individuals from gender-based sexual harassment in public and private spaces, including educational institutions.
- h) **Sex and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)** – Any harmful act directed against a person based on gender, resulting in physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, or economic harm.



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III. IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

a) Coordination and Orientation

The FIRST PARTY, through its Provincial Offices, City Police Offices, Municipal Police Stations, and other operational units, shall coordinate with Schools Division Offices, school heads, and administrators regarding the implementation of the program. Orientation and capability-building activities shall likewise be conducted among designated PNP personnel to ensure effective, child-sensitive, and rights-based delivery of services and lectures.

b) School Safety Engagement Activities

The following activities may be conducted in participating schools:

- i. Regular school visitations and police visibility activities;
- ii. The campaign shall include lectures, seminars, dialogues, and other educational activities covering topics such as:
 - Anti-Bullying Awareness;
 - Anti-Gangsterism Campaign;
 - Project Resistance Education Against Drugs for the Youth (READY);
 - Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE);
 - Anti-Illegal Drugs Campaign;
 - Child Protection and Rights of Children;
 - Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313);
 - Anti-Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC);
 - Sex and Gender-Based Violence Awareness;
 - Online Safety and Cybercrime Prevention;
 - Crime Prevention and Public Safety Awareness; and
 - Other relevant youth and community safety concerns.
- iii. Attendance to school activities like Flag Ceremonies, physical exercises, visibility during Foundation Days, sport events, Junior/Senior Prom and the like;
- iv. Dialogue and interaction with students, teachers, parents, school administrators, security personnel, and other stakeholders;
- v. Distribution of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials;
- vi. Participation in school-based programs and activities promoting safety discipline, and responsible citizenship; and
- vii. Other collaborative activities mutually agreed upon by the parties.

c) Monitoring and Evaluation

The Parties shall jointly monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding and the "PRO 12 Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN" through periodic assessments, feedback mechanisms, and reporting systems to ensure the program's effectiveness, relevance, and sustainability.

The FIRST PARTY, through the Regional Community Affairs and Development Division (RCADD), shall serve as the lead coordinating office responsible for consolidating reports, analyzing implementation results, and recommending policy and program enhancements.

To ensure the effective implementation of the campaign, reporting shall be conducted on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual basis by the concerned Offices/Units. These assessment reports shall measure the attainment of program objectives, identify implementation gaps and best practices, and serve as the basis for necessary adjustments and improvements in the delivery of services to students, teaching and non-teaching personnel, and other stakeholders within the school community.



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As a feedback and performance assessment mechanism, all Provincial Police Offices (PPOs), City Police Office (CPO), and the Regional Mobile Force Battalion (RMFB) shall submit periodic accomplishment and evaluation reports through their respective Police Community Relations (PCR) Sections to the Regional Director, through RCADD. Such reports shall be utilized in evaluating the impact and effectiveness of the campaign and in formulating recommendations for its continuous enhancement.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. Responsibilities of the FIRST PARTY

The FIRST PARTY shall:

- Designate the Regional Community Affairs and Development Division (RCADD) as the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for the implementation of this program;
- Deploy qualified personnel to conduct lectures, seminars, and school engagement activities;
- Promote police visibility and community engagement within school campuses in coordination with school authorities;
- Provide resource speakers and subject matter experts on topics related to crime prevention, youth development, public safety, anti-illegal drugs, anti-bullying, anti-gangsterism, and child protection; and
- Assist schools in identifying and addressing safety and security concerns through appropriate interventions and referrals.

B. Responsibilities of the SECOND PARTY

The SECOND PARTY shall:

- Issue the necessary directives and guidance to Schools Division Offices and School Heads supporting the implementation of the PRO 12 Campaign Plan ESKWELAHAN;
- Facilitate coordination between the FIRST PARTY and participating schools;
- Encourage participation of learners, teachers, non-teaching personnel, parents, and stakeholders in the program activities;
- Assist in the monitoring and evaluation of program implementation; and
- Coordinate with the FIRST PARTY on school safety concerns requiring immediate attention or intervention.

V. TERM AND EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be valid until or unless revoked on reasonable grounds by the parties upon prior notice.

Any amendment/s or modification/s to this MOU shall be made in writing and approved by both parties.

VI. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any disagreement arising from the implementation of this MOU shall be resolved amicably through consultation and mutual agreement between the parties.

VII. EFFECTIVITY

This Memorandum of Understanding shall take effect immediately upon signing by the parties.



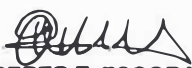
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have hereunto signed this Memorandum of Understanding this 6th day of July, 2026 at Camp Gen Paulino T Santos, Tambler, General Santos City.

FOR THE FIRST PARTY:

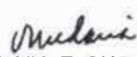

PBGEN ALAN B MANIBOG
Acting Regional Director, PRO 12

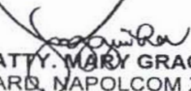
FOR THE SECOND PARTY:

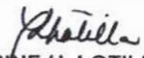

ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
Regional Director, DepEd XII

Signed in the Presence of:

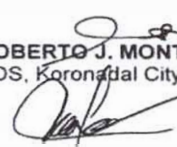

PBGEN MELVIN G NAPILO
DRDA, PRO 12


DR. OLIVIA T. SUDARIA
Vice-Chairperson, Internal, RAGPTD XII


ATTY. MARY GRACE P. GUIRHEM
ARD, NAPOLCOM XII

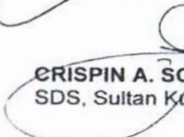

KATHERINE H. LOTILLA
ARD, DepEd XII


CARLOS G. SUSARNO
OIC-SDS, Tacurong City Division


ROBERTO J. MONTERO
SDS, Koronadal City


LEONARDO M. BALALA
SDS, South Cotabato Division


MIGUEL P. FILLALAN, JR
SDS, Kidapawan City


CRISPIN A. SOLIVEN, JR
SDS, Sultan Kudarat

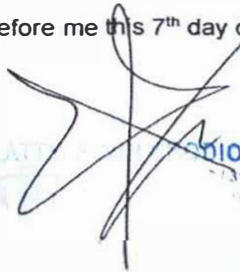

ROMELITO G. FLORES
SDS, Cotabato Province


ISAGANI S. DELA CRUZ
SDS, General Santos City


RUTH L. ESTACIO
SDS, Sarangani Province

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this 7th day of July 2026 at General Santos City, Philippines.

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