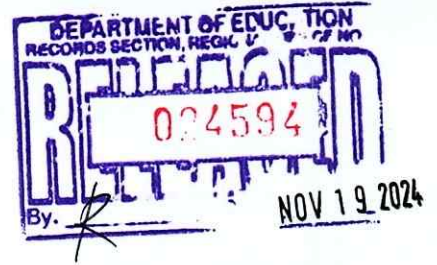




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION I



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 1539, s. 2024

REITERATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 052, S. 2022 – GUIDELINES ON THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. This is to reiterate DepEd Order No. 052, s. 2022, titled "An Order Providing for the Guidelines in the Celebration of Christmas within the Department of Education," issued on December 2, 2022. The Order provides clear guidelines to ensure that Christmas celebrations within DepEd offices and schools remain simple, meaningful, and respectful of diverse beliefs and economic situations.
2. Specifically, Section 4(c) of the Order stresses that celebrations in schools and DepEd Offices should, as far as practicable, be simple yet meaningful. It further highlights that Christmas party themes should not lead to excessive expenses that could become a financial burden on parents, students, or DepEd personnel.
3. Additionally, Section 4(d) mandates that contributions for celebrations, whether in cash or in kind, should be strictly voluntary. This policy aims to promote inclusivity and respect for the diverse beliefs and financial circumstances of all DepEd employees and students.
4. Schools Division Superintendents, School Heads, and other concerned personnel are urged to ensure strict adherence to these guidelines within their respective divisions and schools. It is important to promote a culture of voluntary giving and inclusivity during the holiday season, while celebrating Christmas in a manner that reflects the values of respect, unity, and consideration for all stakeholders.
5. Be guided accordingly.

For the Regional Director:

RHODA T. RAZON
Assistant Regional Director

Incls: As stated

To be indicated in the PERPETUAL INDEX
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS EMPLOYEES POLICY PROGRAMS

ESSD/dcn/RM-DO-52-CHRISTMAS-CELEBRATION
November 15, 2024



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

01-09345

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Document Code: CO-9B-2024-11-989
Date and Time Added: 2024-NOV-11 09:26:20 AM
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Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

OM OUOPS No. 2024-01-09345

**FOR : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
 ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
 ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

[Signature]
FROM : ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary for Operations

[Signature] 
MALCOLM S. GARMA
Assistant Secretary for Operations

SUBJECT : REITERATION OF DEPED ORDER NO. 052, S. 2022

DATE : November 11, 2024

This Office issues this Memorandum to reiterate DepEd Order No. 052, s. 2022 titled *An Order Providing for the Guidelines in the Celebration of Christmas within the Department of Education*, issued on December 2, 2022. Section 4 (c) of the Order states **“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”**. Further, Section 4 (d) emphasizes that **“contributions for celebrations in schools or offices, whether in cash or in kind, should be strictly voluntary.**

This policy emphasizes inclusivity and respect for the diverse beliefs and economic situations of all department employees and students. We ask everyone to ensure that this directive is upheld within their respective regions, promoting a culture of voluntary giving and inclusivity during the holiday season.

For wide dissemination and strict compliance.

Copy furnished:
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Department of Education



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Doc. Ref. Code	OM-OUOPS	Rev	01
Effectivity	03.23.23	Page	1 of 1





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