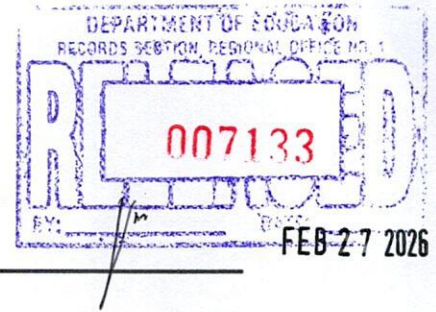




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION I



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
 No. 283, s. 2026

2026 NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH CELEBRATION

To: Schools Division Superintendents

1. In accordance with the Philippine Commission on Women (PCW) Memorandum Circular No. 2026-02, the Department of Education (DepEd) joins the nation in the **2026 National Women's Month Celebration (NWMC)** throughout the month of March. This year marks the fourth installment of the recurring multi-year campaign banner, **WE for Gender Equality and Inclusive Society**, which emphasizes that achieving gender parity is a shared responsibility and a collective investment in an equitable future. The observance is grounded in several legal mandates, including Proclamation No. 227, s. 1988, which designates March as Women's Role in History Month, and Republic Act No. 6949, declaring March 8 of every year as National Women's Day.

2. The 2026 NWMC carries the sub-theme, **Lead like the Babaylans, Filipinas!** focusing on reclaiming a leadership model anchored in wisdom, empathy, mediation and moral guidance. By drawing inspiration from the Babaylan leadership qualities of pre-colonial Philippines, the campaign aims to showcase how women lead through inclusion and collective care rather than hierarchy or force. The primary objective is to amplify women's leadership across all sectors, affirming that gender equality is a long-standing cultural legacy that continues to drive inclusive governance, peacebuilding, and social progress both locally and within the ASEAN region.

3. In view thereof, all offices and public schools are encouraged to:
- a. participate in the month-long celebration of the 2026 NWMC from March 1-31, 2026;
 - b. integrate NWMC-themed messages into flag-raising ceremonies;
 - c. utilize the All-Women Cast *Lupang Hinirang* music video. The video can be downloaded from <https://library.pcw.gov.ph/lupang-hinirang-all-women-cast/>;
 - d. conduct activities that recognize and honor the leadership, achievements, and contributions of their women employees as part of the 2026 NWMC (Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System (GFPS) Members);
 - e. organize exhibits that showcase women's leadership and innovation through programs and initiatives led or co-led by women (Regional Women's Leadership and Innovation Exhibits);



Flores St., Catbangan, City of San Fernando, La Union
 Telephone Nos.: (072) 607-8137/682-2324
 DepEd Region I | region1@deped.gov.ph
 www.depedregion1.com

Doc. Ref. Code	RM-ORD	Rev	00
Effectivity	11.18.2024	Page	1 of 3



- f. organize a mini recognition activity within the governance level to highlight women leaders who demonstrate exemplary leadership and inspire others (Celebrating Women Leaders);
 - g. conduct training and mentorship programs on leadership, entrepreneurship, digital literacy, and climate resilience for women, with a focus on linking local participation to regional outcomes in governance, economic growth, and peacebuilding (Capacity-Building and Women in Governance Dialogues);
 - h. implement awareness initiatives that showcase women's leadership in advancing gender-responsive laws, programs, and services, highlighting how women actively lead, implement, or influence initiatives that improve access to opportunities and align with ASEAN frameworks and agreements (#GADtoKnow Campaign);
 - i. extend gestures of appreciation to women and girls on International Women's Day (March 8) or throughout March. These tokens may include freebies, discounts, priority lanes, and other special promotions (*Serbisyo para sa Kababaihan*);
 - j. organize storytelling sessions, music performances, art exhibits, or theater productions highlighting women's creativity, leadership, and contributions to education (Cultural and Artistic Events);
 - k. organize activities in support of the Girl Child Week and the Women with Disabilities Day Celebration;
 - l. support the #PurpleWednesdays initiative by wearing purple throughout the month;
 - m. utilize the official hashtag #WEcanbeEquALL and official collateral designs in their digital advocacy to spark conversations about women's empowerment; and
 - n. undertake programs and/or activities and initiate activities within the contemplation of the 2026 NWMC.
4. All expenses related to the conduct of these activities may be charged against the respective office's GAD Budget, following the existing procurement, accounting, auditing, and financial regulations. Likewise, the same may be included in their respective GAD Accomplishment Reports.
5. The conduct of activities prescribed in this Memorandum shall strictly comply with DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2025 titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith.

6. For queries and other concerns, please contact HRDD through (072) 682-23-24 local 122 or e-mail hrdd.region1@deped.gov.ph.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

For the Regional Director:


RHODA T. RAZON
Director III

Reference: DM NO. 10, s. 2026
Encl.: None
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS

HRDD/vrdg/RM_2026NWMC
February 25, 2026

