Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF BATANGAS

11 Nov 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 560, s. 2026

NATIONAL READING MONTH CELEBRATION 2026

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief – Curriculum Implementation Division (CID)
Chief – School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
School heads – Private and Public Elementary and Secondary
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, which provides the guidelines for the observance of National Reading Month, and in support of the Department of Education's continuing efforts to strengthen literacy and foster lifelong learning among Filipino learners, the Schools Division of Batangas shall celebrate the National Reading Month 2026 throughout the month of November. The celebration shall further reinforce the implementation of the Division's literacy and innovative learning initiatives through the TALA and TradTech under Batangan 2.0 – TALAS, which aim to strengthen learners' foundational literacy skills, promote reading engagement, and cultivate a sustainable culture of reading among Batang Batangueños.

2. The National Reading Month Celebration 2026 in the Schools Division of Batangas shall be guided by the following Division Theme:

Building a Strong Culture of Reading Among Batang Batangueños
Paglinang ng Matibay na Kultura ng Pagbasa para sa mga Batang Batangueño

3. The celebration aims to:
   a. foster a culture of reading among learners across all grade levels;
   b. strengthen literacy, comprehension, critical thinking, and communication skills through meaningful reading experiences;
   c. encourage learner participation in classroom-based, school-based, and/or community-based literacy engagements;
   d. promote reading as a shared responsibility among schools, families, communities, and education personnel;
   e. recognize learners' achievements and efforts in literacy development.

4. All public elementary and secondary schools are enjoined to conduct classroom-based, grade-level, school-based, office-based, and/or community-based reading activities aligned with learners' developmental needs, literacy levels, and the second quarter/term learning competencies prescribed in the curriculum.

Address: Provincial Sports Complex, Bolbok, 4200 Batangas City
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5. Schools may conduct activities such as Drop Everything and Read (DEAR), Read-A-Thons, storytelling sessions, read-aloud activities, book character parades, reading camps, literacy clinics, reading ambassador programs, parent-child reading activities, book donation drives, literary competitions, author engagements, guest reader sessions, and other literacy-related activities deemed appropriate by the School Head.

6. To ensure alignment with curriculum implementation, teachers are encouraged to integrate developmentally appropriate reading activities within regular classroom instruction. All reading activities shall be contextualized and aligned with the learning competencies for the second academic term across learning areas, thereby providing learners meaningful opportunities to apply reading skills in authentic academic contexts. Suggested classroom-based activities for Kindergarten to Grade 12 learners are found in Enclosure No. 1 of this Memorandum.

7. To promote balanced language development and literacy acquisition, schools shall ensure that reading activities and culminating programs provide learners with opportunities to demonstrate competencies in both Filipino and English.

8. School-based and district-based literacy activities may be conducted throughout the month of November 2026. The final culminating activity shall be conducted on **November 27, 2026**. Schools may provide simple awards, certificates, bookmarks, reading materials, tokens, and other forms of recognition to learners who demonstrate exemplary performance, active participation, remarkable improvement, and outstanding achievement in reading-related activities, subject to available resources and existing DepEd policies.

9. Further, in support of the Division's literacy advocacy, all schools, districts, and offices shall observe "**Read O' Clock**" every Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. throughout November 2026. During the activity, all learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, canteen personnel, parents, guests, visitors, and other stakeholders present in the school or office are encouraged to engage in purposeful reading of age-appropriate educational, literary, informational, inspirational, professional, technical, or policy-related materials. The activity aims to foster a culture of reading and lifelong learning among all members of the school community.

10. Schools intending to post photographs, videos, learner outputs, and other documentation of National Reading Month activities on official school, district, division, or other authorized social media platforms shall strictly observe existing DepEd policies on Child Protection, responsible use of social media, and the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012. Necessary parental consent and applicable authorizations shall be secured prior to the publication, posting, sharing, or dissemination of any learner-related content. Schools are likewise encouraged to utilize the official advocacy hashtag **#DepEdBatangasProvinceKulturaNgPagbasa and #ONEPAGEendlesspossibilities** in all approved online and social media promotional materials to highlight literacy initiatives and best practices across the Schools Division of Batangas.

11. Schools shall submit a narrative accomplishment report with photo documentation and activity highlights to the Curriculum Implementation Division through the Division English and Reading Coordinators on or before December 11, 2026, through this link:

https://tinyurl.com/NATIONALREADINGMONTH26

12. Expenses relative to the conduct of the activities may be charged against available school funds, MOOE, local funds, donations, and other allowable sources, subject to existing accounting, auditing, budgeting, and procurement rules and regulations.

13. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum are desired.

Digitally signed by
MARITES A. IBAÑEZ,
CESO V
Date: 2026.11.11
16:55:55 +08'00'

MARITES A. IBAÑEZ, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl.: As stated

Reference: DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index under the following subject:

Issuances- Division Memorandum

MLJCB/ NATIONAL READING MONTH CELEBRATION 2026/R2- 157604/11/11/2026

Enclosure No. 1

SUGGESTED CLASSROOM-BASED READING ACTIVITIES ALIGNED WITH SECOND-TERM LEARNING COMPETENCIES

DIVISION THEME
Building a Strong Culture of Reading Among Batang Batangueños
Paglinang ng Matibay na Kultura ng Pagbasa para sa mga Batang Batangueño

Grade Level	Suggested Activities
Kindergarten	Picture Walks, Big Book Reading, Storytelling, Story Retelling Through Drawing, Rhyming Activities
Grade 1	Shared Reading, Sight Word Challenge, Story Sequencing, Phonics Games, Buddy Reading
Grade 2	Reading Fluency Activities, Vocabulary Hunts, Story Maps, Character Matching Activities
Grade 3	Readers' Theater, Story Summarization, Graphic Organizers, Reading Journals
Grade 4	Informational Text Exploration, Vocabulary Enrichment Activities, Book Talks
Grade 5	Literary Circles, News Reading and Analysis, Reflection Journals, Fact-and-Opinion Activities
Grade 6	Book Reviews, Reading Conferences, Independent Reading Projects
Grade 7	Literature Appreciation Activities, Character Analysis, Poetry Interpretation
Grade 8	Critical Reading Tasks, Literary Analysis, Reflection Writing
Grade 9	Comparative Text Analysis, Debate from Readings, Analytical Reading Tasks
Grade 10	Critical Evaluation of Texts, Position Paper Reading Activities, Reading Symposiums
Grade 11	Academic Reading Circles, Research Article Critique, Annotated Reading Activities
Grade 12	Policy and Research Readings, Academic Review Writing, Career and Industry Reading Projects

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