



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

25 JUL 2019


DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **095** s. 2019

30th WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

To: Bureau and Service Directors
Minister, Basic, Higher, and Technical Education, BARMM
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 6759, **Declaring August 1 of Every Year as White Cane Safety Day**, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learning Delivery-Student Inclusion Division (BLD-SID) will celebrate the **30th White Cane Safety Day** to support the efforts of the present administration in promoting good governance through respect and realization of all human rights. This year's theme is *Puting Baston, Simbolo ng Kalayaan ng Taong May Kapansanan sa Paningin: Dapat Kilalanin, Igalang at Pagtibayin*.
2. The celebration will commence with the activities that aim to:
 - a. stimulate public awareness on the rights and welfare of people who are blind and with low vision;
 - b. promote recognition and acceptance of the white cane as symbol of mobility and safety for people who are blind and with low vision;
 - c. strengthen and protect the physical, moral, and social well-being of people who are blind and with low vision; and
 - d. serve as vehicle of information on the continuing development of programs being implemented through partnerships between public and private sectors to realize the rights and fundamental freedom of people who are blind and with low vision.
3. The regional/division level through the initiative of the Special Education (SPED) regional/division supervisor or focal person, in cooperation with other government organizations, nongovernment organizations, civic organizations, and white cane interagency committee may conduct the following activities throughout the month of August and beyond:
 - a. showcasing of talents of blind and low vision learners;
 - b. sharing of information on best practices concerning the education of the visually impaired by inviting blind learners or educators as resource persons and other professionals working for people who are blind and with low vision;
 - c. holding of symposia, fora, workshops, panel discussions and sports, arts and cultural activities relevant to the prevention and rehabilitation of blindness, and rights of the visually impaired learners; and

- d. holding of academic contests in Braille reading and writing, quiz bee, and other activities, which highlight the talents, skills and rights of the visually impaired learners.
4. All SPED centers and public and private schools with SPED programs are encouraged to observe the White Cane Safety Day with appropriate activities. However, activities to be undertaken should not disrupt classes as stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 entitled **Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance Therewith**.
5. Every region shall submit a brief narrative with pictorial report on the Celebration to the **BLD-SID**.
6. For more information, please contact the **Bureau of Learning Delivery-School Inclusion Division**, 4th Floor, Bonifacio Building, Department of Education Central Office, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City through email at bld.sid@deped.gov.ph or at telephone no. (02) 631-9993.
7. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


ATTY. NEPOMUCENO A. MALALUAN
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

References:

DepEd Memorandum No. 124, s. 2018
DepEd Order No. (9, s. 2005)

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

BUREAUS AND OFFICES
CELEBRATIONS AND FESTIVALS
LEARNERS
ORGANIZATIONS
SCHOOLS
SPECIAL EDUCATION