



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education



DepED MEMORANDUM
No. 191 s. 2005

JUL 08 2005

2005 WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 6759 otherwise known as "An Act Declaring August 1 of Each Year as White Cane Safety Day in the Philippines and for Other Purposes", the theme for this year's celebration is "*White Cane: A Tool, A Symbol and A Code*".
2. The White Cane Safety Day celebration is also the first activity of the Sight Saving Month celebration in August. It aims to:
 - a. instill public awareness on the welfare of the blind;
 - b. promote recognition and acceptance of the white cane as a symbol of mobility for blind persons; and
 - c. promote and protect the physical, moral and social well-being of blind persons.
3. The Department of Education (DepED), a lead agency of the Inter-Agency committee for the celebration has prepared the activities lined up for the celebration:
 - a. sharing information on best practices concerning the education of the visually impaired by inviting blind students, educators and other professionals working for the blind as resource persons;
 - b. holding of symposia, fora and panel discussions relevant to the prevention and rehabilitation of blindness;
 - c. holding of the following contests on Academic, Braille Reading and Writing, Mathematics operation using the abacus, Braille Computer and other activities which highlight the talent and skills of the visually impaired;
 - d. conducting Fun Games and Sports activities among the visually impaired students; and
 - e. inviting ophthalmologists/optometrists to conduct free eye examination and screening to visually impaired students.
4. All SPED centers, public and private schools with special program on the education of visually impaired are encouraged to observe this day with appropriate activities.

5. Further activities to be undertaken should not disrupt classes. For further inquiries please contact Ms. Mirla R. Olores, Chief, Special Education Division (SPED) Bureau of Elementary Education, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City with tel no. (02) 631-9993.
6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


FLORENCIO B. ABAD
Secretary.

Reference: DepED Memorandum: No. 310, s. 2004

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

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

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
SPECIAL EDUCATION

Reformatted by: Sally/ WhiteCaneSafety
June 23, 2005