



DepED MEMORANDUM
No: 222, s. 2006

JUN 16 2006

2006 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 Other Purposes", the theme for this year's celebration is "The White Cane Code: Cane Opens Door to Equality".

2. The White Cane Safety Day Celebration is also the first activity of the Sight Saving Month Celebration in August. The objectives are to:

- a) instill public awareness on the welfare of the blind;
- b) promote recognition and acceptance of the White Cane as symbol of mobility for blind person; and
- c) promote and protect the physical, moral and social well-being of the blind person.

3. The National Inter-Agency Committee for the celebration has prepared the following activities which will be undertaken at the Baywalk, Roxas Boulevard, Manila on August 1, 2006:

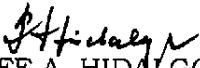
- a) "Walk for White Cane 2006" (Alay-Lakad) 4:00 - 6:00 pm.
- b) Short Programs to be participated by blind students and government organizations and non-government organizations.

The aforementioned activities could be conducted at the regional level through the initiative of the Regional Special Education Council. Other GOs, NGOs and civic organizations can be tapped for assistance.

Other suggested activities for the celebration include:

- Sharing information on best practices concerning the education of the visually impaired by inviting blind students or educators as resource persons and other professionals working for the blind;
- Holding symposia, fora and panel discussions relevant to the prevention and rehabilitation of blindness;
- Holding Academic Contest, Braille Reading and Writing Contest and other activities which will highlight the talents and skills of the visually impaired;
- Inviting ophthalmologists/optometrists to conduct free eye examination and screening to the visually impaired students.

4. All SPED centers, public and private schools with special education programs are encouraged to observe this day with appropriate activities.
5. A brief consolidated narrative and pictorial report on the celebration shall be submitted to the SPED Division, Bureau of Elementary Education. For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Mirla R. Olores, Chief, SPED Division, Bureau of Elementary Education, DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City at tel. no. (02) 631-99-93 or 632-13-61 local 2054.
6. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


FE A. HIDALGO
Undersecretary
Officer-in-Charge

Reference:

DepED Memorandum: No. 191, s. 2005

Allotment: 1- -(D.O. 50-97)

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

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
SCHOOLS
SPEICAL EDUCATION

Reformatted by: Maricar/Sally - DM-White Cane
06-09-06