



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education



JUL 19 2007

DepED MEMORANDUM
No. **281** s. 2007

2007 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 "White Cane: Access to Success".

2. The White Cane Safety Day Celebration is the first activity of the Sight Saving Month Celebration in August and is also part of the year-round activities in celebrating 100 years of Special Education in the country. This activity aims to:

- a. instill public awareness on the welfare of the blind person;
- 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 Department of Education (DepED), as lead agency of the Inter-Agency Committee for the celebration, has prepared the following activities which will be undertaken at the SM Mall of Asia on August 1, 2007:

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	-	Wreath Laying at Rizal Monument
8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	-	Motorcade from Luneta to SM Mall of Asia
9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	-	Opening Program
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon	-	Simultaneous Activities

- Braille Reading and Writing Contest
- Computer Demonstration (Freedom Box)
- Sighted Guide Demonstration
- Livelihood Demonstration

1:30 p.m. – Cultural Presentation Contest
3:00 p.m. – Malling/Walk with the Blind
4:00 p.m. – Home Sweet Home

The aforementioned activities could be conducted at the regional level though the initiative of the Regional Special Education Council. Other GO's, NGO's and civic organizations could 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; and
- 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 632-13-6170 local 2054.

6. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.


JESLI A. LAPUS
Secretary

Reference: DepED Memorandum: No. 222, s. 2006

Allotment: 1—(D.O. 50-97)

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

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
SCHOOLS
SPECIAL EDUCATION

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