



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION VIII  
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NORTHERN SAMAR

July 7, 2025

**DIVISION MEMORANDUM**

No. 74, s. 2025

**REITERATION ON DEPED ORDER NO. 49, S. 2022 ON THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF  
SOCIAL MEDIA AND DEPED ORDER NO. 40, S. 2012 ON POSTING LEARNERS' IMAGES  
OR DATA ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

To: Office of the Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
Office of the CID and SGOD  
Public Schools District Supervisor  
School Heads  
All others concerned

1. In line with the significant increase number of content creators and or social media influencers within this Division, the Department of Education- Schools Division of Northern Samar reiterates **DepEd Order No. 49 s. 2022**, on the **Amendments to DepEd Order No. 47 s. 2022: Promotion of Professionalism in the Implementation and Delivery of Basic Education Programs and Services**.

With regard to the use of social media, teaching and non-teaching personnel are not prohibited from using such platforms; however, this is a reminder to use them with utmost prudence. As highlighted under DepEd Order No. 49, s. 2022, item number 3, *employees and officials must consider the legal restrictions imposed by existing statutes, rules, and DepEd Orders in the use of social media. Whether it be for personal use of the DepEd official or employee, or as an essential or an incidental tool in carrying out their mandate, social media rules should be complied with.*

Further, under the same item number of this DepEd Order, it emphasizes the following mandates that employees and officials of DepEd shall:

- a. *Exercise caution when sharing posts or other contents and should not participate in the spreading of rumors and false information;*
- b. *Not unduly post online attacks against DepEd employees and must utilize legal and human resource mediation procedure; and*
- c. *Not disparage DepEd and must always be mindful of the reputation and honor of the organization.*

Likewise, DepEd Order No. 49 s, 2022, specifically sub-item number 2 of item number 2, highlights the provisions of **RA No. 6713**, otherwise known as the **Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees**. In line with this, DepEd officials and employees are expected to observe the following:



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- a. *Treat and approach DepEd colleagues, employees, learners and stakeholders with highest degree of professionalism;*
  - b. *Respect the rights of others and refrain from doing any act that is contrary to law, good morals, good customs, public policy, public order, public safety, and public interest;*
  - c. *Serve and perform one's duties and responsibilities in a prompt, courteous, and fair manner;*
  - d. *Refrain from engaging in any activity or any relationship that may impair one's ability in making objective decisions in the performance of his/her job function*
  - e. *Avoid relationship, interaction, and communication, including following social media with learners outside of the school setting, except if they are relatives; and*
  - f. *Desist from any act that may compromise one's integrity as a government employee and that may compromise the honor of the DepEd.*
2. This Office recognizes the use of social media as a medium for the Freedom of Speech and Expression of its officials and employees as provided by the 1987 Constitution. However, while these rights are fundamental, they are not absolute and subject to reasonable restrictions and regulations, particularly in cases when such rights are used to defame or to make libelous remarks against others.

As Public Officials and Civil Servants, we are duty-bound to use social media platforms responsibly in accordance with the *Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards*. It is imperative to be critical, cautious, and mindful when engaging in online discussions, ensuring that our contributions add value to the online discourse. We must set the standard in promoting and disseminating verified information and creating an online environment that upholds trust and ensures respect for both the learners and the general public.

3. This issuance also serves as a reminder to all teaching and non-teaching personnel to exercise prudence when posting the images or personal data of learners on social media. The Department of Education strictly adheres to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in safeguarding our learners against abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
4. This Division upholds the safeguarding of the rights of Nortehanon learners, hence it is paramount to reiterate the **DepEd Order No. 40, s. 2012** or the **"Child Protection Policy"**, which emphasizes the **DepEd's zero tolerance policy** for any act of abuse, exploitation, violation, discrimination, bullying, and other forms of violence directed towards our learners.

Furthermore, pursuant to **Republic Act No. 10173**, otherwise known as the **"Data Privacy Act of 2012"**, learners, including teaching and non-teaching personnel, are considered as data subjects whose personal information is protected by law. To avoid violations of the learners' data privacy, this issuance highlights Sections 3 and 16 of the law which are highlighted in the following paragraphs:

**Section 3 (b).** *Consent of the data subject refers to any freely given, specific, informed indication of will, whereby the data subject agrees to the collection and processing of personal information about and/or relating to him or her. Consent shall*



*be evidenced by written, electronic or recorded means. It may also be given on behalf of the data subject by an agent specifically authorized by the data subject to do so.*

**Section 3 (g). Personal information** refers to any information whether recorded in a material form or not, from which the identity of an individual is apparent or can be reasonably and directly ascertained by the entity holding the information, or when put together with other information would directly and certainly identify an individual.

**Section 16. Rights of the Data Subject.** – The data subject is entitled to:

(a) *Be informed whether personal information pertaining to him or her shall be, are being or have been processed;*

(b) *Be furnished the information indicated hereunder before the entry of his or her personal information into the processing system of the personal information controller, or at the next practical opportunity:*

(1) *Description of the personal information to be entered into the system;*

(2) *Purposes for which they are being or are to be processed;*

(3) *Scope and method of the personal information processing;*

(4) *The recipients or classes of recipients to whom they are or may be disclosed;*

(5) *Methods utilized for automated access, if the same is allowed by the data subject, and the extent to which such access is authorized;*

(6) *The identity and contact details of the personal information controller or its representative;*

(7) *The period for which the information will be stored; and*

(8) *The existence of their rights, i.e., to access, correction, as well as the right to lodge a complaint before the Commission.*

5. In consideration of the learners' minority, parental or guardians' consent is necessary prior to the use of the learners' data for social media posting. This is anchored under the **Cybercrime Prevention Act or RA No. 10175**, that consent is necessary before sharing or posting images of an individual on social media. Failure to do so may lead to possible legal consequences, particularly if the individuals believe that their privacy has been violated or compromised.

6. This Office, through the Division Learner Rights and Protection, reminds all school personnel to uphold their responsibility as duty-bearers in ensuring that the rights of Nortehanon learners are recognized and protected. Programs under LRP shall be strictly implemented and shall stand on the zero tolerance policy.

7. With all the foregoing, this issuance is for guidance and strict observance.

DepEd Northern Samar

RELEASED

By: 

JUL 11 2025

  
GAUDENCIO C. ALJIBE JR., PhD, CESO VI  
Schools Division Superintendent