

Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
 NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

**REGIONAL MEMORANDUM**

ORD-2023- 880

**To : SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS**  
 SDO Las Piñas SDO Taguig-City and Pateros  
 SDO Pasig SDO Quezon City

**From : WILFREDO E. CABRAL, CESO III**  
 Regional Director

**Subject : SPECIAL PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE (SPFL) JAPANESE  
 NIHONGO PARTNERS PROGRAM IN SELECT SCHOOLS FOR SY  
 2023-2024**

**Date : September 11, 2023**

1. This is in reference to the attached Memorandum No. DM-CT-2023-250 dated August 23, 2023, from GINA O. GONONG, Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching, relative to the above-captioned activity, contents of which are self-explanatory, for information and appropriate action.
2. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

**WILFREDO E. CABRAL, CESO III**  
 Regional Director

Encl: As stated Reference:  
 To be indicated in the Perpetual Index



Misamis St., Bago Bantay, Quezon City

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Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND TEACHING

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BCD-SCPD-O-2023-\_\_\_\_\_


**MEMORANDUM**  
**DM-CT-2023-250**

**TO** : **MAY B. ECLAR**  
Regional Director, Region III

**ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE**  
Regional Director, Region IV-A

**SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ**  
Regional Director, Region VII

**WILFREDO E. CABRAL**  
Regional Director, National Capital Region

**FROM** :   
GINA O. GONDONG  
Undersecretary for Curriculum and Teaching

**SUBJECT** : **SPECIAL PROGRAM IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE (SPFL)**  
**JAPANESE NIHONGO PARTNERS PROGRAM IN**  
**SELECT SCHOOLS FOR SY 2023-2024**

**DATE** : August 28, 2023

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This has reference to the attached letter of Dir. Suzuki “Ben” Tsutomu, Director of the Japan Foundation, Manila (JFM), seeking the approval of the continuation of the Nihongo Partners Program for School Year 2023-2024 from September 2023 to December 2023.

The Nihongo Partners Program is a program of the Japan Foundation where native Japanese speakers are sent for a particular period to work as partners of Japanese language teachers and learners in schools in Asia. The Nihongo Partners (NPs) work as assistants in classes and introduce Japanese culture.

It aims to:

- Assist local Japanese-language teachers during classes;
- Introduce the Japanese culture to learners; and
- Learn about the host country’s culture, language, customs, and traditions.

In this regard, the Regional and Division Education Program Supervisors in-charge of Special Program in Foreign Language (SPFL) are requested to coordinate with the School Heads and SPFL coordinators of the schools identified to receive Nihongo Partners for SY 2023-2024. The list of identified schools and their Nihongo Partners is found in **Annex A**.



Republic of the Philippines  
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Further, the schools are requested to submit a narrative report about the implementation of Nihongo Partners Program in their respective schools. The report must be coursed through their respective Regional and Division Education Program Supervisors in charge of SPFL.

The program is funded and sponsored by the Japan Foundation and **no expense** will be incurred by the host school. Attached is the letter of JFM for the overview of the Nihongo Partners Program and other details.

Should you have queries or clarifications you may contact **Ms. Josephine Intino**, SPFL Japanese Focal Person, or **Dr. Mikael Sandino Andrey**, SPFL Focal Person, through these email addresses [josephine.intino@deped.gov.ph](mailto:josephine.intino@deped.gov.ph) / [mikaelsandino.andrey@deped.gov.ph](mailto:mikaelsandino.andrey@deped.gov.ph) or this number (02) 8632 0170. Immediate dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

*Copy furnished:*

**Atty. Revsee A. Escobedo**  
Undersecretary for Operations

**Dr. Gloria Jumamil-Mercado**  
Undersecretary for Human Resources and Organizational Development



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR CURRICULUM AND TEACHING

BCD-SCPD-O-2023-

**Annex A**

List of Identified Receiving Schools and Nihongo Partners for the Nihongo Partners Program SY 2023-2024

<b>Region</b>	<b>SDO</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Nihongo Partner</b>
NCR	Makati City	Pitogo High School	Mr. Hidetoshi
NCR	Pasig City	Pasig City Science High School	Nakama
NCR	Quezon City	Lagro High School	Ms. Megumi
NCR	Quezon City	Sta. Lucia High School	Matsubayashi
NCR	Las Piñas City	Capt. Albert Aguilar National High School	Ms. Misaki Takada
IV-A	San Pedro City	San Pedro Relocation Center National High School	
III	San Jose del Monte City	Paradise Farm National High School	Ms. Tomoka Takahashi
III	San Jose del Monte City	Sapang Palay National High School	
III	Tarlac Province	Capas National High School	Ms. Haruna Sato
III	Cabanatuan City	Mayapyap National High School	Ms. Satori Mineo
VII	Cebu Province	Cordova National High School	Ms. Rie Kobayashi
VII	Lapu-Lapu City	Marigondon National High School	
VII	Cebu Province	Compostela National High School	Mr. Shinichi Sasaki
VII	Cebu Province	Compostela Science & Technology High School	
VII	Mandaue City	Cabancalan National High School	Ms. Hinako Yamanaka
VII	Cebu City	Abellana National High School	Ms. Kaho Miyashita



**THE JAPAN FOUNDATION, MANILA**

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**JFM-CJH 2023-0064**

29 June 2023

**For: MS. JOCELYN D.R. ANDAYA, DIRECTOR IV  
BUREAU OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Subject: NIHONGO PARTNERS IN THE PHILIPPINES S.Y. 2023-2024**

**Dear Madam:**

Greetings from The Japan Foundation, Manila!

We extend our thanks to the Department of Education for warmly welcoming the 9th batch of Nihongo Partners in the Philippines for S.Y. 2022-2023. All 14 NPs finished their term and returned safely to Japan last April. Your support and cooperation have been instrumental in cultivating cultural and language learning among our *Nihongojins*.

With the successful completion of Batch 9, we are pleased to announce that we are preparing for Batch 10 of the Nihongo Partners Program in the Philippines. Attached to this letter are the program leaflet, tentative schedule, list of target schools and assigned Nihongo Partners. Target dispatch months are from September to December of the upcoming school year. As in the past, the JFM shall shoulder all costs related to the program.

We look forward to working closely with the Department of Education once more in enhancing the language learning experience of our students and fostering people to people exchange between the Philippines and Japan. Kindly expect related correspondences in the coming months regarding the Counterpart Teacher Training and the new Short-term Nihongo Partners Program. For any questions or clarifications, please contact our Program Coordinator for Nihongo Partners, Ms. Ayako ABE, at [Ayako\\_Abe001@jpf.go.jp](mailto:Ayako_Abe001@jpf.go.jp).

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

**For: Director SUZUKI "Ben" Tsutomu**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yojiro Tanaka".

**By: TANAKA Yojiro**  
Deputy Director



# Nihongo Partners Program



**Go, Asia! A new future starts here.**

The NIHONGO Partners Program endeavors to support local Japanese language teachers and students by dispatching Japanese nationals predominantly to secondary education institutions in Asia.



<https://asiawa.jpf.go.jp/en/partners/>



JAPAN FOUNDATION

# What are Nihongo Partners?

NIHONGO Partners are people that The Japan Foundation Asia Center sends from Japan for a certain period of time to work as partners of Japanese language teachers and students at educational institutions in Asia. They are primarily sent to secondary educational institutions, more commonly known as high schools in Japan. These partners work as assistants in classes and introduce Japanese culture. They are also encouraged to interact widely outside the classroom. They do not merely teach, but also learn about the country's local language, culture and customs. They are sent for short periods ranging from about three months to a year, and within this period of time, they discover and experience new things, expanding their horizons and building their future.

## What do Nihongo Partners do?

Assist the local  
Japanese-  
language teacher  
during classes



Introduce  
Japanese culture



Learn about the  
host country's  
culture - language,  
customs and  
tradition



# Nihongo Partners Q&A

**Q: The NIHONGO Partners (NP) is...?**

A: Teaching assistants to the Nihongo teachers at schools. They introduce Japanese culture and so on. They will act as resource persons/teaching assistants to the local Nihongo teacher at school, but they will not be able to teach Nihongo /"enTree" on their own since they do not have a teacher's license. The NPs are not trained to teach Nihongo like CJH Teachers, so classroom setting cannot be controlled by NPs alone. The JFM would like to ask CJH Teachers to be in the classroom together with NPs when lessons are conducted.

**Q: To which countries are they dispatched?**

A: Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Myanmar, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos, Cambodia, China, Taiwan

**Q: Until when will this last?**

A: Until the Tokyo Olympics in 2020. - **Extended**

**Q: How many NIHONGO Partners will be dispatched?**

A: A total of 3000. Around 100 of whom will be dispatched to the Philippines.

**Q: Are there different types of schools?**

A: Yes. Main school and sub-school. NPs will initially focus on the main school. Once they get used to the activities, they will go to sub-schools as often as twice a week, or as seldom as once a month.

**Q: Do the NIHONGO Partners need to record their work hours, i.e.timesheet?**

A: No.

**Q: Do the NIHONGO Partners involve themselves with the local educational institutions such as DepEd?**

A: No.





# Nihongo Partners Batch 9



## Batch 9: September 30, 2022~March 31, 2023 (6 months)

- Ms. Junko KAMATA (Doña Teodora Alonzo HS ✕New)
- Mr. Yasuo HOSOMI (F. Torres HS / Lakan Dula HS ✕New)
- Ms. Asuka ASADA (Manuel A. Roxas HS)
- Mr. Aruto KAWASHIMA (Makati SHS / City of Mandaluyong SHS)
- Mr. Renon NONOUE (Capt. Albert Aguilar NHS ✕New)
- Ms. Umi OTANI (Quezon City HS / Sergio Osmeña Sr. HS ✕New)
- Ms. Miyu URIU (Sauyo High School / Lagro HS)
- Ms. Tsugumi MORI (Valenzuela City School of Mathematics and Science)
- Mr. Yuki NAMEKAWA (Carlos Albert HS / Dr. Josefa Jara Martinez HS)

- Ms. Ryoko HORIE (Abellana National School)
- Ms. Hina NAKAGOMI (Cabancalan NHS)
- Mr. Keisei MIURA (Don Carlos A. Gothong Memorial NHS)
- Ms. Kaori FUNAKI (Marigondon NHS / Cordova NHS)
- Mr. Hiromu MITABE (Compostela Science and Technology HS / Compostela NHS ✕New)

Metro Manila (NCR)

Cebu



### The Japan Foundation, Manila (JFM)

23/F Pacific Star Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City

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<b>Nihongo Partners Schedule (Batch 10) - TENTATIVE</b>	
September 5 - December 15, 2023 (3 months)	
May - June	Pre-dispatch Training in Japan On-site: May 15 - June 9 (4 weeks)
September 5	Arrival in Manila from Japan
September 6 - 11	<b>Post-arrival Training at JFM</b>
September 9	<b>CP-NP Team Teaching Training</b> (Invite one counterpart teacher from each school for one-day joint training session at JFM)
September 12-14	Arrival at the respective dispatch destination
December 14	<b>Debriefing Session at JFM</b>
December 15	Departure from Manila to Japan

As of June 13, 2023

## Nihongo Partners List (Batch 10)

September 5 - December 15, 2023 (3 months)

Area	NP	#	School
NCR	Mr. Hidetoshi Nakama	1	Pitogo HS
		2	Pasig City SHS ✕New
	Ms. Megumi Matsubayashi	3	Lagro HS
		4	Sta. Lucia HS ✕New
	Ms. Misaki Takada	5	Capt. Albert Aguilar NHS
Region 4A		6	San Pedro Relocation Center NHS ✕New
Region 3	Ms. Tomoka Takahashi	7	Paradise Farms NHS ✕New
		8	Sapang Palay NHS ✕New
	Ms. Haruna Sato	9	Capas NHS ✕New
	Ms. Satori Mineo	10	Mayapyap NHS ✕New
Region7	Ms. Rie Kobayashi	11	Cordova National High School
		12	Marigondon National High School
	Mr. Shinichi Sasaki	13	Compostela NHS ✕New
		14	Compostela Science and Technology HS
	Ms. Kaho Miyashita	15	Cabancalan NHS
		16	Abellana National School
	Ms. Hinako Yamanaka	17	Buanoy NHS