



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION



March 3, 2025

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 239 s. 2025

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Public and Private Education Elementary and Secondary
School Heads
All Others Concerned

STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ORDER NO. 55, S. 2013, TITLED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OR REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10627, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013

1. This is relative to the attached Memorandum from **MALCOLM S. GARMA**, Assistant Secretary, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Undersecretary for Operations, Department of Education, DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, dated February 21, 2025, re: reiteration of strict compliance with Department of Education Order No. 55, s.2013, titled Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 10627, otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013.
2. Particular attention is invited to paragraphs 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 of the said Memorandum for information and guidance on the implementation of preventive programs and protocols for handling and reporting of bullying incidents.
3. For clarifications regarding this concern, please contact the Regional LRP section through email at lrps.ncr@deped.gov.ph
4. Immediate dissemination and compliance with this Memorandum is desired.

JOCELYN DR ANDAYA
Regional Director, NCR
concurrent Officer-in-Charge, Office of the
Assistant Secretary for Operations



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR OPERATIONS

MEMORANDUM

DM-OUOPS-2025-__-__

**TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATION ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
*Assistant Secretary, Officer-In-Charge,
Office of the Undersecretary for Operations*

DR. DEXTER A. GALABAN
Assistant Secretary for Operations

**SUBJECT : REITERATION OF STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION (DEPED) ORDER No. 55, s. 2013, TITLED
IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) OF REPUBLIC
ACT (RA) No. 10627, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-
BULLYING ACT OF 2013**

DATE : February 21, 2025

The Department issued DepEd Order (D.O.) No. 55, s. 2013 or the "Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 10627 otherwise known as the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013," to prevent and address peer-to-peer abuse in schools.

This reiteration of D.O. No. 55, s. 2013 is in line with the Department's strong resolve to respect, protect, fulfill, and promote the rights of our learners. Hence, all concerned Officials and personnel are reminded to comply with the implementation of preventive programs and to observe the protocols for handling and reporting bullying incidents.

Preventive Mechanisms

On the preventive component, Section 6 of D.O. No. 55, s. 2013 mandates all public and private schools to implement programs applicable to all students regardless of the level of risk or vulnerability to bullying. The following are examples of prevention programs:

(1) **School-wide initiatives centered** on positive school climate and environment conducive to the attainment of learning objectives, the development of healthy relationships, and the understanding of and respect for individual differences; conduct of activities for students, school personnel, and service providers on how to recognize and respond to bullying; and coordination with Local Government Units, barangay (Barangay Council for the Protection of Children) and other stakeholders

(2) **Classroom-level initiatives** that focus on reinforcing school-wide rules pertaining to bullying; building a positive sense of self and interpersonal relationships through the development of self-awareness and self-management, interpersonal skills and empathy, and responsible decision-making and problem-solving; and teaching positive online behavior and safety and how to recognize and report cyber-bullying.

(3) **Involving parents in bullying prevention activities**, such as discussions of the anti-bullying policy of the school during Parents-Teachers Association meetings and seminars; and conducting or sponsoring education sessions for parents to learn, teach, model, and reinforce positive social and emotional skills to their children.

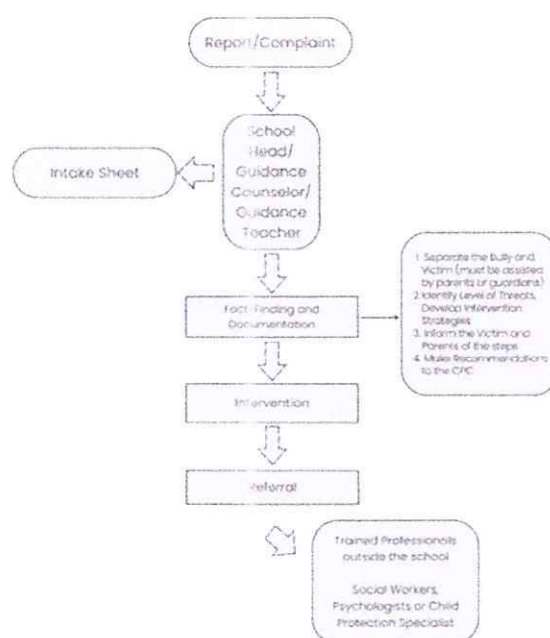
(4) **Monitoring students** who are vulnerable to committing aggressive acts, who are perpetrators of bullying, or who are possible targets or victims, for the purpose of early intervention.

Responsive Mechanisms

In the event that bullying takes place, all school personnel or anyone who witnesses the incident shall stop the altercation through following the **“immediate response”** under Section 10(B)(a) of D.O. No. 55, s. 2013, *viz:*

- a. Stopping the bullying or retaliation immediately
- b. Separating the students involved;
- c. Removing the victim or, in appropriate cases, the bully or offending student, from the site;
- d. Ensuring the victim’s safety, by:
 1. Determining and addressing the victim’s immediate safety needs; and
 2. Ensuring medical attention, if needed, and securing a medical certificate, in cases of physical injury.
- e. Bringing the bully to the Guidance Office or the designated school personnel.

Further, Section 10(B) also mandates the victim, bystanders (witnesses), or school personnel who have information about a bullying incident to report the same to the teacher, guidance coordinator or counselor, or any person designated to handle bullying incidents.



The teacher, guidance coordinator or counselor, or any person designated to handle bullying incidents shall accomplish the Intake Sheet. Thereafter, the school head calls the attention of the parents of the children involved.

The school head or the person designated to handle bullying incidents shall then proceed to Fact Finding and Documentation by interviewing the learners involved separately to determine the levels of threats and develop intervention strategies. During this phase, the school head or the person designated to handle bullying incidents shall inform the learners involved and their parents of the steps to be taken to prevent any further acts of bullying or retaliation and make appropriate recommendations to the Child Protection Committee (CPC) on proper interventions, referrals, and monitoring. The CPC shall determine the appropriate intervention programs for the victim, the bully, and bystanders while the school head shall ensure that these are provided to them.

The school head or the Child Protection Committee may refer the victims and the bully to trained professionals outside the school such as social workers, guidance counselors, psychologists, or child protection specialists, for further assessment and appropriate intervention measures.

The victim, bystanders (witnesses, or any school personnel who wishes to report any bullying incident may also report to the Learners' Helpline by calling #33733 (#DepEd), (02) 8632-1372, 0945-175-9777 or via e-mail at wcprotectlearners@deped.gov.ph, and by submitting important details to the DepEd website through <https://www.deped.gov.ph/contact-us-2/>.

Aside from the actual reporting of the bullying incident, this Memorandum reiterates Section 13 of D.O. No. 55, s. 2013, which mandates all schools to submit a copy of their anti-bullying policy and statistics on bullying and retaliation, *viz*:

Section 13. Reporting Requirement

All private and public kindergarten, elementary, and secondary schools shall **submit a copy of their child protection or anti-bullying policy** to the Division Office within six (6) months from the effectivity of this IRR. They shall submit to the Division Office within the first week of each school year a report on relevant **information and statistics on bullying and retaliation** from the preceding school year.

In addition to the requirements for an application for a permit to operate and/or recognition as prescribed by the existing rules of the Department, private schools shall submit a child protection or anti-bullying policy to the Regional Director. The Regional Director shall review the policy to ensure that it is consistent with the Act and this IRR. (emphasis supplied)

The Regional and Division Offices shall then ensure that the schools within their territorial jurisdiction monitor the strict implementation of this Policy in schools.

The Learner Rights and Protection Division (LRPD), as the lead Office in overseeing the implementation of the Anti-Bullying law and its IRR, shall provide technical assistance to the Regional and Division Offices.

For queries, you may reach the LRPD through email at lrpd@deped.gov.ph or by calling (02)8638-1782 or (02)8632-1372.

For immediate dissemination and compliance.