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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region V– Bicol
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF LIGAO CITY

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October 11, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 0489 s. 2026

BE A HANDWASHING HERO: 2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

To: Asst. Schools Division Superintendent
CID and SGOD Chief Education Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
School Heads, Public Elementary and Secondary School
All Others Concerned

1. The Schools Division Office of Ligao City, in support of the Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services-School Health Division-Nutrition and Hygiene Unit (BLSS-SHD-NHU), and in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), shall participate in the 2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration with the multi-year theme, "**Be a Handwashing Hero.**"

2. Global Handwashing Day nationwide observance of the **2026 Global Handwashing Day Celebration** will be on **October 15, 2026** which aims to raise awareness about the significance of handwashing with soap as a simple and effective means of preventing diseases and saving lives.

3. This activity supports **DepEd Order No. 10, s. 2016**, titled **Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Schools (WINS) Program.** The policy promotes proper hygiene and sanitation practices and the maintenance of clean, safe, and healthy learning environments. Schools are further encouraged to undertake the following activities:

a) Conduct simultaneous handwashing among learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents, and other stakeholders at a time designated by the school;
b) Intensify the availability of and proper use of wash facilities, including adequate supply of water and soap during critical times;
c) Integrate handwashing promotion into classroom instruction and other school activities; and
d) Conduct other innovative and age-appropriate activities that will strengthen the culture of hand hygiene in schools.
e) Schools may post documentation of their activities on their official School Facebook pages using the following hashtags:
#2026GlobalHandwashingDay

#BeAHandwashingHero
#WASHinSchools
#ForTheWinS
#InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins

4. Each participating school shall submit a brief narrative report with at least three captioned photographs to the School Governance and Operations Division-School Health and Nutrition Section on or before October 22, 2026, for consolidation and monitoring.

5. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

NYMPHA D. GUEMO
Schools Division Superintendent