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Republika ng Pilipinas

Kagawaran ng Edukasyon

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim

OUA MEMO 00-1121-0258

MEMORANDUM

26 November 2021

For: **Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
School Heads
All Others Concerned**

Subject: **CELEBRATION OF THE FIRST GABALDON HERITAGE
WEEK ON 13-23 DECEMBER 2021**

In recognition of the architectural, historical, social, and scientific value of Gabaldon school buildings, the Department of Education (DepEd) will hold the **first Gabaldon Heritage Week** on **13-23 December 2021**. With this, the Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA) through the Education Facilities Division (EFD) provides an advance copy of the draft Department Order for reference. This shall be officially released once signed by the Secretary.

The activities to be undertaken are the following:

1. **general cleaning** of all Gabaldon buildings and premises, whether newly restored or not;
2. **removal of physical structures** that hinder public view of the Gabaldon's façade;
3. **decorating** of the Gabaldon's façade with blue-white-red banners/streamers with golden yellow paper/cloth flowers;
4. **placement of solar-powered floodlights** to brighten up the Gabaldon's façade, especially the newly-restored ones;
5. **submission of the Gabaldon School Building Profile** to the official email address of the EFD at as.efd@deped.gov.ph **on or before 20 December 2021** for inclusion in the Gabaldon Book (The write-up should include the date of establishment, historical/cultural contribution, distinguished alumni, dates of repairs and restoration, and oldest and most current photos.);
6. **simultaneous turnover of newly-restored Gabaldon** school buildings (for identification of the list of projects to be turned-over);
7. daily feature of the Gabaldon School Building Documentary at the DepEd website, DepEd Philippines Facebook page, and other official social media accounts; and



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Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA)

[Administrative Service (AS), Information and Communications Technology Service (ICT), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Service (DRRMS), Bureau of Learner Support Services (BLSS), Baguio Teachers Camp (BTC), Central Security & Safety Office (CSSO)]

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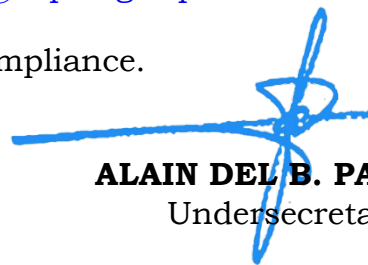


8. declaration of the **Gabaldon Schoolhouses Day** on **20 December 2021** to be featured at the DepEd website and other official social media accounts.

The Department recognizes the importance of Gabaldon school buildings to the history of Philippine education. With this, the OUA through the EFD enjoins all concerned to actively participate in the said activities.

For more information, queries and concerns on this subject, please contact Ms. Kianna Areeje Gonzales, Administrative Assistant II of the EFD, through +63 956 253 2227 or email at kianna.gonzales@deped.gov.ph .

For immediate dissemination and compliance.


ALAIN DEL B. PASCUA
Undersecretary



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Republika ng Pilipinas

Department of Education

DepEd O R D E R
No. _____, s. 2021

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BIRTH OF PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS: INSTITUTING AND CELEBRATING “GABALDON SCHOOLHOUSES DAY”

To: Undersecretaries
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors and BARMM Education Minister
Schools Division Superintendents
Heads, Public Elementary and Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. Sections 14, 15, 16, and 17, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution declare that the State shall foster the preservation, enrichment and dynamic evolution of a Filipino culture based on the principles of unity and diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression. **The Constitution likewise mandates the State to conserve, develop, promote and popularize the nation’s historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.**
2. This mandate was further reinforced on January 18, 2019, when President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed into law Republic Act No. 11194 or the *Gabaldon School Buildings Conservation Act*—declaring the policy of the State to conserve and promote the country’s historical and cultural heritage resources, and to strengthen its efforts in conserving and restoring built heritage, such as the Gabaldon school buildings, to preserve their architectural, historical, and social significance.
3. To recall, Act No. 1801—framed by Nueva Ecija Representative Isauro Gabaldon—was enacted in December 20, 1907. Titled *An Act Providing for an Appropriation of One Million Pesos for the Construction of Schools in the Barrios Under Certain Conditions*, the law became better known as the *Gabaldon Act of 1907*. This Act started the building through the years, of more than 3,000 school buildings throughout the country which are known as Gabaldon Schoolhouses. About half of them are still standing to this day.
4. Witness to historical events and personalities, Gabaldon and other heritage school buildings played a pioneering role in the development of the Philippine public school system. To pay its fitting tribute to these legacy structures, the Department of Education is hereby instituting a *Gabaldon Schoolhouses Day* to be celebrated every December 20.

5. This policy aims to guide the DepEd Central Office, Regional Offices, Schools Division Offices and Schools on the importance of preserving, promoting and celebrating the nation's historical and cultural heritage.
6. For inquiries and/or clarifications relative to the enclosure, please contact the Education Facilities Division, Administrative Service (EFD-AS), located at DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City at email as.efd@deped.gov.ph
7. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Order is desired.

LEONOR MAGTOLIS BRIONES
Secretary

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE BIRTH OF PHILIPPINE
PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS: INSTITUTING AND CELEBRATING
“GABALDON SCHOOLHOUSES DAY”**

I. Rationale

The Republic Act No. 11194 titled *An Act Mandating the Conservation of Gabaldon School Buildings Nationwide, Providing Penalties and Appropriating Funds Therefor* declares the policy of the State to conserve and promote the country’s historical and cultural heritage and resources. This Act shall strengthen its efforts to pursue a more proactive role in the conservation and restoration of built heritage, such as the Gabaldon school buildings, to preserve their architectural, historical and social significance. This policy encourages the different DepEd Offices and schools to pay tribute to celebrate the birth of the Philippine public school buildings.

II. Scope

The Central Office (CO), Regional Offices (ROs), Schools Division Offices (SDOs) and schools shall preserve the architectural, historical and social significance of these Gabaldon school buildings and other heritage structures. The provision of these rules shall apply to:

- School buildings designed and built by the Bureau of Architecture and Construction of Public Buildings for the Bureau of Education from 1910 to 1940;
- Ancillary structures integral to the Gabaldon school buildings; and
- Other heritage structures within the school complex.

III. Policy Statement

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11194 otherwise known as the *Gabaldon School Building Conservation Act*, this policy aims to conserve, preserve and commemorate the importance of the Gabaldon school buildings and other school heritage structures. This policy will warrant the commemoration of Gabaldon school buildings and other heritage structures.

IV. Procedures

As provided in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 11194, DepEd in consultation with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and National Museum of the Philippines (NMP), shall implement a program for the identification and conservation of all Gabaldon school buildings nationwide.

The DepEd CO would consolidate the list of schools as identified by the SDOs to be included as a Gabaldon School Building or Heritage School Building.

The DepEd would inform the RO/SDO on their participation to the “Gabaldon Schoolhouses Day” to be celebrated every 20th day of December.

Strands of the Office of the Undersecretary for Administration (OUA) and Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations (OUFO) are hereby directed to come up with programs, activities, and events for the celebration of a Gabaldon Heritage Week to be held within December 1-20, and to submit proposals to the Secretary within one (1) month of the release of this Order.

The ROs and SDOs shall ensure the celebration of the Gabaldon Heritage Week by commemorating and disseminating office memorandum to their respective areas.

The schools shall also observe the celebration of the Gabaldon Heritage Week.

V. Monitoring and Evaluation

The OUA and OUFO shall monitor the observance of the Gabaldon Heritage Week at the ROs and SDOs.

The SDOs through the School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD) shall monitor the celebration of the Gabaldon Heritage Week at the school level to be reported to the OUA and OUFO.

VI. References

Republic Act No. 10066 – National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009
Republic Act No. 10533 – Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013
Republic Act No. 11194 – Gabaldon School Buildings Conservation Act

VII. Effectivity/Transitory Provision

This Order shall take effect immediately upon its approval. Provisions and other previous issuances which are inconsistent with this Order are hereby repealed.