



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE - SCIENCE CITY OF MUNOZ

22 September 2026

SCHOOLS DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 319, s. 2026

**SEARCH FOR BEST TEACHER STORIES AND HEROES AMONG US AND KATEACHER
DUET COMPETITION A DISSEMINATION OF RM 333 & 334, s. 2026
RE: PARTICIPATION TO WORLD TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION**

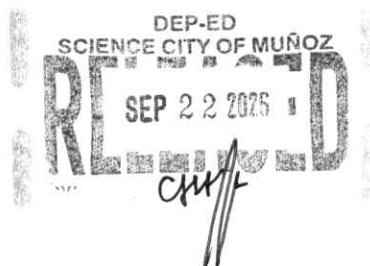
To: Chief Education Supervisors
All Private, Public Elementary and Secondary Schoolheads
All Others Concerned

1. Attached are the RM. 333 s. 2026 entitled Teachers Assembly for Quality Learning Cum World Teachers' Day Celebration and RM. 334 s. 2026 Re: Submission of Nominees for the I Respond Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague- Heroes Among Us.
2. Relative to this, all interested teachers are encouraged to submit their entries on or before September 24, 2026.
3. For clarification, you may contact the Division Partnership Focal Person through lamberto.corpuz@deped.gov.ph or at cellphone number 0935 631 0043.
4. For information and strict compliance.

JOHANNA N. GERVACIO PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

Encl: As stated
Reference: RM 333 & 334 s. 2026

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:
WORLD TEACHER'S DAY CELEBRATION
LPCSepts-Search for Best Stories
06smme 09/22/2026

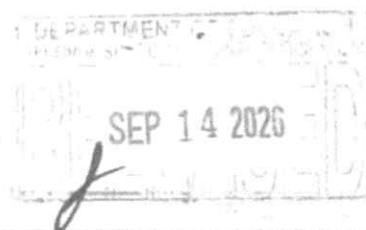


Address: Brgy. Rizal, Science City of Muñoz, 3119

Email Address: munozscience.city@deped.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III-CENTRAL LUZON



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **333**, s. 2026

TEACHERS ASSEMBLY FOR QUALITY LEARNING CUM WORLD TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Chiefs, School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)
Division Partnership Focal Persons
Public and Private Schools Heads/Administrators
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Proclamation No. 242 series of 2011, declaring the period from September 05 to October 05 of every year as "National Teachers' Month" to commemorate teachers' pivotal role in shaping the future by nurturing learners and driving educational progress, this Office will conduct the **Teachers Assembly for Quality Learning Cum World Teachers' Day Celebration** on **October 1, 2026** at **East Gate Convention Center, City of San Fernando, Pampanga**.

2. The objectives of this activity are the following:

- a. Recognize and honor the dedication, commitment, sacrifices, and exemplary contributions of teachers in advancing quality, accessible, inclusive, and learner-centered basic education in Central Luzon;
- b. Provide a meaningful avenue for fellowship and appreciation that promotes positive relationships, a sense of belonging, and a supportive culture for our teachers;
- c. Strengthen teachers' morale and professional pride by providing meaningful opportunities for appreciation and celebration of their outstanding accomplishments and contributions to learners, and schools; and
- d. Showcase their talents that promote a safe, healthy, respectful and enabling work environment where teachers feel valued and appreciated.

3. The target participants are the following. The allotted attendees per Schools Division Office is **26 participants**. Furthermore, the Division Partnership Focal Persons are requested to encode the list of participants using the attached template through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/Region3-WTD-Celeb> on or before September 28, 2026.

- a. Schools Division Superintendents
- b. Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
- c. Chiefs, Curriculum Implementation Division



Address: Matalino St. D.M. Government Center, Maimpis,
City of San Fernando (P)
Telephone Number: (045) 598-8580 to 89
Email Address: region3@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://region3.deped.gov.ph>





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III-CENTRAL LUZON

Guidelines and Mechanics for Kwento ni Ma'am at Sir: A Celebration of Stories, Dedication, and Excellence"

Guidelines and Mechanics

1. This contest is open to all teachers in the Region, whether it comes from public or private schools.
2. Each School Division Office is requested to submit 1 entry of Kwento ni Ma'am at Sir: A Celebration of Stories, Dedication, and Excellence". The story must be original and based on the teacher's genuine experience.
3. The entry/story shall present one original and authentic story based on the experience of a teacher. The story may focus on the following:
 - The teacher made a meaningful impact on the learner/s;
 - A challenge in teaching that was successfully overcome;
 - A memorable teaching experience that provided an important life lesson;
 - An experience that demonstrated compassion and concern for a learner/s and a co-teacher/s;
 - A professional or personal achievement resulting from dedication to teaching, and;
 - An experience that best exemplifies the qualities of a Marangal at Mahusay na Guro.
4. The entry shall submit a storytelling video with a minimum time of 1.5 minutes and a maximum duration of 3.0 minutes. The video must clearly present the teacher's personal and professional story and demonstrate its connection to the theme, "Marangal at Mahusay na Guro" however, exceeding the maximum time limit, 1 point deduction for every 1 second in the final score.
5. Each School Division Office through their Division Partnership Focal Person is requested to submit the recorded video of their entry on Kwento ni Ma'am at Sir: A Celebration of Stories, Dedication, and Excellence" in a MP4 or MOV file recorded in 1080p resolution at 60 frames per second (fps), film horizontally in landscape mode on or before September 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. via this email address at ginnojhep.pacquiring@deped.gov.ph.
6. The top 3 entries, in no particular order shall present during the Regional Celebration of World Teachers Day on October 1, 2026 in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga. After the presentation, their place/rank will be announced. The top 3 entries will be communicated through an advisory a day before the event.
7. The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and irrevocable.

Cash Prize

Winners shall receive the following while non-winning entries will receive a certificate of participation.

1 st place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 10,000.00
2 nd place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 7, 000.00
3 rd place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 5,000.00



Address: Matalino St. D.M. Government Center, Maimpis,
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Republic of the Philippines
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REGION III-CENTRAL LUZON

Guidelines and Mechanics for KaTeacher Duet Singing Competition

Guidelines and Mechanics

1. The KaTeacher Duet Singing competition is open to all currently employed DepEd teachers in the Region.
2. Each School Division Office is requested to submit 1 entry for KaTeacher Duet Singing competition which is composed of 2 teachers, the duo may be composed of any gender combination whether it comes from one school or from different public or private schools.
3. The KaTeacher Duet Singing competition shall sing a minimum of 3.0 minutes and a maximum of 5.0 minutes, however, exceeding the maximum performance time, 1 point deduction for every 1 second in the final score.
4. Each entry/duo shall choose their own competition music and appropriate for the event. The competition music must not contain lewd, inappropriate or offensive language.
5. The entry/duos may divide the song into solo parts, sing together, or use harmonization.
6. Simple choreography and appropriate props are allowed.
7. Costumes may be used but required.
8. Each School Division Office through their Division Partnership Focal Person is requested to submit the recorded video of their entry on KaTeacher Duet Singing competition in a MP4 or MOV file recorded in 1080p resolution at 60 frames per second (fps), film horizontally in landscape mode on or before September 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. through this email address at ginnojhep.pacquing@deped.gov.ph.
9. The top 3 entries/duos, in no particular order shall compete live during the Regional Celebration of World Teachers Day on October 1, 2026 in the City of San Fernando, Pampanga. The top 3 entries will be communicated through an advisory a day before the event.
10. The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and irrevocable, Furthermore, judges shall not disclose individual scores or engage in discussions with competing entries during the live performance/competition.

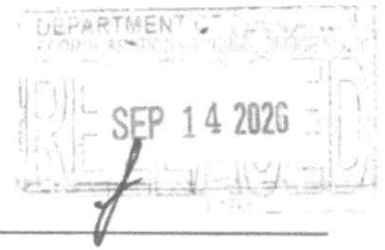
Cash Prize

Winners shall receive the following while non-winning entries will receive a certificate of participation.

1 st place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 10,000.00
2 nd place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 7,000.00
3 rd place + plaque	>>>>>> Php. 5,000.00



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III-CENTRAL LUZON



REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 334, s. 2026

SUBMISSION OF NOMINEES FOR THE 2026 I RESPOND CAMPAIGN: MY MENTOR, MY COLLEAGUE – HEROES AMONG US

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Chiefs, School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD)
Division Partnership Focal Persons
Public and Private Schools Heads/Administrators
All Others Concerned

1. In line with the celebration of the 2026 National Teachers' Month, the EastWest Rural Bank (EWRB) will conduct the **2026 I Respond Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague – Heroes Among Us**. This activity aims to recognize and honor teacher's initiative to improve learning outcomes, leadership, innovation, and their services that have created meaningful impact within schools and communities.

2. All the Schools Division Offices (SDOs) are encouraged to submit/encode one pair of their nominees, to wit:

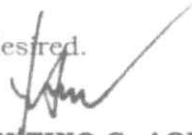
a. 1 Nominee (Teacher awardee) and 1 Nominator (teacher Colleague)

3. The Division Partnership Focal Person is requested to encode their nominees via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/EWRB-IRespondCamp> on or before September 30, 2026. Winners will be recognized during the EastWest Rural Bank's Anniversary in November 2026.

4. Nominees have the opportunity to participate in the EWRB's Flagship Programs for Teachers namely: GuroWAIS Financial Literacy Program and GuroWAIS Magenda Mentors.

6. For inquires and concerns, you may directly coordinate with **Mr. Joemel T. Malit**, EWRB Division Leader via his email address at JTMalit@eastwestbanker.com or through his mobile numbers: 0998-843-7524

7. For widest dissemination of this memorandum is desired.


TOLENTINO G. AQUINO
Regional Director

Encl.: Letter from EWRB
References: Letter from EWRB
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

TEACHERS CONTEST
ESSD 1/app1
September 14, 2026



Address: Matalino St. D.M. Government Center, Mampis,
City of San Fernando (P)
Telephone Number: (045) 598-8580 to 89
Email Address: region3@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://region3.deped.gov.ph>





September 11, 2026

RD TOLETINO G. AQUINO CESO III

Regional Director

Department of Education - Region III

Diosdado Macapagal Government Center, San Fernando, 2000 Pampanga, Philippines

Subject: Participation in the 2026 I RESPOND Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague - Heroes Among Us

Dear Director Aquino,

Greetings of goodwill!

In celebration of National Teachers' Month 2026, EastWest Rural Bank (EWRB) is pleased to launch the **2026 I RESPOND Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague - Heroes Among Us**, a teacher recognition initiative that honors educators whose leadership, innovation, and service have created meaningful impact within their schools and communities.

In line with this, we respectfully seek the support of your office in disseminating the program and encouraging participation from the Schools Division Offices under your jurisdiction.

To promote broader representation across the region, each Schools Division Office may endorse nominee-pairs composed of:

- One (1) Nominee (Teacher Awardee)
- One (1) Nominator (Teacher Colleague)

Endorsed entries shall undergo the prescribed evaluation process, and the region's official nominee-pairs shall be endorsed for final judging under the campaign.

The program also integrates EWRB's **GuroWAIS Financial Literacy Program**, which aims to equip participating educators with practical financial knowledge while recognizing outstanding educators as future **GuroWAIS Magenta Mentors**.

The selected Regional Grand Winners shall be recognized during the **I RESPOND Campaign: Heroes Among Us Recognition Ceremony 2026**, to be held in celebration of EastWest Rural Bank's Anniversary in November 2026.

Attached for your reference are the following:

1. Campaign Overview and Program Brief (Exhibit B)
2. Nomination Form (Annex A)
3. Data Privacy and Social Media Posting Consent Form (Annex B)

For questions or coordination, please contact:

EWRB Division Leader: Joemel T. Malit

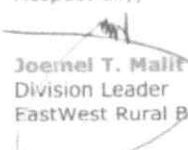
Mobile Number: 0998-843-7524

Email Address: JTMalit@eastwestbanker.com

We look forward to partnering with the Department of Education in recognizing educators whose initiatives continue to inspire meaningful change and positive impact in their schools and communities.

Thank you very much for your continued support and participation.

Respectfully,


Joemel T. Malit
Division Leader
EastWest Rural Bank

Data Privacy and Social Media Posting Consent Form

My Mentor, My Colleague: Heroes Among Us *National Teachers' Month 2026 | I Respond Campaign*

We, the undersigned, voluntarily agree to participate in the **2026 I RESPOND Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague: Heroes Among Us** initiated by EastWest Rural Bank (EWRB) in celebration of National Teachers' Month 2026.

We understand that this campaign recognizes educators whose initiatives, leadership, and service have created meaningful impact within their schools and communities.

By signing this form, we freely and voluntarily agree to the following:

1. Data Privacy Consent

We authorize EastWest Rural Bank to collect, store, process, and use the personal information, photographs, submitted documents, impact stories, videos, and other materials that we voluntarily provide solely for purposes related to this campaign, including:

- Eligibility verification and evaluation;
- Documentation and administration of the campaign;
- Awarding and recognition activities;
- Preparation of communication and publicity materials; and
- Internal and external reporting requirements.

All information shall be processed in accordance with applicable data privacy regulations and EastWest Rural Bank's internal policies.

2. Social Media and Publicity Consent

We grant permission to EastWest Rural Bank to use, reproduce, publish, and share our names, photographs, submitted stories, initiative descriptions, video materials, and related campaign content for communication, publicity, advocacy, and promotional purposes.

These materials may appear on:

- EastWest Rural Bank's official social media platforms;
- EastWest Rural Bank website;
- Internal and external communication materials;
- Press releases and media features;
- Event presentations and promotional materials related to the campaign; and
- Other official communication channels of EastWest Rural Bank.

3. Recognition and Event Participation Consent

Should the nominee be selected as a winner, we consent to participate in campaign-related recognition activities, interviews, photo documentation, video

documentation, and other official activities associated with the **I RESPOND Campaign: Heroes Among Us Recognition Ceremony 2026.**

4. Ownership and Authenticity of Submission

We certify that all information, stories, photographs, supporting documents, and other materials submitted under this campaign are true, accurate, and, to the best of our knowledge, our original work or have been provided with proper authorization.

5. Voluntary Participation

We acknowledge that participation in this campaign is voluntary and that we have read and understood the contents of this consent form before signing.

CONSENT AND SIGNATURES

Nominee	Nominator
Signature Over Printed Name	Signature Over Printed Name
Date: _____	Date: _____

FOR EWRB USE ONLY

Details	Information
Region	
Schools Division Office	
Nomination Control Number	
Date Received	
Received By	

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The **2026 I RESPOND Campaign: My Mentor, My Colleague: Heroes Among Us** is EastWest Rural Bank's annual teacher recognition initiative in celebration of **National Teachers' Month 2026**.

The campaign seeks to recognize educators whose leadership, innovation, and service have created meaningful impact within their schools and communities.

Aligned with the spirit of the Department of Education's **DepEd Heroes Initiative**, the program celebrates teachers who go beyond their classroom responsibilities and exemplify positive change through community-centered initiatives.

The campaign also integrates EastWest Rural Bank's **GuroWAIS Financial Literacy Program**, providing participating educators an opportunity to strengthen their financial knowledge and become advocates of financial literacy within their respective communities.

Outstanding awardees shall be recognized as **GuroWAIS Magenta Mentors** and will be invited to the **I RESPOND Campaign: Heroes Among Us Recognition Ceremony 2026** in November 2026.

OBJECTIVES

The campaign aims to:

- Recognize teachers whose initiatives have positively impacted their schools and communities.
- Highlight inspiring stories of leadership, innovation, mentorship, and service.
- Promote the Bank's I RESPOND values through meaningful educator recognition.
- Strengthen collaboration between EastWest Rural Bank and the Department of Education.
- Encourage financial literacy advocacy through the GuroWAIS Program.

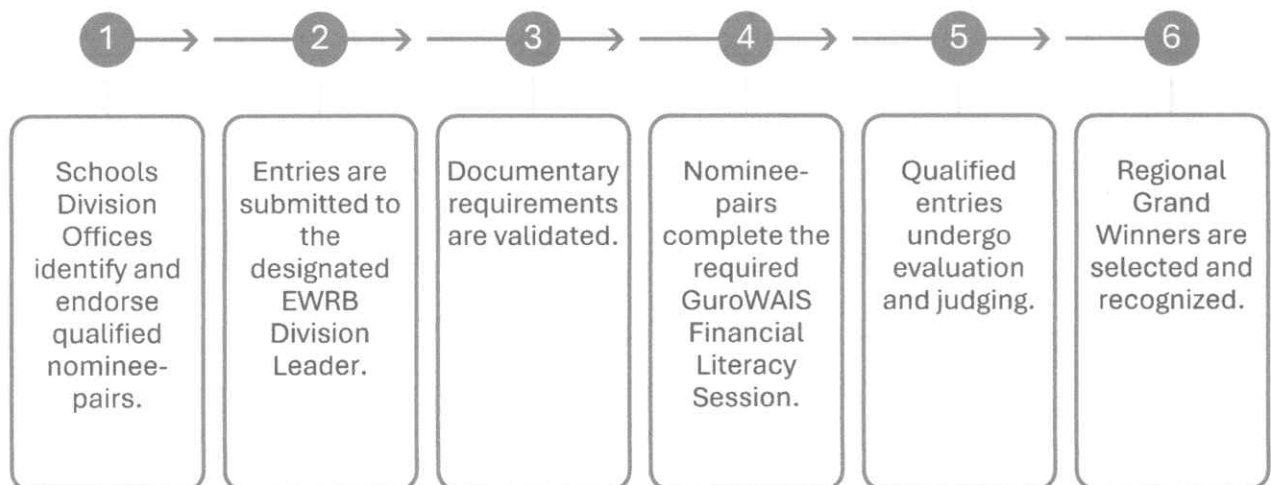
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for nomination, the nominee must:

- ✓ Be a current teaching personnel of the Department of Education.
- ✓ Be nominated by a fellow teacher colleague.
- ✓ Have implemented, led, or significantly contributed to an initiative that created positive impact within a school or community.

- ✓ Have been recognized, endorsed, or validated through a DepEd-related initiative, program, or recognition at the school, district, division, regional, or national level.
 - ✓ Complete the required GuroWAIS Financial Literacy Session.
 - ✓ Submit all documentary requirements within the prescribed submission period.
-

NOMINATION PROCESS



REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Each nomination must include:

1. **Nomination Form (Annex A)**
2. **Data Privacy and Social Media Posting Consent Form (Annex B)**
3. **Supporting Documents**
 - Certificates
 - Endorsements
 - Validations
 - Recognitions
 - Related documentation

4. High-Resolution Photos

- One (1) solo photo of the nominee
- One (1) photo of the nominee and nominator

5. Impact Story Write-Up (Minimum of 500 words)

The write-up should discuss:

- Background of the initiative
- Problem or need addressed
- Key activities implemented
- Beneficiaries reached
- Outcomes achieved
- Community impact
- Leadership journey
- Sustainability efforts

6. Proof of Initiative Implementation and Impact

Examples include:

- News articles or published features
- Social media posts
- Website or project page links
- Video documentation
- Testimonials
- Activity photos
- Attendance reports
- Impact reports
- Awards and recognitions received

GUROWAIS FINANCIAL LITERACY SESSION

All nominee-pairs must complete at least one (1) GuroWAIS learning session covering topics such as:

- Budgeting and Cash Flow Management
- Savings and Emergency Fund Planning
- Debt Management
- Responsible Borrowing
- Financial Goal Setting
- Basic Investment Awareness

Sessions shall be conducted virtually through schedules provided by EastWest Rural Bank.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Weight	Description
Impact of Initiative to Community or Others	50%	Extent to which the initiative produced meaningful, measurable, and positive impact on beneficiaries and stakeholders.
Alignment with I RESPOND Values	25%	Demonstration of responsiveness, service excellence, compassion, commitment, and other I RESPOND values.
Leadership and Innovation	15%	Creativity, initiative, resourcefulness, and leadership displayed during implementation.
Storytelling and Inspirational Value	10%	Effectiveness in communicating the journey and inspiring others through the nominee's story.
TOTAL	100%	

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

REGIONAL GRAND WINNER

- ✓ **One (1) Awardee per Region** (18 Awardees Nationwide)

Awardee	Nominator
• ₱5,000 Cash Prize • Brand New Tablet • Certificate of Recognition • Feature Story on EWRB Official Communication Platforms • Designation as an Official GuroWAIS Magenta Mentor • Invitation to the I RESPOND Campaign:	• ₱2,000 Cash Prize • Certificate of Recognition • Feature Story on EWRB Official Communication Platforms

Heroes Among Us
Recognition Ceremony
2026

REGIONAL FINALISTS (CONSOLATION)

Nominee	Nominator
• ₱2,000 Cash Prize • Digital Certificate of Recognition	• ₱1,000 Cash Prize • Digital Certificate of Recognition

MOST INNOVATIVE AWARD

Selected from among the Regional Grand Winners.

Award includes:

- ₱50,000 EWRB Project Support Donation for initiative expansion or mobilization (subject to applicable guidelines)
- Certificate of Recognition
- Feature Story on EWRB Official Communication Platforms

RECOGNITION CEREMONY

The eighteen (18) Regional Grand Winners shall be invited to attend the:

I RESPOND CAMPAIGN: HEROES AMONG US RECOGNITION CEREMONY 2026

The ceremony shall be held during EastWest Rural Bank's Anniversary Celebration in **November 2026**.

The event serves as the culminating activity of the campaign and recognizes educators whose initiatives have created meaningful and lasting impact in their schools and communities.

EWRB shall provide:

- Roundtrip transportation
- Hotel accommodation, if applicable
- Meals during the event
- Awards and recognition materials