DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 026, s. 2017

To: PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS
DIVISION OFFICE PERSONNEL

From: ALLAN G. FARKAZO, Ph.D, CESO IV
Regional Director IV, Concurrent SDS

Subject: Mandatory Use of Lead-Safe Paints in Schools

Date: January 20, 2017

1. Per DepEd Memorandum No. 85, s. 2016 entitled Use of Lead-Free Paint in Schools which is strengthened by the DepEd Order No. 4, s. 2017 entitled Mandatory Use of Lead-Safe Paints in Schools, this office mandates the use of only lead-safe coatings or paints to all pre-school, elementary and secondary schools in the anticipation of the phase-out deadline for lead-added architectural, decorative and household paints by January 1, 2017.

2. Use of independently certified lead-safe paints/ coatings shall be mandatory to all painting and/ or repainting works of:
   a. School facilities;
      i. Building such as classrooms, toilets, library, clinic, offices
      ii. Amenities such as playgrounds, covered courts and the like
      iii. Other structures such as gate, fence, and the like
   b. Furniture such as tables, chairs and cabinets;
   c. Fixtures such as blackboards;
   d. Learning materials such as learning aids, school supplies and toys; and
   e. Tools and equipment

3. In case of renovation of school buildings and other facilities and restoration of school furniture and fixtures, the guidelines set by the Philippines Association of Paint Manufacturers (PAPM) shall be strictly observed for proper removal and disposal of lead paints to prevent the generation and dispersal of lead containing dust that children may ingest or inhale. Guidelines of PAPM can be accessed through: http://pampaints.org/news.html.

4. The mandate also applies to paint-coated goods or products (furniture, fixtures, learning materials, tools and equipment) directly procured by the school as well as those sourced by other means such as through individual, group, corporate or local government donations.

5. All products donated or sold to schools such as, but not limited to, paints bags, school supplies and furnishing by commercial and non-commercial establishments, as well as concerned individuals, shall be in compliance with the DERN AO 2013-24 and other relevant lead-related regulations.

6. For information, guidance and immediate compliance.