



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION X – NORTHERN MINDANAO
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY

February 10, 2023

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 089, s. 2023

**INTENSIFICATION OF THE DAILY HANDWASHING WITH SOAP
ACTIVITY IN SCHOOLS**

To: Elementary and Secondary School Heads/Principal
Public / Private School Teachers
School WinS Coordinators
School Clinic Teachers
School Health Personnel
All others concerned

1. Relative to RM No. 56, s. 2023, this office announces the Intensification of the daily **handwashing with soap activity in schools to Prevent Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)**.
2. The DOH, through the Center for Disease Control (CDC), cited the widespread of this very contagious viral disease, which is most common in children and if not prevented it will quickly spreads in schools. It has been noted that there is an increasing number of HFMD affected learners in some parts of the country. The disease is transmissible through person-person contact like hugging, kissing, sharing of utensils, respiratory droplets (e.g., sneezing and coughing) and touching contaminated surfaces and objects. Signs and Symptoms include fever, sores in the mouth, hands, palms, fingers, and soles.
3. For this reason, this office requires all schools to intensify daily handwashing with soap activity and adapt the DOH Recommendations:
 - Ensure that handwashing facilities in all schools are utilized and always functional with the availability of soap and water.
 - Coordinate with Local Chief Executive, through the Disinfection Team for regular disinfection of classrooms and school offices.





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- Utilize all locally available information and campaign materials, including the DOH Playbooks for schools on Hand Hygiene and Sanitation.
 - Intensify information dissemination on proper handwashing to students, teachers, and all school personnel.
 - Inform parents of the Learners to also monitor other family members for signs and symptoms and seek immediate medical advice when these are present.
4. This Office shall adhere to Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP) in the conduct of this activity. Hence, all decisions and actions shall be based solely on the guidelines set forth, with no discrimination on the account of age, ethnicity, gender, marital status, religion and political affiliation.
5. For immediate dissemination.

DR. VICTOR G. DE GRACIA JR., CESO V
Asst. Regional Director/Concurrent
Schools Division Superintendent

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

SGOD/FMG

