

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

January 10, 2025

DIVISION MEMORANDUM  
 No. 012, s. 2025

DIVISION INTENSIVE TRAINING to CAMPUS JOURNALISTS  
 and SCHOOL PAPER ADVISERS cum SELECTION of QUALIFIERS  
 to the 2025 REGIONAL SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent  
 Chiefs of CID and SGOD  
 Education Program Supervisors  
 All Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads  
 All Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Teachers  
 Others concerned  
 This Division

1. In adherence to **Republic Act 7079** known as “**Journalism Act of 1991**” and in reference to **Regional Memorandum No. 823, s. 2024** re **2025 Regional Festival of Talents (RFOT)** and **Regional Schools Press Conference (RSPC)** with the theme **Talento at Husay ng Bagong Henerasyon para sa Progresibong Rehiyon** and **Regional Memorandum No. 917, s. 2024** re **Regional School Paper Contest**, the field is hereby informed of the **Division Intensive Training for Campus Journalists cum Selection of Qualifiers to the 2025 Regional Schools Press Conference** which will be held on January 17-18, 23-25, 31, 2025 at the Conference Room, Diamond Building, El Salvador City Division.

2. The activity aims to

- demonstrate understanding of the importance of journalism by expressing it through different journalistic endeavors and approaches,
- sustain advocacy on social consciousness and environmental awareness,
- provide a venue for an enriching learning experience for students interested in journalism as a career or those who intend to use skill sets learned through campus journalism to give them a better edge in their chosen careers,
- promote responsible journalism and fair and ethical use of social media, and
- enhance journalistic competence through healthy and friendly competitions.

3. Moreover, the schools are hereby directed to observe the following schedule of activities:

Phase	Specific Activities	Target Date	Persons Involved
Pre-Implementation	Submission of list of campus journalists and coaches specifying event and medium per participant. (Refer to item 4 for the details of events.)	January 15 - 16, 2025	School journalism coordinator, school head, education program supervisor





<b>Phase</b>	<b>Specific Activities</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Persons Involved</b>
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Conduct of 5-Day Intensive Training for Campus Journalists (Face-to-face)</li> <li>➤ Layouting and submission of School Paper</li> </ul>	January 18, 23-25, 30, 2025 every 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Campus Journalists, Coaches, Division Pool of Trainers, Education Program Supervisors
Post Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Selection of the Top 1 Campus Journalist per event</li> <li>➤ Announcement of the Qualifiers to the 2025 Regional Schools Press Conference</li> </ul>	January 31, 2025	Trainers, Judges and Education Program Supervisors

4. Each school may join in any or all of the following

a. Individual Contests

- i. News Writing
- ii. Feature Writing
- iii. Editorial Writing
- iv. Sports Writing
- v. Copyreading and Headline Writing
- vi. Science and Technology Writing
- vii. Photojournalism
- viii. Editorial Cartooning
- ix. Column Writing

b. School Paper Contest (Elementary and Secondary, in Portable Document Format)

- i. News section
- ii. Features section
- iii. Editorial section
- iv. Science and technology section
- v. Sports section
- vi. Layout and page design

c. Search for Outstanding School Paper Advisers (SPAs) and Campus Journalists (CJs)

5. There shall be one entry for every event per school. The learner-participant shall be certified by the school head as bonafide and officially enrolled for the School Year 2024-2025.

6. All participating schools are advised to submit to the Division Office the School Paper Entry on January 30, 2025.


7. A prework activity for all coaches, division pool of trainers and members of TWG shall be held at the Division Conference Room, Diamond Building, El Salvador City on January 17, 2024 at 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.





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**REGION X – NORTHERN MINDANAO**  
**SCHOOLS DIVISION OF EL SALVADOR CITY**

8. The participants are advised to bring their own provisions like meals or snacks and the needed paraphernalia for their respective contest events. The school shall take care of their participants' provision for travel, allowance, and food.
9. Further, teacher's participation shall be subject to the no-disruption of classes policy stipulated in DepEd Order No. 9, s. 2005 titled Instituting Measures to Increase Engaged Time-on-Task and Ensuring Compliance therewith, Republic Act No. 5546 (Section 3 – Policy on Contributions), and DepEd Order No. 66, s. 2017 (Policy on Off-Campus Activities); hence, school heads must ensure that classes will be taken cared of and the teacher-participants must ensure that activities are well-prepared for their learners' task.
10. The teacher-participants are entitled to service credits, while other division personnel who are a member of the Technical Working Group (TWG) shall be entitled to compensatory time-off (CTO) when any of the training schedules fall during declared holidays, regular official holidays, and weekends.
11. Attached are the copies of regional memoranda for guidance and information.
12. This Office shall adhere to Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP) in receiving the General Plan of Activities and Attending to clarification/queries relative to the abovementioned activity. Hence, all decisions and actions shall be based on guidelines set forth, with no discrimination on the account of age, gender, identity, sexual orientation, civil status, disability, religion, ethnicity or political affiliation.
13. This Office directs the immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum.

  
**RANDOLPH B. TORTOLA**  
Schools Division Superintendent

ATCH: As stated  
Reference:

RM No. 823, s. 2024  
RM No. 917, s. 2024

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

CURRICULUM

TRAININGS

RE: Division Intensive Training to Campus Journalists and School Paper Advisers cum Selection of Qualifiers to the 2025 Regional Schools Press Conference

CID/mrv



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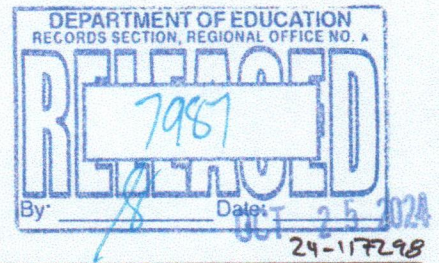
**Transforming Schools,  
Forging Partners**







Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO



October 17, 2024

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
No. 823, s. 2024

2025 REGIONAL FESTIVAL OF TALENTS (RFOT)  
AND REGIONAL SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE (RSPC)

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
All Others Concerned

1. This Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), in coordination with the host Division of Lanao del Norte, will hold the joint conduct of the **2025 Regional Festival of Talents (RFOT)** and **Regional Schools Press Conference (RSPC)** with the theme **Talento at Husay ng Bagong Henerasyon para sa Progresibong Rehiyon** on March 11-14, 2025.

2. The 2025 RFOT will showcase different contest packages under the following learning areas and the focal persons:

- |                             |                                  |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a. Sining Tanghalan         | EPS Bienvenido U. Tagolimot, Jr. |
| b. Technolympics            | EPS William C. Agomana           |
| c. Read-A-Thon (English)    | EPS Carlos B. Llamas III         |
| Read-A-Thon (Filipino)      | EPS Armando A. Agustin           |
| d. PopDev                   | EPS John Franklin Dresser        |
| e. Musabaqah                | EPS Carlos B. Llamas III         |
| f. Special Needs Educ. Expo | EPS Romeo V. Balandra II         |
| g. Lingo Star (SPFL)        | EPS Ramon G. Abrera Jr.          |
| h. STEMazing                | EPS Nick C. Pañares              |

3. The RFOT contest packages under Sining Tanghalan this year will be the Category B Events as follows:

- a. Philippine Folk Dance – Elementary Level
- b. Guhit Bulilit – Elementary Level
- c. Likhawitan – Secondary Level
- d. Direk ko, Ganap Mo – Secondary Level
- e. Sineliksik – Secondary Level

4. The RSPC activities will include the following:

- a. Individual Contest (English and Filipino, elementary, and secondary)
  - i. News Writing
  - ii. Features Writing
  - iii. Editorial Writing



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Doc. Ref. Code	Rev
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Effectivity	01.22.24
Page	1 of 1





- iv. Sports Writing
  - v. Copyreading and Headline Writing
  - vi. Science and Technology Writing
  - vii. Photojournalism
  - viii. Editorial Cartooning
  - ix. Column Writing
- b. Group Contest
- i. Radio Script Writing and Broadcasting (English and Filipino, elementary & secondary)
  - ii. Collaborative Desktop Publishing (English and Filipino, elementary, and secondary)
  - iii. Online Publishing (English and Filipino, secondary only)
  - iv. TV Script Writing and Broadcasting (English and Filipino, secondary only)
- c. School Paper Contest (English and Filipino, elementary, and secondary, in Portable Document Format)
- i. News Section
  - ii. Features Section
  - iii. Editorial Section
  - iv. Science and Technology Section
  - v. Sports Section
  - vi. Layout and Page Design
- d. Search for Outstanding School Paper Advisers (SPAs) and Campus Journalists (CJs)

5. There shall be one entry for every event per division. The learner-participant shall be certified by the school head as bonafide and officially enrolled for the School Year 2024-2025.

6. The Schools Division Offices (SDOs) shall take care of their participants' provision for travel, allowance, and food, including snacks. The host division shall provide billeting quarters for the delegates from all the divisions.

7. The participants' arrival will be in the morning while the opening program for both RFOT and RSPC will be in the afternoon on **March 11**. The billeting quarters, contest venues, and schedule of events will be announced in a separate memorandum.

8. There will be an orientation of the delegation heads and coaches regarding the contest venues, rehearsal schedules, and blockings after the opening program.

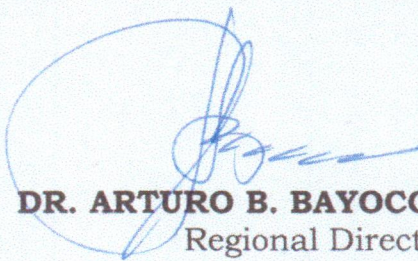


9. Board and lodging and travel expenses shall be charged to local funds or any other available funds, subject to the usual accounting and auditing policies, rules, and regulations.

10. The contest mechanics and guidelines of the 2025 RFOT and RSPC shall be patterned after the national guidelines issued by the Central Office (CO). Please take with you the divisional banners to be used during the opening program.

11. For technical concerns, please contact **Bienvenido U. Tagolimot Jr., PhD**, RFOT coordinator, at 0917-156-4202, and **Armando A. Agustin**, RSPC coordinator, at 096-549-2169

12. This Office directs the immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum.



**DR. ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, CESO III**  
Regional Director

ATCH.: As stated

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

CULTURE AND ARTS

SCHOOL PAPER      CONTESTS

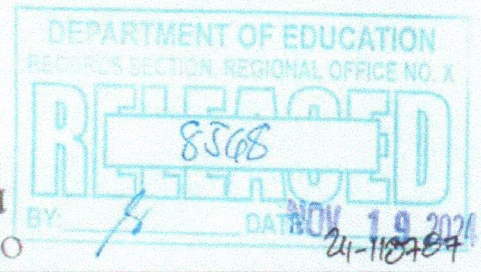
RE:      2025 Regional Festival of Talents (2025 RFOT)  
         2025 Regional Schools press Conference (2025 RSPC)

CLMD/Benz





Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Education**  
REGION X - NORTHERN MINDANAO



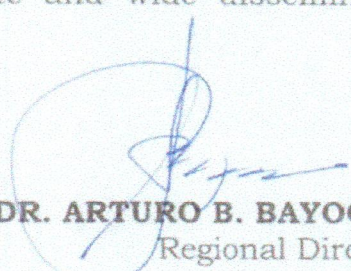
November 8, 2024

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM  
No. 917, s.2024

**REGIONAL SCHOOL PAPER CONTEST**

To: Schools Division Superintendents  
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents  
All Others Concerned

1. To prepare for the 2025 National Schools Press Conference (NSPC), this Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), will be conducting a School Paper Contest (English and Filipino, elementary and secondary, in Portable Document Format) with the following sections:
  - a. News Section
  - b. Features Section
  - c. Editorial Section
  - d. Science and Technology Section
  - e. Sports Section
  - f. Layout and Page Design
2. The deadline of submission for the divisions' entries is February 3, 2025.
3. Please see the attachments for the contest details.
4. This Office directs the immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum.

  
**DR. ARTURO B. BAYOCOT, CESO III**  
Regional Director

ATCH.: As stated  
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

CONTESTS      SCHOOL PAPER

CLMD/mand



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Doc. Ref. Code	Effectivity	Rev.	DT
RO-ORD-1011	01.22.20	Page	1 of 1





## REGIONAL SCHOOL PAPER CONTEST

### GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL PAPER CONTESTS (in Portable Digital Format)

1. The School Paper Contest is open to Elementary and Secondary schools whose school papers belong to the top 5 per section per category in the division.
2. The top 5 highest pointers both in English and Filipino shall be declared as the best school papers; however, the points of their ranking shall not be added to determine the best performing divisions that shall be recognized in the awarding ceremony during the conduct of the RSPC.
3. For any school paper found to have copied and published texts, images, and other materials without duly acknowledging their sources, the following sanctions shall be applied:

**First Offense:** Disqualification from the contest.

**Second Offense:** A formal notification shall be sent to the Schools Division Superintendent (SDS). The SDS shall issue a written reprimand to the school paper adviser/s and the school principal. The concerned school paper adviser shall undergo a refresher course on plagiarism to be organized by the division. Accordingly, the school head shall implement plans and programs on intensifying academic honesty and integrity.

**Third Offense:** Disqualification from the School Paper Contest for three consecutive years.

4. The decision of the Board of Judges in all aspects of the contest shall be deemed final and irrevocable.
5. For the 2025 RSPC, each Schools Division Office (SDO) shall submit five best entries per category in PDF through email at [armando.agustin@deped.gov.ph](mailto:armando.agustin@deped.gov.ph). **ONLY the SDO shall submit the school paper entries.**

The following, properly organized in a folder and labeled (e.g., Buk-News-Eng-Elem), shall be submitted:

- a. Certificate of Circulation signed by the Schools Division Superintendent.



**GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF THE BEST SECTIONS  
AND LAYOUT AND PAGE DESIGN CATEGORIES  
FOR THE SCHOOL PAPER CONTEST**

**A. Editorial Section**

1. The section should have at least two pages and should include the following: main editorial, editorial cartoon, columns, letters to the editor, and commentaries. Opinion polls or surveys may be included, but are not required.
2. The treatment of the issues must demonstrate fair and balanced presentation of both sides of the issue tackled, clear moral purpose, logical reasoning, and proper citations/attribution of sources.
3. Topics found in the section should tackle various international, national, or local issues that may directly or indirectly affect the school or the community the school serves.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

**B. News Section**

1. The section shall consist of at least three pages.
2. The content and scope of the news stories shall cover international, national, regional, community, and school-based news stories.
3. The content of the section may include straight or spot news, advance/follow up report, news bits, news feature, news analysis, and in-depth news/investigative news.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

**C. Feature Section**

1. The section should have at least three pages.
2. The feature articles should display a unique and creative presentation of topics, logical organization of ideas and facts, writers' facility of the language, and proper citations/attribution of sources.
3. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

**D. Sports Section**

1. The section shall consist of at least two pages.
2. The content and scope of the sports articles shall include coverage of international, national, regional, community and school-based sports news stories.
3. The content of the section may include straight or spot news, advance/follow-up report; news bits; news feature/news analysis; in-depth news, features and editorial/column concerning or pertaining to sports.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.



### **E. Science and Technology Section**

1. The Science and Technology Section should have at least two pages.
2. The content may include health, environmental, scientific, technological, and innovative stories written in news, feature, or scientific commentary style. This should also include the economic impact of Science and Technology on the lives of the Filipinos.
3. The articles should be well-researched and should observe proper citation of sources, pictures, and graphics.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

### **F. Layout and Page Design Category**

1. This category shall conform to the principles of layout and design.
2. The content (texts and images) should consider a range of stories about the community and the school, including those of international, national, and local significance.
3. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.



**SCORE SHEET FOR THE NEWS SECTION**

<b>A. Form and Style (40%)</b>	<b>Score</b>
1. Has variety of articles that use catchy and appropriate headlines	
2. Observes the rules of grammar and syntax	
3. Includes stories that are arranged in decreasing importance	
4. Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important detail	
5. Presents headlines that are clear and free of bias	
6. Uses short and simple words	
7. Uses appropriate terms to report events	
8. Utilizes relevant graphs and tables and sharp, properly cropped, and captioned pictures	
9. Presents a distinct style of the section	
<b>B. Content (60%)</b>	
1. Utilizes facts from interviews, document reviews, data analyses and other reliable sources	
2. Covers relevant issues in school, region, national and even in the international level	
3. Prioritizes school-related issues rather than events that have little or no direct connection with the community's educational program	
4. Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, relevant names/facts to bolster credibility of statements and/or narratives	
5. Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy and balance)	
6. Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
<b>Total (100%)</b>	
<b>C. Comments/Suggestions:</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator/Judge  
 (Signature over Printed Name)



**SCORE SHEET FOR THE FEATURES SECTION**

<b>A. Form and Style (40%)</b>	<b>Score</b>
1. Manifests unity and coherence to the theme of the section	
2. Has variety of articles that use catchy and appropriate title	
3. Observes the rules of grammar and syntax	
4. Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important detail	
5. Presents titles that are appealing, appropriate and witty	
6. Utilizes relevant graphs and tables and sharp, properly cropped and captioned pictures	
7. Presents a distinct style of the section	
<b>B. Content (60%)</b>	
1. Utilizes facts from interviews, documents review, data analyses and other reliable sources	
2. Reflects clear and creative thinking	
3. Keeps to the minimum the number of articles/columns from the administration, teachers, and politicians	
4. Covers relevant issues in school, region, national and even in the international level	
5. Applies the principles of civic journalism	
6. Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, relevant names/facts to bolster credibility of statements and/or narratives	
7. Contains articles that are interesting to read	
8. Stirs the imagination of the reader	
9. Balances presentation of details with those of the writers' perception	
10. Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy and balance)	
11. Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
<b>Total (100%)</b>	
<b>C. Comments/Suggestions:</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator/Judge  
 (Signature over Printed Name)



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Effectivity	07.22.24	Page	1 of 1



Certificate No. P107-2024  
 12.11.0001



**SCORE SHEET FOR THE SPORTS SECTION**

<b>A. Form and Style (40%)</b>	<b>Score</b>
1. Manifests unity and coherence	
2. Has variety of articles that use catchy and appropriate headlines	
3. Observes the rules of grammar and syntax	
4. Shows logical presentation of arguments in the sports editorial, feature and/or column	
5. Includes stories that are arranged in decreasing importance	
6. Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important detail	
7. Presents headlines that are clear and free of bias	
8. Uses short and simple words	
9. Utilizes relevant graphs and tables, sharp, properly-cropped and captioned pictures	
10. Uses appropriate terms and lingo to report events	
11. Combines the proper amount of statistics to create a clear visual narrative of the actions	
12. Presents a distinct style of the section	
<b>B. Content (60%)</b>	
1. Utilizes facts from interviews, document reviews, data analyses and other reliable sources	
2. Keeps to the minimum the number of articles/columns from the administration, teachers and politicians	
3. Covers relevant sports issues in school, region, national and even in the international level	
4. Includes variety of local, national, and international sports articles	
5. Prioritizes school-related materials rather than events that have little or no direct connection with the community's educational and athletic program	
6. Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, relevant names/facts to bolster credibility of statements and/or narratives	
7. Contains articles that are timely and interesting to read	
8. Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy and balance)	
Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
<b>Total (100%)</b>	
<b>C. Comments/Suggestions:</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator/Judge  
 (Signature over Printed Name)



**SCORE SHEET FOR LAYOUT AND PAGE DESIGN CATEGORY**

<b>A. Form and Style (70%)</b>	<b>Score</b>
1. Has overall visual appeal	
2. Manifests thematic unity in all sections of the school paper	
3. Utilizes relevant and quality images and graphics	
4. Displays excellent use of color and font	
<b>B. Content (30%)</b>	
1. Considers a range of stories about the community and the school, including those of international, national, and local significance	
2. Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy and balance)	
3. Has no potentially libelous or obscene content, plagiarism, and copyright violations	
<b>Total (100%)</b>	
<b>C. Comments/Suggestions:</b>	

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Evaluator/Judge  
 (Signature over Printed Name)



Attachment No. 9 to Regional Memorandum No. 917, s. 2024

### TIMELINE FOR SCHOOL PAPER CONTEST

Date	Activity
February 3,2025	Submission of the Top 5 Division Entries
February 10-21,2025	Judging of the Top 5 Division Entries
February 24-28,2025	Revision/Enhancement of the Top 5 Regional Entries
March 3,2025	Submission of the Revised/Enhanced School Paper Entries to the Regional Office (RO)
March 7,2025	Submission of the Regional Entries to the Central Office (CO)



- b. Certificate of Endorsement signed by the Schools Division Superintendent certifying all the required documents were submitted to, checked, and reviewed by the SDO prior to submission to the Regional Office (RO).
- c. Report of the process observed in ensuring plagiarized-free articles.
- d. Results of the evaluation of the school paper per category and medium duly signed by the judges during the Division Schools Press Conference (DSPC)

**The Regional Technical Working Group (RTWG) reserves the right to disqualify entries with no Certificate of Endorsement from the Schools Division Superintendent.**

6. The different SECTIONS/CATEGORIES in the school paper contest both English and Filipino are as follows:

- a. News Section / Pahinang Balita
- b. Editorial Section / Pahinang Editorial
- c. Features Section / Pahinang Lathalain
- d. Sports Section / Pahinang Pampalakasan
- e. Science & Technology Section / Pahinang Agham at Teknolohiya
- f. Layout and Page Design Category / Kategoryang Pag-aanyo at Disenyo ng Pahina

7. The Technical Specifications for both Elementary and Secondary levels are as follows:

- a. No. of pages: minimum of 12 and maximum of 20
  - News Section- at least 3
  - Sports Section - at least 2
  - Feature Section - at least 3
  - Editorial Section - at least 2
  - Science & Technology Section - at least 2
- b. Process: Digital
- c. Color: All pages in full color
- d. Size: 9"x12" (Elementary)  
12"x18" (Secondary)

8. Failure to comply with the set guidelines in evaluating school papers will be a ground for disqualification.



Attachment No. 9 to Regional Memorandum No. 917, s. 2024

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