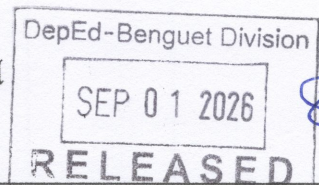




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Cordillera Administrative Region
Schools Division of Benguet



25 August 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 329, s.2026

**2026 DIVISION FESTIVAL OF TALENTS IN GMRC, VALUES EDUCATION AND
MEP -MUSABAQAH**

TO: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
CID and SGOD Chiefs
Public Schools District Supervisors/Public Schools District In-charge
Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 479 s. 1994 which declares the celebration of the Filipino Values Month every November, the Schools Division of Benguet through the Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) shall conduct a Division Festival of Talents (DFOT) in Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC), Values Education, and Madrasah Education Program (MEP) - Musabaqah with the theme: *MATATAG na Puso at Diwa: Inklusibong Pagpapakatao, Determinadong Bayanihan, Positibong Kinabukasan*.

2. The Division Festival of Talents shall be conducted during the end of the Term 2 Block at La Trinidad Central Elementary School, La Trinidad, Benguet. The specific schedule shall be as follows:

- Key Stages 1 and 2 - GMRC - December 15, 2026
- Key Stages 3 and 4 - Values Education - December 14, 2026
- Madrasah Education Program (MEP) Musabaqah- December 14, 2026

2. This activity aims to:

- a. strengthen learners' appreciation and practice of Filipino values;
- b. provide learners with opportunities to showcase their talents, creativity, and understanding of Filipino values through various competitions;
- c. develop learners' confidence, character, and competencies through healthy academic competition; and
- d. strengthen collaboration among schools, parents, guardians, and other stakeholders in promoting values formation.

3. All schools are enjoined to actively participate in the observance of **Filipino Values Month** by integrating the celebration theme into classroom instruction and school activities, conducting values-oriented learning experiences and contests; showcasing learners' talents; producing and displaying advocacy and other advocacy and campaign materials.

4. All District Offices shall conduct district-level competitions in GMRC, Values Education and MEP -Musabaqah, in accordance with the mechanics and guidelines provided in **Enclosure 1**.
5. For **Madrasah Education Program (MEP)-Musabaqah**, the first-place winners in the three (3) contest events during the Division Festival of Talents shall represent the Schools Division of Benguet to the Regional Festival of Talents.
6. The composition of the Technical Working Group (TWG) is provided in **Enclosure 2**.
7. Meals and snacks for the Technical Working Group (TWG), including incentives for the winners shall be charged against the **2026 Provincial Special Education Fund (SEF)**, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations. Travel and other incidental expenses of participants shall be charged from available local funds, subject existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
8. This memorandum shall serve as the Travel Authority of all officially designated participants.
9. Immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

CARMEL F. MERIS

OIC - Schools Division Superintendent

For the OIC- Schools Division Superintendent:

—sgd

NOVER KEITHLEY S. MENTE

OIC- Assistant Schools Division Superintendent

CID-IM/AMD/mbm/ecq/

Enclosure 1: SDO Memorandum No. 329 2026; **2026 DIVISON FESTIVAL OF TALENTS IN GMRC, VALUES EDUCATION AND MEP -MUSABAQAH**

A. General Guidelines for all contest activities

1. Contestants must be officially enrolled in a public or private school within the Schools Division of Benguet for the School Year (SY) 2026-2027.
2. Each contestant shall participate in only one (1) contest category.
3. All contestants, coaches and concerned officials shall strictly adhere to the contest mechanics, criteria and guidelines prescribed for each contest category.
4. The Board of Judges shall determine the winners for each contest category. The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and irrevocable.
5. Certificates of Recognition shall be awarded to the First, Second, and Third Place winners and their respective coaches. All other contestants shall receive Certificates of Participation.
6. Any matter not covered by these guidelines shall be resolved by the Technical Working Group (TWG) in consultation with the Board of Judges, and its decision shall be final.

B. Specific Guidelines for the different events for GMRC and Values Education

1. DOXOLOGY/PRAYER OF PRAISE AND GRATITUDE	
a. The contest is open to learners in Key Stages 1, 2, 3, and 4. b. Contestants shall compose an original Doxology/Prayer of Praise and Gratitude that reflects Filipino values, faith, spirituality, and gratitude, and is appropriate for solemn school and community gatherings. c. The composition must be the contestant's original work and must not have been previously published, performed, or submitted in any other competition. d. All entries shall be written in the Filipino language. e. The composition shall follow the required format according to the contestant's key stage: ▪ Key stage 1: One (1) stanza consisting of three (3) lines ▪ Key stage 2: Two (2) stanzas with four 4 lines each ▪ Key stage 3: Three (3) stanzas with four 4 lines each ▪ Key stage 4: Video presentation subject to the specific guidelines to be issued through a separate memorandum by the Regional Office f. Contestants in Key Stages 1-3 shall be given one (1) hour to compose their entries on the day of the contest. g. After the composition period, contestants in Key Stages 1-3 shall perform their compositions by singing them using a tune or melody of their own choice.	
Criteria for Judging	
1. Content and Relevance to Theme	35%
2. Originality and Creativity	25%
3. Spiritual and Value Orientation	25%
4. Voice quality and stage presence	15%
Total	100%
Descriptors:	
1. Content and Relevance to the Theme (35%) The composition clearly reflects Filipino values, faith, spirituality, and gratitude and is relevant to the theme.	

2. Originality and Creativity (25%) The composition is original and demonstrates creativity in the use of words, style, and melody.	
3. Spiritual and Values Orientation (25%) The composition conveys an inspiring message that promotes faith, gratitude, and positive values.	
4. Vocal Quality and Stage Presence (15%) – The contestant performs the composition with clear diction, proper pitch and intonation, appropriate expression, confidence, and reverence.	
2. COMPOSITION WRITING	
General Guidelines: - Contestants shall write an original reflective essay based on a given topic or personal experience aligned with the theme of the celebration. - The essay shall contain an introduction, body, and conclusion. - Contestants shall observe correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and proper organization of ideas. - Contestants shall be given one (1) hour to write their essays. After the writing period, each contestant shall orally read their essay before the Board of Judges.	
Specific Guidelines:	
Key Stage 1 - Write using simple and clear sentences. - Essay length shall be 150–200 words. - Essays shall be written on the standard writing paper provided for the contestant's grade level.	
Key Stage 2 - Develop ideas with supporting details and relevant examples. - Use varied sentence structures and appropriate transition words. - Essay length shall be 201–250 words. - Essays shall be written on the standard writing paper provided for the contestant's grade level.	
Key Stage 3 - Present well-organized ideas, arguments, or narratives. - Demonstrate critical thinking and originality. - Essay length shall be 251–300 words. - Essays shall be written on the standard writing paper provided for the contestant's grade level.	
Key Stage 4 - Present coherent, well-developed, and insightful ideas supported by appropriate details or examples. - Demonstrate critical thinking, originality, and effective written expression. - Essay length shall be 301–350 words. - Essays shall be written on the standard writing paper provided for the contestant's grade level.	
Criteria for Judging:	Percentage
1. Content and relevance to the theme	35%
2. Organization and structure	25%
3. Language and mechanics	15%
4. Originality and creativity	15%
5. Clarity and effective communication	10%
TOTAL	100%

Descriptors:	
1. Content and Relevance to the Theme (30%) Ideas are meaningful, insightful, and clearly aligned with the contest theme.	
2. Organization and Structure (20%) The essay is logically organized with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion. Ideas are well developed and presented cohesively.	
3. Language and Mechanics (20%) The essay demonstrates correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and appropriate word choice.	
4. Originality and Creativity (15%) The essay presents original ideas and a creative approach in expressing thoughts related to the theme.	
5. Clarity and Effectiveness of Oral Presentation (15%) The contestant reads the essay with clear pronunciation, appropriate expression, fluency, confidence, and effectively conveys its meaning and emotions.	
3. INTERPRETATIVE DANCE	
- Each district shall be represented by one (1) pair of contestants for each key stage level. - Contestants shall perform an interpretative dance using the following prescribed musical selections: *Key Stage 1 (Grades 1–3): <i>Awit ng Pag-asa (Awit Bulilit)</i> *Key Stage 2 (Grades 4–6): <i>Awit ng Pag-asa (Awit Bulilit)</i> *Key Stage 3 (Grades 7–10): <i>Ikaw, Ako, Tayo! Lahat Tayo ay Pilipino</i> *Key Stage 4 (Grades 11–12): <i>Ikaw, Ako, Tayo! Lahat Tayo ay Pilipino</i> - The contest venue shall provide a safe, clear, and unobstructed performance area to ensure the contestants' safety and allow free movement throughout the performance	
Criteria	Percentage
1. Creativity & Choreography	40%
2. Interpretation and Expression	30%
3. Synchronization and coordination	20%
4. Costume and preparation	10%
Descriptors:	
1. Creativity and Choreography (35%) Demonstrates originality, creativity, and effective use of movements, formations, transitions, and performance space	
2. Interpretation and Expression (30%) Effectively interprets the meaning of the music through expressive movements, facial expressions, gestures, and emotions.	
3. Synchronization and Coordination (20%) Shows precision, timing, coordination, and harmony of movements between partners and throughout the performance.	
4. Costume and Overall Presentation (15%) Costumes are appropriate, neat, and relevant to the theme, enhancing the overall visual presentation.	

II. FOR MADRASAH EDUCATION PROGRAM- MUSABAQAH

General Guidelines for all contest activities:

1. The Musabaqah is open to all learners in the public elementary schools who are enrolled and tagged in LIS as ALIVE learners in the current school year.
2. Participants should have registered and complied with the following requirements prior to the activity:
 - a. Certification as Winner in the district level activity.
 - b. Parents' Consent;
 - c. Accomplished Entry Form;
 - d. School Form 10 (for Verification);
 - e. Medical Certificate

1. ARABIC LANGUAGE SPELLING (IMLAH)

COMPONENT AREA	Arabic Language
KEY STAGE	2
Time Allotment –	Easy Round: 10 seconds per word Average Round: 15 seconds per word Difficult Round: 30 seconds per word
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	The learner demonstrates proficiency in Arabic language through accurate spelling, proper handwriting in both nuskah and cursive forms, and correct placement of vowel marks.
21ST CENTURY SKILLS	Communication, Literacy, Global Awareness
Description	Arabic Spelling (Imlah) is an NFOT event category of Musabaqah that showcases learners' listening and writing skills in Arabic Language. Participants demonstrate their ability to accurately spell Arabic words and write them in both nuskah and cursive forms with proper vowel marks.
CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	a. Scoring System: • Easy Round (3-syllable nouns): 1 point per word • Average Round (4-syllable nouns): 2 points per word • Difficult Round (5-syllable nouns): 3 points per word b. Deductions: • Incorrect spelling: 0 points • Missing/incorrect vowel marks: 0.25 points • Improper handwriting form: 0.25 points

Event Rules and Mechanics:

- A.** There shall be one (1) participant per district, **Grade 4**, male or female.
- B.** During the contest proper, the participants shall be seated at the designated area with their whiteboards and markers.
- C.** The competition consists of three rounds:
 - **Easy Round:** 10 words (3-syllable nouns)
 - **Average Round:** 10 words (4-syllable nouns)
 - **Difficult Round:** 10 words (5-syllable nouns)
- D.** The board of judges shall:
 - Determine and prepare the word list for each round prior to the competition.
 - Ensure words are appropriate for the grade level and align with the Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education (ALIVE) curriculum competencies for Grade 4
 - Keep the selected words confidential until the actual competition.
 - Provide three (3) copies of the master list to the DTWG secretariat before the competition proper.
- E.** The medium of instruction shall be Arabic language.
- F.** For each word: -The word will be read twice.

• Participants shall start writing after hearing the word "uktubu". • Participants write in both nuskhah and cursive forms with complete vowel marks															
G. Time limits:															
• Easy Round: 10 seconds per word • Average Round: 15 seconds per word • Difficult Round: 30 seconds per word • Participants must immediately raise their meta-strips after the buzzer.															
H. The scores shall be summed up after each round and posted in the tally board/scoreboard.															
I. In case of appeal, the contestant/official coach may raise the question/clarification immediately after the item before the next word is read. Queries/clarifications done after the entire contest shall not be entertained.															
I. The three participants with the highest total points shall be declared winners. In case of tie:															
• A clincher round shall be conducted between the tied participants only. • Clincher round procedure: The board of judges shall prepare a separate set of two-word phrases specifically for potential clincher rounds. • Phrases will be given one at a time from this clincher phrase list. • Each phrase follows the same format: read twice, 30 seconds to write both nuskhah and cursive forms. • Each correctly spelled phrase with proper vowel marks earns point. • The first participant to score 3 points shall be declared the winner for that ranking. • If no participant reaches 3 points after 5 phrases, the participant with the highest points is clincher round wins. • If still tied after 5 phrases, do or die round begins where the first participant to correctly spell a phrase win. • Separate clincher rounds shall be conducted for each tied ranking (i.e. if there is tie for both first and second place). • The whole proceedings shall be recorded by the DTWG.															
2. ARABIC LANGUAGE- HARF TOUCH															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>COMPONENT AREA</th><th>ARABIC LANGUAGE</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>KEY STAGE</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>Time Allotment –</td><td>One (1) minute</td></tr> <tr> <td>PERFORMANCE STANDARD</td><td>The learner demonstrates proficiency in Arabic language phonemes, phonetics and alphabets by pronouncing the letters correctly with speed and accuracy through cognition and psychomotor.</td></tr> <tr> <td>21ST CENTURY SKILLS</td><td>Literacy Skills, Thinking Skills and, Global Awareness</td></tr> <tr> <td>Description</td><td>Harf Touch is an NFOT event category of Musabaqah that allows blind-folded learner-participants to touch the surface of the illustration board with engraved Arabic letters. Learner-participants are expected to identify, recognize, and pronounce Arabic letters correctly with speed and accuracy within the allotted time. This activity enhances familiarization of the Arabic letter through cognition and psychomotor.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Criteria for Judging</td><td>There shall be one (1) point given for every Arabic letter that is correctly identified and pronounced by learner participants.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		COMPONENT AREA	ARABIC LANGUAGE	KEY STAGE	1	Time Allotment –	One (1) minute	PERFORMANCE STANDARD	The learner demonstrates proficiency in Arabic language phonemes, phonetics and alphabets by pronouncing the letters correctly with speed and accuracy through cognition and psychomotor.	21ST CENTURY SKILLS	Literacy Skills, Thinking Skills and, Global Awareness	Description	Harf Touch is an NFOT event category of Musabaqah that allows blind-folded learner-participants to touch the surface of the illustration board with engraved Arabic letters. Learner-participants are expected to identify, recognize, and pronounce Arabic letters correctly with speed and accuracy within the allotted time. This activity enhances familiarization of the Arabic letter through cognition and psychomotor.	Criteria for Judging	There shall be one (1) point given for every Arabic letter that is correctly identified and pronounced by learner participants.
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Criteria for Judging	There shall be one (1) point given for every Arabic letter that is correctly identified and pronounced by learner participants.														
Event Rules and Mechanics • There shall be one (1) learner-participant per district, Grade 2, male or female • During the contest proper, the learner-participants shall be seated at the designated holding area. They should not see the process undergone by the contestant on stage. • The learner-participants take turns on stage to identify the letters engraved/cut on illustration board within one (1) minute. The facilitator mixes the 28 letters as they take their turns. • There shall be one (1) timekeeper/buzzer, one (1) recorder, one (1) tabulator, and a panel of judges.															

• The timekeeper shall signal the start, and the end of the time allotted for each learner-participant. • Missed letters shall not be counted. • Panel of judges shall confirm the number of the correctly identified Arabic letters. • The recorder tallies the scores. • The corresponding time of each participant shall be flashed on the screen. • The three learner-participants with the highest number of correctly identified Arabic letters in the shortest recorded time shall be declared the winner. There shall be first, second, and third winners. In case of a tie, another round will be administered.				
3. ARABIC LANGUAGE AND ISLAMIC VALUES- QUR'AN READING				
COMPONENT AREA	Arabic Language and Islamic Values			
KEY STAGE	2			
Time Allotment –	Five (5) minutes			
PERFORMANCE STANDARD	The learner demonstrates the proper way to pause, continue and full stop in reading and reciting the verse (Ayah)/chapter (surah) with proper Tajweed, clear voice in Tawasot and stage presence.			
21ST CENTURY SKILLS	Communication, Literacy, Global Awareness			
Description	Qur'an Reading is an NFOT event category of Musabaqah that allows learner-participants to showcase their reading skills while developing their good speech habits. The Qur'an is the material to be used as it is an authentic source of stories and criteria literature for Muslims.			
CRITERIA FOR JUDGING	Criteria		Percentage	
	Tajweed/Pronunciation		40%	
	Tawasot/Chant Sawt/Voice Clarity		30%	
	Sawt/Voice Clarity		20%	
	Hay'ah/Stage Presence		10%	
	TOTAL		100%	
Mechanics: ▪ There shall be one (1) participant per district, Grade 6, male or female. ▪ During the contest proper, the participants shall be seated at the designated holding area. They ▪ should not see the process undergone by the contestant on stage. ▪ The panel of judges shall choose the surah to be read by the learner-participants. ▪ The participants shall read the selected surah in Tawasot. ▪ Participants should wear proper attire (black abayah and white kombong/hijab female and kimon with totob/kopya for male). ▪ The participant shall be seated on the floor with the book stand and use microphone in the actual reading of the selected surah. ▪ The participant shall read the surah or ayah in tawasot within five (5) minutes.				
Rubrics for Qur'an Reading				
Pronunciation 40%	Read the assigned Surah with 11 or more mispronounced letters	Read the assigned Surah with 6-10 missed pronounced letters.	Read the assigned Surah with 2-5 mispronounced letters	Read the assigned Surah with perfect and accurate pronunciation.

Tawasot/Chant Mastery 30%	Read the assigned Surah with 11 and above missed words	Read the assigned Surah with 6-10 missed.	Read the assigned Surah with 2-5 missed words	Read the assigned Surah with perfect and accurate words
Voice Clarity/ Enunciation 20%	Read the assigned Surah with 11 and above unclear words.	Read the assigned Surah with 6-10 unclear words.	Read the assigned Surah with 2-5 missed words Read the assigned Surah with 2-5 words.	Read the assigned Surah with clear and loud voice
Stage Presence 10%	Read the assigned Surah with noticeable least confidence and incomplete attire	Read the assigned Surah with noticeable less confidence and incomplete attire	Read the assigned Surah with confidence but less proper attire	Read the assigned Surah with perfect and accurate words

Enclosure 2: SDO Memorandum No. 329s. 2026; **2026 DIVISON FESTIVAL OF TALENTS IN GMRC, VALUES EDUCATION AND MEP -MUSABAQAH**

DIVISION TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

Category	No.	Elementary _ Key Stages 1-2	Secondary _ Key Stages 3-4
Doxology	1	Brigitte Beray, Tublay District	Sanny D. Dokipen - Bokod
	2	Aileen Adonis - Tuba	Alejandrina, Malute -Bakun
	3	Florida Bagayao, Bakun	Elizabten Dip-asan, - Kibungan
Composition Writing	1	Mea C. Madayag- -Buguias	Ofelia Calpasi- Buguias
	2	Sabina Sagayo. Kibungan	Ferdinand Carantes -Itogon 2
	3	Alicia Anasan -Mankayan	Sharon Domeris - Tublay
Interpretative Dance	1	Gloria Hilario- Bokod	Ferdilyn Laruan – Tuba
	2	Josie S. Cayat, Itogon 2	Gina Lynn O. Cocoy, Atok
	3.	Brinda Amado-Atok	Imelda Mang-osan -Kapangan
	4.	Aide Pe -La Trinidad	Gertrudes D. Cunanan- Itogon 1
	5.	Evangeline Pinong Kapangan	Janice S. Dionesio – Sablan
Progam		Gina D. Panagan, Sablan	Jennifer Bulsao, - Mankayan
Documentation	1.	Vilma M. Depawa, Kabayan	Melin Abad - Kabayan
	2	Agnes Manzano- Itogon I	Abodiles,C onstancia- La Trinidad
	3	Lanie Atos- SDO CID	
Madrasah Education Program -Musabaqah			
Documentation	1.	Lanie Atos- SDO CID	
Board of Judges	1	Saturnina Bacasen- Buguias District	
	2	Rosalina Laureata- La Trinidad District	
	3	Emerson Hadsan- La Trinidad District	
Overseer of all the Activities			
Chairperson:		Carmel F. Meris	OIC - SDS
Co-Chairperson:		Nover Keithley S. Mente	OIC - ASDS
Members:	2	Aladin M. Dobinto PHD	CES-CID
	3	Erlinda C. Quinuan	EPS-GMRC, VE & Div. Coor for MEP