



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
Schools Division of Tabuk City



Reference Number: RU-2026-079

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

October 14, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 463 s. 2026

2026 GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY CELEBRATION

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs
Private and Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Bureau of Learner Support Services - School Health Division - Nutrition and Hygiene Unit (BLSS-SHD-NHU), in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), will spearhead this year's celebration of Global Handwashing Hero Day with its multi-year theme, 'Be a Handwashing Hero.' This global initiative is celebrated every 15th of October which aims to raise awareness about the significance of handwashing with soap as a simple yet effective means to prevent diseases and save lives.

2. In this regard, Division and School WinS Coordinators as well as those who champion WASH across settings are requested to participate by tuning in at the broadcast of the event on October 15, 2026 (Thursday) from 10:30am to 12:00nn via the DepEd Philippines Facebook Page.

3. Schools shall designate a specific time to conduct simultaneous handwashing among learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel, parents and other stakeholders for the celebration of Global Handwashing Day on October 15, 2026, ensuring that classes are not disrupted.

4. Schools may livestream or broadcast the activities through their respective official Facebook pages using the following hashtags:

**#2026GlobalHandwashingDay,
#BeAHandwashingHero, #WASHinSchools,
#ForTheWinS,
#InDepEdWinSEverybodyWins**

5. Schools are also encouraged to cross-post the virtual broadcast of the event via DepEd Philippines Facebook page.

SGOD/SHN



Address: Bulanao Central School Cmpd., Purok 2, Bulanao Norte, Tabuk City, Kalinga
Email: tabuk.city@deped.gov.ph
Website: <https://www.depedtabukcity.com>

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6. Immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is hereby directed.


CHRISTOPHER O. BENIGNO PhD, EdD, CESO VI
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Schools Division Superintendent 

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Annex A

“Be a Handwashing Hero!”

15 October 2026 (Thursday) at 10:30 am - 12:00 nn

(A virtual program in support of the 2026 Global Handwashing Day celebration)

Indicative Program

Time	Duration	Session/Topic	Speaker
Preliminaries and Opening Program			
10:30-10:40 a.m.	10 mins	WinS Promotional Video	Playback Video Emcee
		Opening Remarks	Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
		Message	Roger B. Masapol Assistant Secretary for Governance and Operations - Education Governance
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in the Lens of Public School System			
10:40-11:00 a.m.	20 mins	Sustaining the Gains of the Philippine WASH in Schools (WinS) program and Updates in the Handwashing Initiatives in the Public-School Setting	Dr. Miguel Angelo S. Mantaring Director IV Bureau of Learner Support Services
Clean Hands, Safer and Healthier Learning Institutions			
11:00-11:20 a.m.	20 mins	The New WHO Global Guidelines on Hand Hygiene: What do they mean to WASH in Schools (WinS) program in the Philippines	Mr. Jon Michael Villaseñor UNICEF WASH Officer
Nutrition and Hygiene Unite: #FortheWins			
11:20-11:40 a.m.	20 mins	Linking Nutrition and Hygiene for Better Health	Ms. Elmira Bacatan UNICEF WASH Officer
Promoting WASH Behaviors in Schools Through Engaging Jingles			
11:40-11:50 a.m.	10 mins	Presentation of WASH Jingles of Selected Schools	Emcee AVP
Closing Program			
11:50-12:00 nn	10 mins	Pledge of Commitment Closing	ALL DepEd Regions and Central Office Emcee