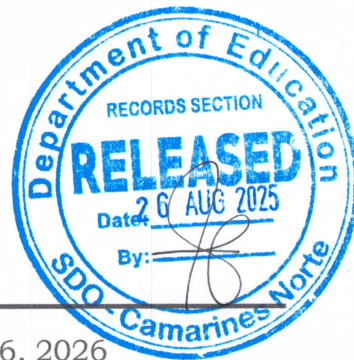




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE



August 26, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 334 , s. 2026

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PISA-BASED TEST FOR SCHOOLS (PBTS)

To: Asst. Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors-CID and SGOD
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisor (SV-SLR District)
Division Information and Technology Officer (ITO)
San Lorenzo Ruiz NHS Principal
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education (DepEd), through the Monitoring and Evaluation Office (MEO), shall administer the **PISA-Based Test for Schools (PBTS) 2026** pursuant to DepEd Memorandum No. 29, s. 2017, and Regional Memorandum No. 1034, s. 2026, which provide the policy and operational guidance for the participation of identified schools and learners in the assessment.

2. The PISA-Based Test for Schools shall be administered within the period of **September 16-22, 2026** at **San Lorenzo Ruiz National High School**, which has been identified as a sampled school, with **fifty-six (56) sampled learners**. All concerned personnel are enjoined to ensure that the school, testing venue, learners, personnel, devices, connectivity, power supply, and other requirements are adequately prepared prior to the scheduled assessment.

3. PBTS project provides a digital assessment activity designed to help school leaders to evaluate 15-year-olds' critical thinking skills and their ability to apply knowledge in real-world contexts. The test includes questions on three cognitive domains: reading, mathematics and science. In view thereof, the Schools Division Office (SDO) shall undertake systematic readiness activities to ensure the smooth, secure, and efficient conduct of the assessment and to minimize operational, technical, and administrative challenges during the testing period.

4. As part of the Division and School Readiness Plan, the following activities and timelines are attached as Enclosure to this Memorandum and shall serve as the guide for the systematic preparation and implementation of the PBTS:

- a. Enclosure 1 – Physical and Technical Readiness Plan, covering the preparation and validation of the testing venue, devices, internet connectivity, power supply, digital infrastructure, security, and other logistical and technical requirements; and
- b. Enclosure 2 – Learners' Readiness Plan, covering learner orientation, mock tests, learning integration sessions, mentoring activities, and other measures designed to familiarize learners with the assessment and strengthen their readiness for the PBTS.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE

5. The learner-preparation activities shall not be construed as coaching learners toward specific test answers. Rather, these activities shall focus on assessment familiarity, development of transferable skills, critical and analytical thinking, interpretation of information, problem-solving, responsible test-taking behavior, and confidence in responding to authentic and unfamiliar tasks.
6. To ensure clear accountability, effective coordination, seamless implementation, and timely resolution of concerns, all concerned personnel are hereby enjoined to perform their respective roles and responsibilities as stipulated in Enclosure No. 3 of this Memorandum. Their active participation, close coordination, and adherence to the prescribed responsibilities shall contribute to the effective preparation and successful administration of the PBTS 2026.
7. For information, guidance, and compliance of all concerned.


CRESTITO M. MORCILLA, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent *nm*



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE

Enclosure 1

Physical and Technical Readiness Plan

Date	Readiness Activity
August 12, 2026	Conduct of the Technical Infrastructure and Bandwidth Stress Test to determine the readiness and capacity of the school's digital infrastructure, internet connectivity, devices, and other technical requirements.
August 19, 2026	Submission of the eligible 15-year-old learners' profiles and accomplished Readiness Audit Checklist.
August 26, 2026	Coordination for Inter-School Hardware Sharing and Pooling, as necessary, to address possible device requirements and ensure sufficient testing equipment.
August 27, 2026	Participation in the Field Validation and Audit and immediate action on identified gaps and recommendations.
September 3-4, 2026	Participation in the Regional Training for SDO Testing Personnel.
September 10, 2026	Conduct of Demo Log-in using the platform to be utilized during the assessment.
September 11, 2026	Conduct of Technical Run and Assessment-Day Simulation, including testing of devices, internet connectivity, power supply, testing-room arrangements, and other operational requirements. The simulation shall also focus on the response, disposition, and decision-making processes of the School Head and PBTS Team in managing possible and diverse situations during assessment administration.
September 14, 2026	Conduct of the Final Dry-Run of the Demo Log-in and Ocular Inspection of the testing venue, facilities, equipment, connectivity, power supply, and other assessment requirements.
September 16-18, 2026	Administration of the PBTS 2026 at the identified sampled school.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE

Enclosure 2

Learners' Readiness Plan

Date	Activity
August 28, 2026	Online Meeting of English, Science and Mathematics Teachers as Mentors with their respective Education Program Supervisors (EPSs). The meeting shall discuss the learner-readiness program, mentoring strategies, expectations, and proposed learning integration activities.
September 1, 2026	Administration of the PBTS Mock Test (Pre-Test) to establish baseline information on learners' readiness and identify priority areas for support.
September 2, 2026	Orientation, Setting of Expectations, and Discussion of the Pre-Test Results, focusing on test familiarity, critical thinking, application of knowledge, responsible test-taking behavior, and areas requiring reinforcement.
September 3, 2026	Submission of the Pre-Test Outputs/Results through the designated channel, c/o Ms. Amy Dumail.
September 3–4, 2026	Lesson Integration/Learning Sessions facilitated by division mentors, focusing on identified learner needs and the integration of reading, mathematical reasoning, scientific literacy, problem-solving, interpretation of information, and application of knowledge in authentic contexts.
September 7–11, 2026	Continuation of Lesson Integration/Learning Sessions facilitated by division mentors, with emphasis on higher-order thinking, interpretation and analysis of information, reasoning, problem-solving, and application of concepts in unfamiliar situations.
September 14, 2026	Lesson Integration/Learning Sessions facilitated by school-based mentors to reinforce learner readiness and address remaining areas of concern.
September 15, 2026	Administration of the PBTS Mock Test (Post-Test) to determine changes in learner readiness and to provide final preparation before the actual assessment.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE

Enclosure 3

Roles and Responsibilities of Persons Involved in the PBTS Project

A. Education Program Supervisors (EPSs) in English, Science, and Mathematics

The EPSs shall:

- Monitor the overall preparation and readiness of the sampled school and ensure compliance with the prescribed PBTS guidelines and timelines;
- Provide technical assistance to the School Head, teachers, mentors, and other personnel concerned in strengthening learner readiness in **reading, science, and mathematics**;
- Guide the development and implementation of appropriate learning integration and support activities based on the results of the pre-test and other readiness information;
- Provide technical assistance in the administration, analysis, and interpretation of the mock tests;
- Coordinate and/or participate in the scheduled learning integration sessions for the identified learners;
- Monitor the implementation of agreed interventions and readiness activities; and
- Submit periodic monitoring updates and recommendations to the Schools Division Office, particularly on identified gaps requiring immediate action.

B. Division Testing Coordinator (DTC)

The Division Testing Coordinator shall:

- Lead and coordinate the overall division-level preparation and implementation of the PBTS in accordance with existing DepEd and regional policies and guidelines;
- Ensure the timely dissemination of official assessment guidelines, schedules, instructions, and other pertinent issuances to all personnel concerned;
- Coordinate with the sampled school and concerned division personnel to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the list and profiles of eligible learners;
- Monitor compliance with the prescribed readiness activities, timelines, and documentary requirements;
- Coordinate with the School Head and PBTS Team regarding assessment-day arrangements and testing protocols;
- Facilitate the consolidation and submission of required reports and other assessment-related documents; and
- Immediately elevate significant administrative or operational concerns to the appropriate office for appropriate action.

C. Information Technology Officer (ITO)

The Information Technology Officer shall:

- Ensure the readiness of the required digital infrastructure, devices, internet connectivity, network configuration, and other technology requirements for the PBTS;
- Conduct or provide technical assistance during the bandwidth stress test, technical run, demo log-in, dry-run, and other technology-related readiness activities;



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education

Region V – Bicol

SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF CAMARINES NORTE

- c. Provide technical support during the mock tests and actual assessment, particularly in addressing connectivity, device, platform access, power, and other IT-related concerns;
- d. Assist the sample school in establishing appropriate contingency arrangements for possible technical disruptions;
- e. Ensure that the required online platforms and technology systems are properly configured and accessible; and
- f. Coordinate promptly with the concerned technical support personnel or higher offices when technical issues cannot be resolved at the school level.

D. Public Schools District Supervisor (PSDS)

The Public Schools District Supervisor shall:

- a. Monitor and follow up the proper and timely implementation of the school's PBTS preparation and readiness activities;
- b. Provide technical assistance to the School Head and concerned school personnel relative to the implementation of the prescribed preparation activities;
- c. Ensure that identified concerns and gaps are acted upon within the prescribed timelines;
- d. Coordinate with the Division Testing Coordinator and other personnel concerned regarding school-level concerns requiring division intervention; and
- e. Submit appropriate monitoring updates and recommendations, as necessary.

E. School Head

The School Head shall:

- a. Lead and ensure the comprehensive school-level preparation for the PBTS;
- b. Organize and facilitate the orientation of concerned teachers, learners, parents/guardians, and other stakeholders, as appropriate;
- c. Ensure that the identified learners are properly informed about the assessment schedule, expectations, and preparations;
- d. Organize and monitor the conduct of the mock tests, learning sessions, technical runs, simulations, dry-runs, and other prescribed readiness activities;
- e. Ensure the availability, functionality, and readiness of the testing venue, devices, internet connectivity, power supply, furniture, and other necessary facilities and resources;
- f. Constitute and orient the PBTS Team and ensure that each member understands his/her assigned duties and responsibilities;
- g. Establish appropriate contingency measures for possible technical, logistical, health, security, or other operational concerns during the assessment;
- h. Closely monitor learner readiness and coordinate with mentors and teachers in addressing identified areas for improvement; and
- i. Ensure the timely completion and submission of all required reports, forms, checklists, and other documentary requirements.