Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF MUNTINLUPA CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

MAR 1 1 2026

MEMORANDUM
NO. 110, s. 2026

AMENDMENT TO REGIONAL MEMORANDUM NO. 048, S. 2026: GUIDELINES ON PROTEST AND APPEAL FOR THE 2026 REGIONAL SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisor, Curriculum Implementation Division
Chief Education Supervisor, School Governance Operations Division
Elementary and Secondary Public and Private School Heads/OICs
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is DepEd Regional Memorandum No. 187 s. 2026 titled: Amendment to Regional Memorandum No. 048, s. 2026: Guidelines on Protest and Appeal for the 2026 Regional Schools Press Conference, contents of which are self-explanatory, for the information and guidance of all concerned.

2. Particular attention is invited to paragraph 2.

3. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

VIOLETA M. GONZALES CESO VI
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

Enclosure: As stated
Reference: Regional Memorandum No. 187 s. 2026
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under: JOURNALISM
MCDS- Amendment to Regional Memorandum No. 048, s. 2026: Guidelines on Protest and Appeal for the 2026 Regional Schools Press Conference
110 /March 11, 2026

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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RECORDS SECTION REGIONAL OFFICE-NCR
06 MAR 2026
BY: DATE: 1:11

SDO-MUNTINLUPA CITY
RECORDS UNIT
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BY: EVELYN N. DINGAL
TIME: 3:00 PM

March 2, 2026

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM
No. 187, s. 2026

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Functional Division Chiefs
All Others Concerned

AMENDMENT TO REGIONAL MEMORANDUM NO. 048, S. 2026: GUIDELINES ON PROTEST AND APPEAL FOR THE 2026 REGIONAL SCHOOLS PRESS CONFERENCE.

1. This issuance serves as an official **amendment** to Regional Memorandum No. 048, s. 2026, titled "**2026 Regional Schools Press Conference (RSPC)**". All concerned are hereby informed that the attached **Valid Grounds for Protest and Disqualification**, as well as the corresponding **Protest Procedures**, shall be adopted and strictly implemented.

2. Consequently, this issuance reiterates that **the decision of the Board shall be final and irrevocable**.

3. This amendment supersedes any previous instructions regarding protest and appeal.

4. Additionally, attached are the relevant details regarding the conduct of the election for the officers of the following organizations:
- Regional Association of Elementary School Paper Advisers (RAESPA)
- National Capital Region Secondary School Paper Advisers Association (NCRSSPA)

5. Immediate dissemination and strict compliance of this Memorandum is desired.

JOCELYN DR ANDAYA
Regional Director, NCR
Concurrent Officer-In-Charge,
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Operations

Incl: As stated
Reference: Deped Memorandum No.____ s. 2026
Allotment: 1
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:
CONTESTS PROGRAMS & PROJECTS
OFFICIALS SCHOOLS
TEACHERS

Enclosure to RM No. 187 s. 2026

MODIFIED GUIDELINES ON PROTEST AND DISQUALIFICATION
(In accordance with NCR-RSPC Rules and Technical Guidelines)

Protests shall only be entertained on grounds involving violations of eligibility, technical, ethical, and contest rules. The following constitute valid grounds:

1. **Plagiarism**

   Any act of plagiarism, including but not limited to copying in whole or in part from published or unpublished works without proper attribution, shall be a ground for disqualification.

2. **Unauthorized Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

   The use of AI-generated content or AI-assisted writing/editing tools in contests where such tools are expressly prohibited shall be a ground for disqualification.

3. **Eligibility Violations**

   i. A contestant competing in more than one individual or group event. In such a case, the contestant shall be disqualified in all events that he/she participates in.
   ii. A participant who is not a bona fide student officially enrolled during the current school year.
   iii. Substitution of contestants without prior approval from the Regional Steering Committee.
   iv. Entries not produced on-site/on-the-spot during the official contest period EXCEPT for school paper contest entries.

4. **Violation of Contest Integrity and Venue Protocols**

   i. Presence of parents, guardians, coaches, School Paper Advisers (SPAs), or unauthorized persons within restricted contest areas.
   ii. Coaching, prompting, or any form of external assistance during the contest proper.

5. **Content Policy Violations**

   Outputs that are libelous, defamatory, discriminatory, obscene, pornographic, violent, or otherwise contrary to ethical journalism standards and DepEd child protection policies.

6. **Use of Unauthorized Materials or Equipment**

   i. Use of gadgets such as mobile phones, smartwatches, storage devices, or communication tools not allowed in the specific contest.
   ii. Use of unauthorized software, editing applications, or external references where prohibited.

Enclosure to RM No. 187 s. 2026

PROTEST PROCEDURES

1. **Initial Clarification**

   Any ground for disqualification observed during the competition shall be immediately reported to the assigned Proctor or Contest Chair during or immediately after the contest proper. The Proctor or Contest Chair shall immediately record the protest and refer the same to the Board of Judges, who shall decide on the verbal protest within the day.

2. **Filing of a Verified Protest**

   If the matter remains unresolved, a verified protest must be filed before the Board of Appeals through the RSPC Secretariat. The protest must be signed by the coach, approved by the School Head, and favorably endorsed by the concerned Schools Division Superintendent. Only a participant in the said contest may file a protest.

3. **Protest Period**

   A protest must be filed within the prescribed, non-extendible period of twenty-four (24) hours from the announcement of the official results or from the occurrence of the incident. Protests filed beyond the allowable period shall not be entertained.

4. **Decision on Protest**

   Within forty-eight (48) hours, the Board of Appeals shall evaluate the protest and issue a Decision. The decision of the Board of Appeals shall be final and executory.

Enclosure to RM No. 187 s. 2026

ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Regional Association of Elementary School Paper Advisers (RAESPA)
National Capital Region Secondary School Paper Advisers Association (NCRSSPA)

Who: **Division School Paper Advisers Officers (Elementary and Secondary)**
Number of participants per Division: **7 Officers**
When: **March 12, 2026**
Venue: **Gymnasium Perpetual College**

Schedule:

Time	Level
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Elementary (**RAESPA**)
10: 30 – 11:30 AM	Secondary (**NCRSSPA**

Note: ***Upon the conclusion of the election process, the newly elected officers shall formally submit to the Regional Office the official list of the newly elected officials.***