



REGION I
PANGASINAN DIVISION II
Canarvacanan, Binalonan, Pangasinan 2436



October 10, 2018

MEMORANDUM

NO. 427, s. 2018

**To: All DepEd Pangasinan II Officials
Teachers and Non-Teaching personnel**

From: THE SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

**Subject: UNAUTHORIZED SUSPENSION OF CLASSES ON
OCTOBER 5, 2018**

PARTICULARS

Please be informed of the decision of this Office, Re: On Unauthorized Suspension of Classes of some schools of Pangasinan Division II on October 5, 2018. An excerpt from said decision is as follows:

"The suspension of classes of some schools of Pangasinan Division II on October 5, 2018 by their respective School Heads is not sanctioned by this Office and that the reasons and explanations offered by the said School Heads have no legs to stand due to the following reasons, to wit:

- 1. The Principals or School Heads have no authority to suspend classes and to instruct teachers not to report for work or to declare "free day" for teachers an established work day unless for emergency situations or when the need arises for reasons of safety and welfare of the learners;**
- 2. There was no directive from concerned agencies of the government including our Office, the DepEd Pangasinan Division II Office;**
- 3. There was an obvious and deliberate plan on the part of the concerned school heads to suspend classes the fact that except the eight (8) (as verified to have suspended classes on October 5, 2018), all other schools of the nearly 600 schools all over Pangasinan Division II conducted classes on the said date;**
- 4. Using available and advanced communication systems, authorities should have been consulted or at the very least informed in advance about the plan to suspend (by themselves) classes on October 5, 2018, but surprisingly, not a single school head or teacher did attempt to do so; and**
- 5. This Office, on its part established the Division InfoBoard and Division Website to make all communications available to all school heads, officials, teachers and non-teaching personnel 24/7. There was no advice or directive from the Office of the SDS to suspend classes or to even declare it a FREE DAY for teachers on October 5, 2018.**

The suspension of classes which resulted to the non reporting for work of teachers and personnel of the said eight (8) schools on October 5, 2018 clearly showed the lack or absence of foresight amounting to a degree of negligence on the part of the concerned principals/school heads and to a certain extent, the teachers and the non-teaching personnel as well.

The proposal for Saturday Classes to replace the absences of the teachers on October 5, 2018 only cures the situation the suspension of classes might have created on the budgeted lessons assigned per grading period. The fact remains that the teachers and non teaching personnel (if any) did not report for work on a work day sans any authority or authorized directive. Consequently, concerned teachers and non-teaching personnel should be marked absent on October 5, 2018.

This Office is without authority to replace an attendance of a certain day with an attendance of another day. Authorized Saturday school activities however, maybe merited with service credits (if the activities are not intended to replace an earlier authorized or approved suspension of classes as in the case of suspension of classes during typhoons or other dangerous and unavoidable circumstances)".

For your information, guidance and reference.



ATTY. DONATO D. BALDERAS, JR.
Schools Division Superintendent

