



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
CID-2024 No. 0289

TO : **Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Division Chiefs
Public Schools District Supervisors/Districts -In-Charge
Secondary School Heads
Elementary School Heads
All Others Concerned**

FROM : **NERI C. OJASTRO EdD, CESO V**
Schools Division Superintendent
4/19/2024

SUBJECT : **EXPANSION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN
JOURNALISM (SPJ) FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
IN THE REGION**

DATE : April 16, 2024

1. This is to inform the following schools to comply with the requirements for the expansion of the implementation of a special program in journalism (SPJ) for elementary and secondary schools in the region.
 - a. La Libertad Central Elementary Schools
 - b. Jimalalud National High School
 - c. Negros Oriental High School
 - d. Sibulan Central Elementary School
 - e. Sta. Catalina National High School
 - f. Felipe Tayko Memorial Central School
2. Attached is Regional Memorandum No. 193 s. 2024 for more details.
3. Identified schools are requested to prepare the documents and the school for an initial evaluation on the 2nd week of May 2024.
4. School heads and PSDS are requested to give their utmost priority to this concern.
5. All expenses for the preparation and compliance required for the implementation of this program shall be chargeable against school MOOE/SEF/PTA/ other funds subject to usual accounting rules and regulations.
6. Immediate and widest dissemination of this MEMORANDUM is desired.

NCO/EQA-RVAV/CID/CAA/raj
April 16, 2024

19 APR 2024



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Office of the Regional Director

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. **193** s. 2024

06 MAR 2024

EXPANSION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM (SPJ) FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE REGION

To: Schools Division Superintendents
Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned



1. With the aim of deepening and honing the journalistic skills and competencies among learners with writing interest and prowess and in support to Republic Act No.7079 also known as Campus Journalism Act of 1991, this Office, through the Curriculum and Learning Management Division (CLMD), announces the field of the expansion of Special Program in Journalism (SPJ) in the public elementary and secondary schools in Region VII, Central Visayas.
2. Since the time of the pilot implementation in 2009 until today, Cebu City National Science High School in Cebu City Division has been the only secondary school in Region that has been implementing the Special Program in Journalism.
3. Anent to this, each of the Schools Division Offices (SDOs) is enjoined to select one elementary school and one secondary school that have been performing well in journalism-related undertakings from the division to the national levels to offer SPJ.
4. The chief of the Curriculum Implementation Division (CID) through the Division Campus Journalism Coordinator is requested to spearhead and facilitate in the selection and assessment of the schools following the guidelines appended hereto.
5. Applicant schools are requested to submit the documentary requirements (Refer enclosure 2) placed in white folder to the Division Office for the preliminary evaluation of documents and thereafter, the Schools Division Office shall endorse the applicant schools (1 Elementary and 1 Secondary) to the Regional Office, particularly at the Quality Assurance Division (QAD) through the Records Section, for further evaluation and issuance of Certificate of Recognition in preparation for its implementation come School Year 2024-2025.
6. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum to all concerned are desired.


SALUSTIANO T. JIMENEZ JD, EdD, CESO V
Director IV
Regional Director

STJ/PYA/CLMD/MICD/cdu



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CONTEXTUALIZED GUIDELINES IN THE SELECTION OF SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM (SPJ) SCHOOLS

Rationale:

The Special program in Journalism (SPJ) is established in 2009 to deepen the experiences, hone the journalistic skills and competencies of student-writers and to reinforce free and responsible journalism. SPJ typically exists to provide students with a focused and comprehensive education in the field of journalism. The foundation for such program may be designed to be multifaceted, addressing the evolving nature of journalism and the specific needs of both learners and the industry.

This program is in support to Republic Act No. 7079 (Campus Journalism Act) which mandates the Department of Education "to conduct and implement programs in various aspects of journalism." The program is a four-year course in journalism at the junior high school level. It is intended to cultivate the learners' skills in mass communication, print, online and broadcast media.

Learners under this specialized program shall be trained on the following as manifested in the SPJ Curriculum Guide from Grades 4 up to 10, such as:

Industry-Relevant Skills: Journalism is a rapidly changing field with evolving technologies and media landscapes. A specialized program aims to equip learners with the latest skills and knowledge required in the industry, including digital media production, data journalism, multimedia storytelling, and social media management.

Hands-On Experience: Special Program in Journalism, in the context of the Department of Education, emphasizes practical, hands-on experience. This may comprise internships, workshops, and real-world projects, allowing learners to apply theoretical knowledge in a professional setting and build a portfolio of work.

Networking Opportunities: This program provides learners with opportunities to network with professionals in the journalism field. Guest lectures, industry events, and mentorship programs can connect learners with seasoned journalists and media professionals, facilitating valuable connections for future career opportunities.

Ethics and Standards: A special program in journalism may place a strong emphasis on journalistic ethics and standards since learners are immersed on situations in which they will demonstrate free and responsible journalism. This includes teaching students how to navigate complex ethical issues, maintain objectivity, and adhere to principles of accuracy and fairness in reporting.

Diversity and Inclusion: Recognizing the importance of diversity in storytelling, SPJ may focus on promoting inclusivity in journalism. This could involve training students to cover diverse communities, addressing biases, and ensuring fair representation in media content in the community where they settle.

Adaptability and Innovation: SPJ prepares learners for a constantly changing media landscape. It fosters adaptability and innovation, encouraging students to explore new technologies, storytelling formats, and emerging trends in journalism.

Critical Thinking Skills: Journalism requires critical thinking and analytical skills. A specialized program such as SPJ may focus on developing these skills, teaching students how to evaluate information, question assumptions, and approach stories with a discerning and critical mindset.

Media Law and Ethics: Understanding the legal and ethical aspects of journalism is crucial. SPJ may dedicate specific coursework to media law, defamation, privacy issues, and other legal considerations that journalists must navigate as learners progress.

Research and Investigation: Investigative journalism is a cornerstone of the profession. SPJ provides, as indicated in the Curriculum Guide, in-depth training in research methods, fact-checking, and investigative reporting techniques.

Career Preparation: Ultimately, the primary goal of SPJ is to prepare learners for successful careers in the field not just limited to journalism-related course in the tertiary education, but this also gives learners the opportunity to enhance their writing and storytelling prowess. This includes providing guidance on job searching, resume building, and interview skills, as well as insights into the various career paths within journalism. Learners in this program

Special Program in Journalism (SPJ) is designed to address the dynamic nature of the field, provide specialized skills, foster ethical journalism practices, and prepare learners for successful careers in the ever-evolving media industry.

It is also important to note that the implementation of this program would likely involve collaboration with journalism professionals, media organizations, and educational experts to ensure its effectiveness and relevance to the current needs of the media industry and society at large in order to carry out the goals and objectives of the establishment of SPJ.

SELECTION OF SCHOOLS:

1. Preferably, Special Program in Journalism shall be offered to regular elementary and secondary public schools with capacity to offer the program in terms of human and physical resources, such as teachers with journalism background and the software and courseware in Journalism;
2. The school must have at least 30 learners in a class starting Grade 7 for School Year 2024-2025 who have talents in journalism;
3. The applicant school must be consistent winner in either print or media journalism in the district, division, regional, and national schools press conferences in at least three consecutive years;
4. It must have separate classroom for the program equipped with the following:
 - a. Speech Laboratory when possible
 - b. Computer Laboratory (DepEd Order No.78, S. 2010 "Guidelines on the Implementation of the DepEd Computerization Program (DCP)"
 - c. Acquired computer units with installed Speech Session Software and internet connection based on the 50% of SPJ enrolment
 - d. Audio-Visual Room
 - e. Radio and Television Studio
 - f. Program Furniture, equipment, and other facilities as stipulated in the Manual of Educational Facilities
 - g. Learning Materials (Print/Non-Print)
 - h. Teaching Resource Materials (Print/Non-Print)
 - i. Software (e.g. Adobe PageMaker, Adobe Photoshop, Publisher, Word for Windows)
 - j. Courseware in journalism
 - k. At least ten (10) computer units with internet connection, printer with scanner, modem, CD writer, camera with tripod, video recorder, slide projector, LCD, TV set, VCD, DVD,

cassette tape recorder, air-conditioning unit, steel file cabinet, display boards, chairs, tables, typewriter, photocopier, and risograph machine.

5. It must have stakeholders willing to support the program from curriculum delivery, facilities, assessment to hands-on experience of the learners.

SELECTION OF LEARNERS:

1. **ADMISSION:** This program is open to Grade 4 for the elementary and Grade 7 for secondary learners who have obtained an average of at least 85% in English and Filipino and a general average of 85% and above in the target grade levels, who exhibit interest in journalism and who have passed the qualifying test and interview conducted by the school with the guidance of the Division Campus Journalism Focal Person.
2. **RETENTION:** In order for the learner to be retained in the program, he/ she should maintain an average of at least 85% in Journalism subjects and 83% in the core subjects.

SELECTION OF TEACHERS:

1. For Grades 4-6
 - SPJ teachers in this Key Stage should at least be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Education, major in English or Filipino or any allied course.
 - SPJ teachers in Grades 4-6 should at least have undergone certificate programs or trainings related to journalism and have at least one-year experience as teacher or a school paper adviser.
 - Must be computer literate and willing to undergo training on content and strategies of the said program as highlighted in the Special Program in Journalism Framework.
2. For Grades 7 to 10
 - SPJ teachers in this Key Stage should at least be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Education, major in English or Filipino or any other allied course.
 - He/She should have an experience of at least three years as journalism teacher or school paper adviser.
 - Must be computer literate and willing to undergo training on content and strategies of the said program as highlighted in the Special Program in Journalism Framework.

THE CURRICULUM:

1. Grades 4-6 : History of Journalism

The learners demonstrate understanding of the basic principles and concepts of journalism, its practices and techniques, and responsibly apply them as tools for effective communication of news information

2. Grade 7: Basic Journalism

The learner demonstrates understanding of the basic principles, theories, practices, and techniques of print journalism, its history, legal and ethical standards by producing newsletters responsive to individual, community, societal, and global needs.

3. Grade 8: Print/Online Publication

The learner demonstrates understanding of the advanced and broader applications of the concepts and techniques of print journalism by producing an eight-page printed or online news publication responsive to individual, community, societal, and global demands.

4. Grade 9: Radio Broadcasting

The learner demonstrates understanding of the practices, techniques, and fundamentals of broadcast journalism by producing radio news programs in response to the personal, school, and community needs.

5. Grade 10: TV Broadcasting

The learner demonstrates understanding of the practices, techniques, and fundamentals of broadcast journalism by producing TV news programs in response to personal, school, and community needs.

**CHECKLIST OF DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT OF GOVERNMENT
RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE TO OFFER SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM**

1. Letter of Intent Addressed to the Schools Division Superintendent;
2. Ocular Inspection vis-a-vis Program Profile of the school Report prepared by the SGOD-SEPS Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) signed by the SDS;
3. Consolidated Result of the research or survey on the need of the program to be offered;
4. Inventory of facilities, equipment, journalism room (Refer to the matrix of facilities and equipment requirements under b. Facilities and Equipment Requirements);
5. Sample Programming Schedule;
6. Faculty Profile of the SPJ Program;
7. List of Partnership/Linkages with MOA when possible and ;
8. Three-year Implementation Plan Matrix

MECHANICS IN THE APPLICATION PROCESS

1. The school applicant shall gather all the documentary requirements and place them in the folder in two sets and submit them to the Schools Division Office through the Records Section for tracking;
2. The Curriculum Implementation Division (CID), through the Journalism Coordinator shall coordinate with the SGOD-SEPS M&E for the appreciation of the documentary requirements;
3. When found complete, the SGOD-SEPS M&E shall schedule an ocular inspection with the Division Journalism Coordinator and prepare the necessary report as one of the attachments;
4. The SGOD-SEPS M&E shall endorse the documentary requirements attaching the filled-out and signed Division Processing Form for the Special Program in Journalism to the Schools Division Superintendent (SDS) for signature and forward the same to the Regional Office, through the Quality Assurance Division (QAD) for the validation of the documentary requirements and scheduling of the ocular inspection to be facilitated by the QAD personnel and CLMD Education Program Supervisor in-charged of the Special Program in Journalism (SPJ);
5. When found complete and consistent with the findings from the Division, the QAD- assigned supervisor shall prepare the Government Recognition Certificate to offer the Special Program in Journalism, for approval of the Regional Director.
6. In case a school applying for certification fails the assessment conducted by the QAD during the onsite validation, the school may be given three (3) months to comply with or address the deficiencies and may be allowed to proceed for a second round of assessment as determined by the Regional Inspectorate Team (RIT).

(DIVISION LETTER HEAD)

**DIVISION PROCESSING FORM FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GOVERNMENT
RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE (GRC) TO OFFER SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM
FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY**

Division: _____ School: _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Person: _____ Designation: _____
 Contact No. _____ Email: _____ Date of Application: _____
 Key Stage Applied:

Key Stage 2 (Grades 4-6)

Key Stage 3 (Grades 7-10)

DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS	REMARKS	
	X or √	DOCUMENT EVALUATION
1. Letter of Request signed by the School Principal		
2. Inventory of facilities, equipment, journalism room		
3. Sample Program Schedule		
4. Consolidated Survey Results to Offer SPJ Program		
5. Faculty Profile for the SPJ Program		
6. List of Partnership/Linkages with MOA when possible		
7. Three-Year Implementation Plan Matrix		
8. Certificate of Completeness of the submitted documents Signed by the School Principal of the applicant school		

Remarks:

Recommendation for Ocular Inspection

With Deficiencies

Processed by: _____
 SGOD-SEPS Education Program Supervisor
 Signature over Printed Name

Date Processed: _____

Ocular Inspection Conducted by:

Date of Ocular Inspection: _____

 Lead, Division Inspectorate Team

 Member, Division Inspectorate Team

Validated by:

 SGOD Chief
 Signature over Printed Name

 CID Chief
 Signature over Printed Name

Recommending Approval:

 Schools Division Superintendent
 Signature over Printed Name





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION VII - CENTRAL VISAYAS

Enclosure 3 (Regional Processing Form for SPJ)

**REGIONAL PROCESSING FORM FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GOVERNMENT
 RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE (GRC) TO OFFER SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM
 FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY**

Division: _____ School: _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Person: _____ Designation: _____
 Contact No. _____ Email: _____ Date of Application: _____
 Key Stage Applied: Key Stage 2 (Grades 4-6) Key Stage 3 (Grades 7-10)

DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS	REMARKS	
	X or √	DOCUMENT EVALUATION
1. Endorsement Signed by the Schools Division Superintendent		
2. Ocular Inspection Report Signed by the Division Inspectorate Team (DIT)		
3. Pictorial Evidences During Ocular Inspection Conducted by the (DIT)		
4. Letter of Request signed by the School Principal		
5. Inventory of facilities, equipment, journalism room		
4. Sample Program Schedule		
5. Consolidated Survey Results to Offer SPJ Program		
6. Faculty Profile for the SPJ Program		
7. List of Partnership/Linkages with MOA when possible		
8. Three-Year Implementation Plan Matrix		
9. Signed Certificate of Completeness of the submitted documents Signed by the SGOD-SEPS M&E, EPS, and Chief		

Remarks: Recommendation for Ocular Inspection With Deficiency

Processed by: _____ Date Processed: _____
 QAD-Education Program Supervisor

Ocular Inspection Conducted by: _____ Date of Ocular Inspection: _____

 Lead, Regional Inspectorate Team

 Member, Regional Inspectorate Team

Validated by: _____
 QAD Chief

 CLMD Chief

APPROVED:

 Regional Director
 Signature over Printed Name



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