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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION XI
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF PANABO CITY

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

SGOD-2025-0217

To : **BASILIO P. MANA-AY JR., CESO VI**
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
AILENE B. ANONUEVO, PhD, Chief Education Supervisor
Schools Governance and Operations Division
JANWARIO E. YAMOTA, Chief Education Supervisor
Curriculum Implementation Division
EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT SUPERVISORS
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS/
SCHOOL HEADS
ALL CONCERNED

Subject: BANTAY TULONGHAAN

Date: May 12, 2025

Attached is the approved Division Initiative known as "Bantay Tuloghaan". This initiative is to at least assist the government in preserving the integrity of the school buildings that are to be constructed for the various school- beneficiaries. This initiative will promote the values of shared governance and shared ownership. This will strategically monitor and evaluate programs focusing on and ensuring the quality, safety, and sustainability of school infrastructure in the Schools Division of Panabo City. Further, its scope encompasses monitoring and assessment during the construction and repair of infrastructure within school premises.

Anent this, all public schools are required to strictly observe and implement the guidelines outlined in the Bantay Tulonhaan program. Furthermore, any minor repairs, as specified and supported by the submitted and approved Program of Works (POWs), must undergo inspection by the Division Engineer in collaboration with the School Bantay Tulonhaan Team. This measure ensures adherence to standards and promotes accountability in the execution of school maintenance activities.

All other issuances that are inconsistent with this directive are hereby rescinded.

For your guidance and strict compliance.


JINKY B. FIRMAN PhD, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent

Enclosed: As stated.
SGOD/aba

RELEASED



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CONCEPT PAPER

Initiative : **“BANTAY TULONGHAAN”**
Effectivity : March 2025
Scope : Schools Division of Panabo City

I. Introduction

Construction of school buildings and other infrastructure projects is crucial in supporting the achievement of the Department of Education's five-point reform agenda. To mention: Stunted Children Face More Learning Challenges, Overwhelmed Education Infrastructure and Systems, Learning Outcomes have Significantly Declined, Education Systems Face Several Constraints, and Many Perennial Issues in the Last Decade.

Based on the EdCom2 report, 165,000 classroom deficits are still widening, 70% of the classrooms are not in good condition, and 1,400 last-mile schools lack adequate electricity access. The government is giving premiums on the said bottlenecks to support quality education. (*Ref: <https://edcom2.gov.ph/edcom-2-urges-deped-fix-delays-explore-ppp-to-ramp-up-classroom-construction/> dated October 2, 2024*)

Along with this, the Schools Division of Panabo City initiated the **“Bantay Tulonghaan”** to at least assist the government in preserving the integrity of the school buildings that are to be constructed for the various school- beneficiaries. This initiative will promote the values of shared governance and shared ownership. This will strategically monitor and evaluate programs focusing on and ensuring the quality, safety, and sustainability of school infrastructure in the Schools Division of Panabo City.

To uphold safety and compliance, the initiative aligns with the *National Building Code of the Philippines (R.A. 6541)*, which mandates minimum



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standards for design, materials, construction, and maintenance to protect public welfare. Additionally, the initiative integrates the principles stipulated under the *Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010* (R.A. 10121), ensuring school infrastructures adhere to disaster resilience measures, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery strategies.

Moreover, under the *Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007* (R.A. 9485), “**Bantay Tulonhaan**” seeks to promote efficiency and accountability in the implementation of school building projects, preventing bureaucratic delays and corruption.

Through the “**Bantay Tulonhaan**” Initiative, DepEd seeks to provide safe, disaster-resilient, and high-quality learning environments while promoting transparency, sustainability, and community involvement in educational infrastructure development.

Along with the premise cited above, this paper is proposed.

II. Legal Basis

Republic Act No. 6541 - National Building Code of the Philippines Section 1 of this law mandates the state to safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare through minimum standards and requirements in the design, construction, occupancy, and maintenance of buildings. DepEd must ensure that all school building constructions including that under the partnership scheme shall strictly adhere to this law, incorporating high-quality materials and resilient structures. Republic Act No. 10121 - Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010.

This law provides the legal foundation for disaster risk reduction strategies. School buildings must comply with disaster preparedness measures, including provisions for:

1. Disaster Prevention and Mitigation



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- 2. Disaster Preparedness
- 3. Disaster Response
- 4. Disaster Rehabilitation and Recovery
- 5. Republic Act No. 9485 - Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007

To eliminate bureaucratic inefficiencies and prevent corruption, this concept paper proposes a mandate for government agencies to streamline their processes. The "Bantay Tulonghaan" initiative will help uphold transparency and accountability in school infrastructure projects by ensuring compliance with procurement guidelines and construction standards.

III. Objectives

1. Ensure Compliance with Building Standards

- *Monitor the construction of school buildings to guarantee adherence to the National Building Code.*
- *Verify the quality of materials and structural integrity of school infrastructures.*

2. Promote Disaster-Resilient School Structures

- *Align school physical frameworks with the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) plans.*
- *Conduct risk assessments and preparedness evaluations in schools.*

3. Enhance Transparency and Accountability

- *Establish a monitoring mechanism to oversee construction projects and prevent graft and corruption.*
- *Encourage community participation in infrastructure audits and evaluations.*

4. Strengthen School Environmental Sustainability

- *Integrate eco-friendly designs and sustainable practices in school construction.*
- *Ensure proper waste management and compliance with environmental regulations.*



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IV. Scope

The "Bantay Tulonghaan" initiative encompasses monitoring and assessment during the construction and repair of infrastructure within school premises. It supports the division in conducting daily monitoring to ensure the safety and well-being of learners, teachers, and other school personnel. Additionally, "Bantay Tulonghaan" includes the development of proactive action plans aimed at preserving government infrastructures from any disasters that are within human control.

The members of the **Bantay Tulonghaan** through the chairman shall report directly to the Schools Division Superintendent on any development and or accomplishment of the project.

V. Name of the Team

"BANTAY TULONGHAAN" — a local term for safeguarding the schools including its end-users (students, teachers, parents, community, and other personnel in schools).

VI. Composition of the Team

Chairman: School Head (recipient School)

Members:

- One (1) School Physical Facilities Coordinator; and
- One (1) SGC President/member preferably with technical knowledge of building construction/ infrastructure
- One (1) PTA President/member preferably with technical knowledge of building construction/ infrastructure
- One (1) Barangay Captain/Education Committee with technical knowledge of building construction/infrastructure
- One (1) SDO Monitoring – Chief ES in SGOD/EPS in SGOD



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VII. Terms of Reference

Chairman

- ✓ Calls for a meeting to schedule regular visits to the construction area/site.
- ✓ Conducts monitoring, inspection, and validation to ensure the integrity of the construction.
- ✓ Make appropriate weekly reports from the school where the construction area is and be submitted directly to the Office of the Schools Division Superintendent.
- ✓ Makes recommendations and signs appropriate documents for completion and acceptance.

SDO Monitoring – Chief SGOD/EPS-SGOD

- ✓ Conducts monitoring at the construction site and conforms observations with the chairman of the Bantay Tulonhaan (if there are any);
- ✓ Conducts monitoring and report any observations to the SDS;
- ✓ Coordinate with the chairman and other members of the team;
- ✓ all items in the POW are implemented and standard materials are used

Other Members

- ✓ Conduct monitoring, inspection, and validation to ensure the integrity of the construction.
- ✓ Make recommendations but are not to intervene/interfere in the construction.
- ✓ Sign appropriate report and other documents



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VIII. Conclusion

The "Bantay Tulonghaan" initiative aligns with national laws and policies aimed at improving school infrastructure. This ensures compliance with safety regulations, disaster resilience measures, and anti-corruption policies, this program will contribute to the sustainable development of educational facilities, fostering a safe and conducive learning environment for Filipino students.

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