



REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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DepEd MEMORANDUM
No. **211**, s. 2003

2003 WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

To: Bureau Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division/City Superintendents
Heads, Public and Private Elementary and Secondary Schools

1. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 6759 otherwise known as "An Act Declaring August 1 of Each Year as White Cane Safety Day in the Philippines and Other Purposes", the theme for this year's celebration is "Changing What It Means to Be Blind".
2. The White Cane Safety Day Celebration is also the first activity of the Sight Saving Month Celebration in August. It has the following objectives:
 - a) to instill public awareness on the welfare of the blind;
 - b) to promote recognition and acceptance of the white cane as symbol of mobility for blind persons; and
 - c) to promote and protect the physical, moral and social well-being of blind persons.
3. The National Inter-Agency Committee for the celebration has prepared the following activities which will be undertaken at Rizal Park, Manila.

7:00 – 7:30	1. Wreath Laying to the Rizal Monument
7:30 – 8:30	2. "Walk with the Blind"
8:30 – 9:30	3. Short Program to be participated by blind students, GOs, and NGOs
9:30 – 3:00	4. Simultaneous Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstration on Sighted Guide Techniques• Livelihood Exhibit• Fun Games• Computer Competition for the VI• Braille Reading & Writing Content• Photo Exhibit• Eye Screening/Consultation ↗

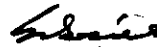
The aforementioned activities 2, 3 and 4 could also be conducted at the regional level under the initiative of the Regional Special Education Council. Other GOs, NGOs and civic organization can be tapped for assistance.

Other suggested activities for the celebration include:

- Sharing information on best practices concerning the education of the visually impaired by inviting blind students or educators as resource persons and other professionals working for the blind;
- Holding symposia, fora and panel discussions relevant to the prevention and rehabilitation of blindness;
- Holding an Academic Contest, Declamation, Dramatic Reading, Braille Reading and Writing Content and other activities which will highlight the talents and skills of the visually impaired.
- Inviting ophthalmologists/optometrists to conduct free eye examination and screening to the visually impaired students.

4. All SPED Centers, public and private schools with special education programs are encouraged to observe this day with appropriate activities.

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



EDILBERTO C. DE JESUS
Secretary

Maricar/dm-whitecane
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Reference:

DepEd Memorandum: No 119, s. 2002

Allotment: 1--(D.O. 50-97)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

CELEBRATIONS & FESTIVALS
SPECIAL EDUCATION