



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III - CENTRAL LUZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ

April 24, 2023

SCHOOLS DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 182, s. 2023

SCHOOL PAPER CONTESTS

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. This Office announces the conduct of School Paper Contests (English and Filipino, elementary and secondary) on May 3, 2023.
2. This activity aims to select the best school papers for News Section, Features Section, Editorial Section, Science and Technology Section, Sports Section, and Layout and Page Design.
3. This contest is open to all public and private elementary and secondary schools.
4. All School Papers in Portable Document Format (PDF) must be uploaded via bit.ly/SchoolPaperContest on or before May 2, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.
5. Winners will be announced through a Schools Division Memorandum.
6. Enclosed are the General Guidelines for School Paper Contests and the score sheets from DepEd Memorandum No. 024, s. 2023 for the information and guidance of all concerned.
7. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum is earnestly desired.


JOHANNA N. GERVACIO PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



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DSCM-QMS-QMR-QSF-008 Rev.06 (03.23.23)





Certificate No. 50500731 QM15



Republic of the Philippines
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REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE - SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ

Enclosure No. 1 to Schools Division Memorandum No. 18, s. 2023

(Enclosure No. 8 to DepEd Memorandum No. **024**, s. 2023)

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL PAPER CONTESTS
(in Portable Digital Format)

A. The School Paper Contest is open to elementary and secondary schools whose school papers belong to the top five (5) per section per category in the region.

B. The top five (5) highest pointers both in English and Filipino shall be declared as the best school papers in the country but the points of their ranking shall not be added to determine the best-performing regions that shall be recognized in the awarding ceremony at the last day of conduct of the NSPC.

C. For any school paper found to have copied and published texts, images, and other materials without duly acknowledging their sources, the following sanctions shall be applied:

First Offense: Disqualification from the contest

Second Offense: A formal notification shall be sent to the RD, who shall inform the concerned SDS. The SDS shall issue a written reprimand to the school paper adviser/s and the school principal. The concerned school paper adviser shall undergo a refresher course on plagiarism organized by the SDO. Accordingly, the school head shall implement plans and programs on intensifying academic honesty and integrity.

Third Offense: Disqualification from the School Paper Contest for three (3) consecutive years

D. The decision of the Board of Judges in all aspects of the contest shall be deemed final and irrevocable.

E. For 2023 NSPC, each RO shall submit five (5) best entries per category in PDF through email at nspc@deped.gov.ph. Neither school nor SDO is allowed to submit their school paper entry/ies directly to the CO.

The following, properly foldered and labeled (e.g., R10-News-Eng-Elem), are to be submitted:

1. Certificate of Circulation from the school head duly noted by the SDS. Indicated in the certificate is the corresponding link to the school website or Facebook page where the school papers are published.
2. Certificate of Endorsement signed by the RD, certifying all the required documents were submitted to, checked, and reviewed by the RO before submitting to the CO.
3. Report of the process observed in ensuring plagiarized-free articles
4. Results of the evaluation of school paper per category and medium duly signed by the judges during the RSPC

The NTWG reserves the right to disqualify entries with no Certificates of Endorsement from the RD.

F. The different SECTIONS/CATEGORIES in the school paper contest, both English and Filipino, are as follows:

1. News Section / Pahinang Balita
2. Editorial Section / Pahinang Editorial
3. Features Section / Pahinang Lathalain
4. Sports Section / Pahinang Pampalakasan
5. Science and Technology Section / Pahinang Agham at Teknolohiya
6. Layout and Page Design Category / Kategoryang Pag-aanyo at Disenyo ng Pahina

G. The technical specifications for both Elementary and Secondary levels are as follows:

1. No. of pages: minimum of 12 and maximum of 20



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News Section– at least three (3)
Sports Section – at least two (2)
Feature Section – at least three (3)
Editorial Section – at least two (2)
Science and Technology Section – at least two (2)

2. Process: Digital
3. Color: All pages in full color
4. Size: 9"x12" (Elementary)
12"x18" (Secondary)

H. Failure to comply with the set guidelines in evaluating school papers will be a ground for disqualification.

GUIDELINES FOR THE SELECTION OF THE BEST SECTIONS AND LAYOUT AND PAGE DESIGN CATEGORIES FOR THE SCHOOL PAPER CONTEST

A. Editorial Section

1. The section should have at least two (2) pages and should include the following: main editorial, editorial cartoon, columns, letters to the editor, and commentaries. Opinion polls or surveys may be included but are not required.
2. The treatment of the issues must demonstrate a fair and balanced presentation of both sides of the issue tackled, clear moral purpose, logical reasoning, and proper citations or attributions of sources.
3. Topics found in the section should tackle various international, national, or local issues that may directly or indirectly affect the school or the community the school serves.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

B. News Section

1. The section shall consist of at least three (3) pages.
2. The content and scope of the news stories shall cover international, national, regional, community, and school-based news stories.
3. The content of the section may include straight or spot news, advance/follow-up reports, news bits, news features, news analysis, and in-depth news/investigative news.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

C. Features Section

1. The section should have at least three (3) pages.
2. The feature articles should display a unique and creative presentation of topics, logical organization of ideas and facts, writers' facility of the language, and proper citations or attributions of sources.
3. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

D. Sports Section

1. The section shall consist of at least two (2) pages.
2. The content and scope of the sports articles shall include coverage of international, national, regional, community, and school-based sports news stories.
3. The content of the section may include straight or spot news, advance/follow-up reports; news bits; news features/news analysis; in-depth news, features, and editorial or column concerning or pertaining to sports.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

E. Science and Technology Section





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1. The Science and Technology Section should have at least two (2) pages.
2. The content may include health, environmental, scientific, technological, and innovative stories written in news, feature, or scientific commentary style. This should also include the economic impact of Science and Technology on the lives of Filipinos.
3. The articles should be well-researched and should observe proper citation of sources, pictures, and graphics.
4. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.

F. Layout and Page Design Category

1. This category shall conform to the principles of layout and design.
2. The content (texts and images) should consider a range of stories about the community and the school, including those of international, national, and local significance.
3. The decision of the Board of Judges is final and irrevocable.



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(Enclosure No. 8a to DepEd Memorandum No. 024, s. 2023)

SCORESHEET FOR THE NEWS SECTION

Form and Style (40%)	Score
Has a variety of articles that use catchy and appropriate headlines	
Observes rules of grammar and syntax	
Includes stories that are arranged in decreasing importance	
Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important details	
Presents headlines that are clear and free of bias	
Uses short and simple words	
Uses appropriate terms to report events	
Utilizes relevant graphs and tables and sharp, properly cropped, and captioned pictures	
Presents a distinct style of the section	
Content (60%)	
Utilizes facts from interviews, document reviews, data analyses, and other reliable sources	
Covers relevant issues in school, region, national, and even at the international level	
Prioritizes school-related issues rather than events that have little or no direct connection with the community's educational program	
Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, and relevant names/facts to bolster the credibility of statements and/or narratives	
Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy, and balance)	
Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
Total (100%)	
Comments/Suggestions:	

 Evaluator/Judge
 (Signature over Printed Name)



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(Enclosure No. 8b to DepEd Memorandum No. 024, s. 2023)

SCORESHEET FOR THE FEATURES SECTION

Form and Style (40%)	Score
Manifests unity and coherence to the theme of the section	
Has a variety of articles that use a catchy and appropriate title	
Observes rules of grammar and syntax	
Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important details	
Presents titles that are appealing, appropriate, and witty	
Utilizes relevant graphs and tables and sharp, properly cropped, and captioned pictures	
Presents a distinct style of the section	
Content (60%)	
Utilizes facts from interviews, documents review, data analyses, and other reliable sources	
Reflects clear and creative thinking	
Keeps to the minimum the number of articles or columns from the administration, teachers, and politicians	
Covers relevant issues in school, region, national, and even at the international level	
Applies the principles of civic journalism	
Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, and relevant names or facts to bolster the credibility of statements, and/or narratives	
Contains articles that are interesting to read	
Stirs the imagination of the reader	
Balances presentation of details with those of the writers' perception	
Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy, and balance)	
Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
Total (100%)	
Comments/Suggestions:	

 Evaluator/Judge
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(Enclosure No. 8c to DepEd Memorandum No. 024, s. 2023)

SCORESHEET FOR THE EDITORIAL SECTION

Form and Style (40%)	Score
Has catchy and appropriate titles	
Observes rules of grammar and syntax	
Shows logical presentation of arguments	
Follows the correct format or style of an editorial	
Uses clear and unbiased titles	
Uses short and simple words	
Presents a distinct style of the section	
Content (60%)	
Presents the stand of the staff regarding certain issues	
Utilizes facts from interviews, document reviews, data analyses, and other reliable sources	
Uses arguments that are supported by facts	
Reflects clear, logical thinking, and challenges the readers' critical thinking	
Has an editorial cartoon that can stand on its own and conveys clean, good, humorous, and constructive criticism	
Columns cover a variety of relevant and youth-oriented subject matters	
Includes letters to the editor, columns, and exchanges	
Keeps to the minimum the number of articles or columns from the administration, teachers, and politicians	
Covers relevant issues in the school, regional, national, and international scene	
Applies the principles of civic journalism	
Prioritizes school-related concerns rather than events that have little or no direct connection with the community's educational program	
Cites facts such as historical references, statistics, and relevant figures to bolster the credibility of statements and/or narratives	
Includes opinion articles that are timely and interesting to read	
Balances factual details with those of the writers' perceptions	
Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy, and balance)	
Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
Total (100%)	
Comments/Suggestions:	

Evaluator/Judge
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SCORESHEET FOR THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION

Forms and Style (40%)	Score
Manifests unity and coherence to the theme of the section	
Has a variety of articles that use catchy and appropriate headlines	
Observes rules of grammar and syntax	
Shows logical presentation of arguments	
Contains leads that are clearly written and focused on the most important details	
Presents headlines that are clear and free of bias	
Uses short and simple words	
Utilizes relevant graphs, tables, and sharp, properly cropped, and captioned pictures	
Follows appropriate form and style	
Uses appropriate terms to report events	
Presents a distinct style of the section	
Content (60%)	
Utilizes facts from interviews, document reviews, data analyses, and other reliable sources	
Presents relevant and timely issues on science and technology	
Includes stories that deal with environmental, scientific, technological, and innovative topics written in news, feature, and scientific commentary style	
Prioritizes school-related materials rather than events that have little or no direct connection with the school and community	
Cites facts such as scientific references, statistics, and relevant figures/facts to bolster the credibility of statements and/or narratives	
Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy, and balance)	
Cites sources and observes copyright laws	
Total (100%)	
Comments/Suggestions:	

 Evaluator/Judge
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(Enclosure No. 8f to DepEd Memorandum No. 024 , s. 2023)

SCORESHEET FOR LAYOUT AND PAGE DESIGN CATEGORY

Form and Style (70%)	Score
Has an overall visual appeal	
Manifests thematic unity in all sections of the school paper	
Utilizes relevant and quality images and graphics	
Displays excellent use of color and font	
Content (30%)	
Considers a range of stories about the community and the school, including those of international, national, and local significance	
Observes standards of journalism (fairness, relevance, accuracy, and balance)	
Has no potentially libelous or obscene content, plagiarism, and copyright violations	
Total (100%)	
Comments/Suggestions:	

Evaluator/Judge
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