DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 296, series 2015

TO : Division Chiefs and Personnel,
School Heads, ICT Coordinators
All Teachers and Non –Teaching Personnel

FROM : DEE D. SILVA, DPA, CESO VI
Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer-In-Charge

SUBJECT : Registration for DepED Email Accounts

DATE : October 21, 2015

1. Pursuant to DepEd Memorandum No. 22 s. 2012, on the Guidelines on the Use of Email Service and a DepEd Unnumbered Memorandum dated September 22, 2015 on the Designation of Division IT Officers as DepEd Email Administrators, the following deadlines are set in the deployment of DepEd email accounts. We are expecting all permanent employees who don’t have yet the DepEd Email account to register on or before these dates:
   a. Division Office Employees - October 26, 2015
   c. Elementary School Heads and Designated ICT coordinator - December 18, 2015
   d. All teachers and school non- teaching staff – February 26, 2016

2. Employees will request for new email accounts and password reset through https://depedverify.appspot.com/

3. The Division IT Officer will respond to the request within 14 calendar days. Once a request for new application is approved, the applicant will receive a message through his/her alternative email. He/She must go back to the DepEd verification page and type in the exact details found in their application which will also be reflected in the email, to retrieve their username and password.

4. For password reset request, the applicant will receive a message through his/her alternative email account informing him/her of his/her username and password. There is no need to go back to the verification page.

5. For reference and guidance on the use of this email account, attached is the Enclosure No.2 to DepEd Memorandum No. 227 s. 2012, Guidelines on the Acceptable Use of deped.gov.ph accounts.

6. For more information and/or concerns, please contact the Division Information Technology Officer through this email, stephen.pascual@deped.gov.ph.

7. Immediate dissemination and compliance of this memorandum is desired.
GUIDELINES ON THE ACCEPTABLE USE OF deped.gov.ph ACCOUNTS

1. Scope

a. These guidelines cover the use of a deped.gov.ph email account assigned to employees of DepEd.

b. Where applicable, the substance of this policy shall also cover email communications by persons connected to the Department and acting on its behalf.

2. Core Principles

a. Use

Whenever an employee of DepEd is assigned a deped.gov.ph email account, the use of such account for all online official communications is highly encouraged.

b. Professional Discretion

i. Considering that all communications through the deped.gov.ph email account are treated as official representations, exercise of utmost professional discretion is required specially when sending out to external parties.

ii. The content of all such communications shall meet the appropriate standard in terms of form (e.g. language, spelling, grammar, punctuation, presentation), as well as substance.

c. Protection Against Liability

i. Appropriate discretion shall be applied at all times in terms of representations, claims, and disclosures made through the deped.gov.ph email account.

ii. In the spirit of email risk awareness and to mitigate possible liability, the inclusion of the following disclaimer in the signature line of all communications sent through the service is automatically included in every email:

“This communication may contain confidential or privileged information, and is intended solely for the individual or entity to whom it is originally addressed. Any disclosure, copying, dissemination, or any action taken in reliance to it by others, other than the intended recipient, is strictly prohibited. The opinions, conclusions, and statements expressed in this message are those of the sender and may not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Education.”

d. Prohibited Use

i. The deped.gov.ph email account is a government email service obtained in the interest of public service. Transmission and storage of offensive, disruptive, discriminatory, pornographic, profane, abusive, libellous, derogatory, illegal, and otherwise similar material unbecoming of agents of the civil service are strictly prohibited.

ii. The email account shall not be used in connection with any commercial, religious, social, political, and other similar interests.
iii. Disclosing confidential and sensitive personal information is strictly prohibited, unless it is required by duty or assignment.

iv. Use of the account to access illegal content or to access content (e.g., copyrighted information) in a manner that violates the law is likewise stringently forbidden.

v. The introduction, intentional or otherwise, of any form of computer virus or malware, may arise from an email attachment or external link to a file into the network is also strictly prohibited.

vi. Each individual is responsible for any information or statement sent out from his/her own account, making him/her liable for violations stated in this policy.

c. Acceptable Personal Use
   i. Reasonable use of the deped.gov.ph service for personal electronic correspondence is acceptable. However, strict professional discretion is still expected to be employed at all times.

ii. It is recommended that personal emails are saved in a folder separate from work-related email messages.

f. Other Limitations
   DepEd shall exercise discretion over the deped.gov.ph account and over all data, material, and information received, transmitted, stored, or otherwise processed through the service.

3. Monitoring
   a. The privacy of every individual user shall be respected as a strict general policy. Supervision of accounts shall only be undertaken upon a finding of probable cause indicating a breach of the safe, proper, and reasonable use of the deped.gov.ph service or a violation of any law or other rules or regulations as possibly evidenced by contents processed through the deped.gov.ph service, as determined by the Executive Committee (ExecCom).

   b. The individual shall be informed that the account will be subjected for investigation and of the reason behind it.

4. Enforcement
   a. In the event that the prohibited acts stated in Section 2.d of this Policy Guidelines are violated, formal complaints may be lodged with the ICT administrator. This shall be done in coordination with the appropriate Division, Regional, Central DepEd legal officer against individual users whether they are still connected with DepEd or not, and upon a determination by the three super administrators that there is a probable cause to rely on the validity and veracity of the allegations contained therein.

   b. Any user found to be guilty of violating, intentional or otherwise, the policies of the deped.gov.ph email account service shall be subject to disciplinary action, without prejudice to such other civil, administrative, and penal remedies as the gravity of the violation may merit.

   c. The specific disciplinary action to be meted out shall be determined by the ExecCom member assigned as the ICT Chairperson, in consultation with the unit head of the personal fault.