



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

OFFICE OF THE SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

CID-2026- 975

To : Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors, CID and SGOD
Education Program Supervisor in Science and Math
Public Schools District Supervisors (Secondary)
Public and Private Senior High School Heads
All Others Concerned

Subject : **PARTICIPATION IN THE 2026 STARBOOKS WHIZ BEE DAVAO DEL SUR**

Date : August 11, 2026

This Office hereby disseminates the invitation of the Department of Science and Technology Provincial Science and Technology Office–Davao del Sur (DOST Davao del Sur), in coordination with the DOST Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), for the conduct of the 2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee, as part of the 2026 Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTW in Davao del Sur 2026). The activity aims to challenge the mathematical and scientific knowledge of Grade 11 and Grade 12 learners and promote critical thinking and greater utilization of STARBOOKS as a STEM learning resource.

In view thereof, all Digos City Senior High Schools are invited and encouraged to participate. Each school may register a maximum of five (5) Grade 11 and/or Grade 12 learner-representatives, who shall compete individually during the preliminary round.

The Preliminary Round shall be conducted virtually via Zoom on September 2, 2026, while the Semi-Final and Final Rounds for the Top 25 provincial qualifiers shall be conducted on September 15, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the SCSC Building, Poblacion, Sulop, Davao del Sur.

Interested schools shall register on or before August 20, 2026. Participating learners and teacher-coaches shall also ensure that they have an active STARBOOKS Online account through <https://www.starbooks.ph/login>. Schools without a STARBOOKS kiosk may still participate, provided that their learners and coaches are registered users of STARBOOKS Online.

Participation shall be subject to the conditions stipulated in Annex A of this Memorandum, particularly on voluntary participation, parental consent, non-disruption of classes and protected instructional time, inclusivity, coordination with School Heads, compliance with applicable DepEd protocols, the No Collection Policy, and the non-use of government funds.

School Heads shall ensure that participating learners and teacher-coaches are properly oriented on the guidelines and mechanics contained in the attached annex and that participation shall not adversely affect the delivery of regular instruction.

For inquiries, concerned schools may coordinate with Mr. Ace Niño B. Guieb of DOST Davao del Sur through telephone number (082) 333-0233 or mobile number +63 945-336-0403.

Immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

Enclosed: As stated.


MELANIE P. ESTACIO, PhD, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



CID/ifs



Address: Roxas Street cor. Lopez Jaena Street, Zone II, Digos City 8002
Telephone No: (082)553-8396 | (082)553-8376 | (082)553-9170
· | (082)553-8375

**GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 2026 STARBOOKS WHIZ BEE
DAVAO DEL SUR**

(Enclosure to Division Memorandum No. 725, s. 2026)

A. Participants and Registration

1. Participants shall be bona fide **Grade 11 and/or Grade 12 learners** of the participating school.
2. Each school may register a maximum of **five (5) learner-representatives**, who shall compete individually, and shall designate a **teacher-coach** to facilitate their registration, preparation, and participation.
3. Registration shall be undertaken from **August 10 to 20, 2026**. The designated teacher-coach shall submit the accomplished **Registration, Confirmation, and Consent Form** to starbooks@stii.dost.gov.ph on or before **August 20, 2026**.
4. Participating learners and teacher-coaches shall have an **active STARBOOKS Online account** before the competition. Registration and access may be made through: <https://www.starbooks.ph/login>
5. Schools without a STARBOOKS kiosk may still participate, provided that their learners and teacher-coaches are registered users of **STARBOOKS Online**.

B. Competition Mechanics

6. The **Preliminary Round** shall be conducted virtually via **Zoom on September 2, 2026**. Participants shall compete individually in a **30-item multiple-choice quiz** covering Science, Mathematics, and STEM subjects available on the STARBOOKS platform.
7. The **Top 25 contestants from the province** shall advance to the **Semi-Final and Final Rounds** on **September 15, 2026, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon** at the **SCSC Building, Poblacion, Sulop, Davao del Sur**.
8. Participating schools shall provide the necessary venue, device, and reliable internet connection for the virtual preliminary round. Teacher-coaches shall ensure the integrity of the competition and shall not provide unauthorized assistance to participants.

C. DepEd Conditions for Participation

In accordance with applicable Department of Education policies and protocols, participation shall be subject to the following conditions:

9. **Voluntary Participation and Parental Consent.** Participation shall be voluntary. No learner shall be compelled or pressured to join, and written consent from the parent or guardian shall be secured prior to participation.
10. **Non-Disruption of Classes.** Selection, preparation, and participation shall be arranged in consultation with the School Head and shall not interfere with regular classes, instructional time, or the protected instructional block.
11. **Inclusivity and Respect.** The activity shall be conducted in an inclusive and respectful manner, with due consideration for the diverse backgrounds, abilities, circumstances, and needs of learners.
12. **School Approval and Supervision.** All activities related to registration, preparation, participation, and, when applicable, travel shall be undertaken with the approval and supervision of the School Head and in coordination with the appropriate DepEd office.
13. **Compliance with DepEd Protocols.** Participating schools shall observe applicable policies on **learner safety, child protection, data privacy, parental consent, and off-campus activities**. Learners who qualify for the face-to-face rounds shall be properly supervised by their designated teacher-coach.
14. **No Collection Policy.** In accordance with **Republic Act No. 5546 (Ganzon Law)** and **DepEd Memorandum No. 41, s. 2024**, no registration fee, participation fee, contribution, or other compulsory collection shall be imposed upon learners, parents/guardians, or teachers. This includes expenses for transportation, meals, internet load, review materials, uniforms, supplies, and other related requirements.
15. **No Government Funds.** No government funds shall be used for participation in or implementation of the activity.
16. Teacher-coaches may conduct appropriate orientation and academic preparation for participants, provided that these activities **do not disrupt classes and do not require learners to purchase materials or incur compulsory expenses**.

August 6, 2026

DR. MELANIE P. ESTACIO, CESO VI

Digos City Schools Division Superintendent
Department of Education Schools Division of Digos City
Brgy. Zone II, Digos City, Davao del Sur

Subject: *Conduct of the 2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee Davao del Sur*

Dear **Dr. Estacio:**

Greetings of solidarity!

The Department of Science and Technology Provincial Science and Technology Office Davao del Sur (DOST Davao del Sur), together with the DOST Science and Technology Information Institute (STII), is pleased to announce the conduct of the **2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee** on **September 15, 2026** as part of the provincial celebration of the **2026 Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTW in Davao del Sur 2026)** in Sulop, Davao del Sur this coming September 14 and 15, 2026. This competition aims to challenge the mathematical and scientific knowledge of **Grade 11 and 12 students** from STARBOOKS beneficiary schools, fostering critical thinking and camaraderie among senior high school learners and strengthening the community of STARBOOKS users through engaging academic competition.

In line with this, we respectfully seek your office's support in the conduct of the competition and request your assistance in disseminating the invitation and encouraging the participation of eligible schools under the Department of Education (DepEd) Schools Division of Digos City. DOST Davao del Sur will provide close coordination and technical assistance throughout the preparations to help ensure the smooth and successful conduct of the competition for participating local schools.

The competition follows a two-stage process:

- **Preliminary Round (Elimination):** This will be held virtually via Zoom on **September 2, 2026**. Schools may register up to **five (5) representatives** to compete individually in a 30-item multiple-choice quiz covering Science, Mathematics, and STEM subjects found on the STARBOOKS platform.
- **Semi-Final and Final Rounds:** The top 25 contestants from the province will advance to the face-to-face rounds on **September 15, 2026 9:30 AM to 12:00NN** during the RSTW in Davao del Sur celebration at SCSC Bldg., Poblacion, Sulop, Davao del Sur.

Interested schools must register between **August 10 and 20, 2026**. Coaches are required to submit the accomplished Registration, Confirmation, and Consent Form, attached herewith, via email to starbooks@stii.dost.gov.ph **on or before August 20,**

2026. Schools that have not yet availed of the STARBOOKS kiosk are still eligible to participate, provided that both the students and their coaches have registered for and are using STARBOOKS Online.

We look forward to your favorable response and support in promoting this academic event to the students of Digos City. For further inquiries, your staff may coordinate with our office via telephone (082) 333-0233 or via the DOST Davao del Sur office hotline +63945-336-0403 and look for Mr. Ace Niño B. Guieb.

Thank you for your continued partnership in promoting science and technology education.

Sincerely,

LESLIE PEARL M. CANCIO-DY
Provincial Science and Technology Director



PARTICIPANTS' REGISTRATION FORM

Please type or write legibly in Black or Blue ink (to be accomplished by the Coach).

SCHOOL DETAILS	
School Name	
School Address	
Contact Number	
COACH'S INFORMATION	
Name	
Contact Number	
Email Address	
Designation / Subject Area	
NAME/S OF STUDENT PARTICIPANT/S <i>(up to 5 representatives from SHS level)</i>	
Student #1	
Student #2	
Student #3	
Student #4	
Student #5	

Team Agreement:

School representatives will compete individually.

By submitting this registration form, the coach and the student participants agree to the following:

- We have read the DOST-STII Privacy Policy posted on the DOST-STII website (<https://stii.dost.gov.ph/stii-privacy-policy/>);
- We have read and understood the guidelines for **"2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee – Davao del Sur"** posted on the STARBOOKS website (<https://starbooks.ph/whizbee/2026-1>);
- We will abide by all contest rules and regulations; and
- We attest that the information provided in this form is accurate and truthful.

Coach's Signature: _____	Date: _____
Student #1's Signature: _____	Date: _____
Student #2's Signature: _____	Date: _____
Student #3's Signature: _____	Date: _____
Student #4's Signature: _____	Date: _____
Student #5's Signature: _____	Date: _____



SCHOOL'S CONFIRMATION FORM

By signing below, I, _____, Principal
(Name of the Principal)
_____, verify that the information provided on this
(Name of the School)

"2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee – Davao del Sur" Registration Form is accurate and complete.

I confirm that all listed team members:

- Are currently enrolled students at _____ ;
(Name of the School)
- Have parental/guardian consent to participate in the competition (as indicated by the completed consent forms); and
- Have been briefed on the contest guidelines and understand the expectations for responsible and respectful conduct during the event.

The _____ grants permission for this team to
(Name of the School)
participate in **"2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee – Davao del Sur"** and fully support their efforts in representing the school.

Principal's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: Please email the accomplished forms (*Registration, Confirmation, and Consent forms*) at starbooks@stii.dost.gov.ph on or before **20 August 2026**.



CONSENT FORM

Please type or write legibly in Black or Blue ink.

Student Name: _____ Year Level: _____

School Name: _____

School Address: _____

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Relationship to the Student: _____

Email Address: _____ Contact Number: _____

Consent:

- I understand that participating in the contest may entail certain risks. I hereby release the Department of Science and Technology - Science and Technology Information Institute (DOST-STII), and all contest organizers, sponsors, and their representatives from all liability resulting from any injuries, damages, or losses sustained by my child arising from or related to participation in the contest.
- I grant the contest organizers permission to use my child's name, image, and likeness in connection with promoting the contest. We understand this permission is freely given and may be withdrawn upon written notification to the contest organizers.
- I understand the contest organizers will collect and store personal information about my child, such as name, school, and contact details. This information will be used strictly for registration purposes, communication regarding the contest, and potentially for future outreach from DOST-STII.

I, _____, as the legal guardian of _____,
(Name of the Parent / Guardian) (Name of the Student)

hereby grant permission for my child to participate in the **"2026 STARBOOKS Whiz Bee – Davao del Sur"** on the following schedules:

Elimination Round: **02 September 2026**, 9:00 AM via Zoom Meeting

Final Rounds: **15 September 2026**, 9:00 AM in Sulop, Davao del Sur

The Top 25 finalists from the elimination round and their coaches will be invited to a face-to-face STARBOOKS Whiz Bee.

(Venue: SCSC Bldg., Poblacion, Sulop, Davao del Sur)

I have read and understood the contest guidelines and consent to my child's participation under the terms outlined in this form.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____