Item No.: 01

Date: NOV 10 2026

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RELEASED
By:
Date: 10.30.26 Time: 9:30

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Provincial Capitol
Tacloban City

-oOo-

PROVINCIAL LEGAL OFFICE

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: OCT 30 2026
By:

2nd INDORSEMENT
September 16, 2026

Respectfully returned to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte, through the SP Secretary, the attached Ordinance No. 2026-15 of the Sangguniang Bayan of San Miguel, Leyte.

REVIEW/RECOMMENDATION/LEGAL OPINION:

This office is of the opinion that the subject Ordinance is generally in accordance with its power under Sections 447(a)(1)[1] of the Local Government Code of 1991 (R.A 7160). Hence, we recommend for the declaration of its validity.

We hope to have assisted you with this request. Please note that the opinion rendered by this Office are based on the facts available and may vary or change when additional facts and documents are presented or changed. This opinion is likewise without prejudice to the opinions rendered by higher and competent authorities and/or the courts.

ATTY. JOSE RAYMUND A. ACOL
Provincial Legal Officer

[1] a) The sangguniang bayan, as the legislative body of the municipality, shall enact ordinances, approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the municipality and its itants pursuant to Section 16 of this Code and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the municipality as provided for under Section 22 of this Code.

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Palo, Leyte
-o0o-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN

PROVINCE OF LEYTE
LEGAL OFFICE
RECEIVED
By: _____ Time: 9:44
Date: 8.27.26

1ST INDORSEMENT
26 August 2026

The Provincial Legal Office is respectfully requested to review and submit recommendations on the herein enclosed **Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-15** of the **Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte,** entitled: **An Ordinance supporting and strengthening the implementation of Department of Education policies on the regulated use of mobile phones and similar electronic gadgets during class hours, and providing local mechanisms for enforcement, parental involvement, and student discipline.**

FLORINDA JILL S. UYVICO
Secretary to the Sangguniang

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: AUG 26 2026
By:

August 25, 2026

The Honorable Members of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Leyte
Thru: The Sangguniang Panlalawigan Secretary
Provincial Legislative Building,
Candahug, Palo, Leyte

Gentlemen/Ladies:

I have the honor to forward herewith pertinent documents of the Sangguniang Bayan of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte for review and approval, to wit:

1. Fifteen (15) copies of Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-15, Series of 2026 entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION POLICIES ON THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC GADGETS DURING CLASS HOURS AND PROVIDING LOCAL MECHANISMS FOR ENFORCEMENT, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE".**

Kindly acknowledge receipt hereof.

Very truly yours,

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL
-oOo-

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
Date: AUG 26 2026
By:

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, HELD AT THE SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING, SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE ON JULY 27, 2026

PRESENT:

Hon. Estanislao D. Sabdao, Jr. - Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer
Hon. Jerome P. Peñaranda - SB Member
Hon. Danilo L. Aureo - SB Member
Hon. Letecia G. Espos - SB Member
Hon. Francis Jay D. Sabdao - SB Member
Hon. Thelma M. Brazil - SB Member
Hon. Raul A. Salaño - SB Member
Hon. Richard Len B. Lapidario - SB Member
Hon. Samuel P. Salomon - Ex-Officio Member, President, Liga ng mga Barangay
Hon. Joss Novem B. Labaclado - Ex-Officio Member, President, Sangguniang Kabataan Pambayang Pederasyon

ABSENT:

Hon. Norman Niel G. Martija - SB Member (on official leave)

Resolution No. 187
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION POLICIES ON THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC GADGETS DURING CLASS HOURS AND PROVIDING LOCAL MECHANISMS FOR ENFORCEMENT, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them, including the promotion of a conducive learning environment for students;

WHEREAS, Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, mandates local government units to provide basic services, including support to education and the maintenance of peace and order within their jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) has long implemented policies regulating the use of mobile phones in schools, particularly under DepEd Order No. 83, s. 2003, which prohibits the use of cellular phones by students during class hours to minimize distractions and maintain discipline;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education maintains that while the use of electronic devices may be allowed for educational purposes, their general use during class hours is discouraged due to their potential to disrupt learning and classroom management;

WHEREAS, studies and policy discussions have shown that excessive and improper use of mobile phones among students may lead to decreased academic performance, lack of focus, and increased exposure to cyberbullying and other online risks;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish clear, consistent, and enforceable local policies regulating the use of mobile phones and similar electronic gadgets in schools to ensure discipline, promote academic excellence, and safeguard students' well-being;

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
SB MEMBER

HON. THELMA M. BRAZIL
SB MEMBER

HON. RAUL A. SALAÑO
SB MEMBER

HON. RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
SB MEMBER

HON. JEROME P. PEÑARANDA
SB MEMBER

HON. SAMUEL P. SALOMON
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

HON. DANILO L. AUREO
SB MEMBER

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

WHEREAS, local government units have the authority to enact ordinances that supplement national policies and address specific community concerns affecting students and educational institutions;

WHEREAS, similar ordinances have been adopted in other local government units to regulate gadget use in schools and improve classroom discipline and learning outcomes;

WHEREAS, the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte recognizes the importance of balancing the benefits of technology with the need to maintain a focused and effective learning environment in schools;

WHEREAS, while DepEd provides national policy, effective implementation requires local support, coordination, and community-based mechanisms;

WHEREAS, latest DepEd order of 2025-2026 cellphones are still generally prohibited in class, but they are now recognized as learning tools when properly controlled and supervised."

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9155, otherwise known as the *Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001,* establishes a framework of governance for basic education that promotes shared governance, shared responsibility, and shared accountability among all levels of the education system in ensuring the delivery of quality basic education and the improved learning outcomes of learners.

WHEREFORE on motion of Hon. Raul A. Salaño duly seconded by all members present;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte in regular session assembled;

MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO.2026-15
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION POLICIES ON THE REGULATED USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC GADGETS DURING CLASS HOURS, AND PROVIDING LOCAL MECHANISMS FOR ENFORCEMENT, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Authored by: RAUL A. SALAÑO
Committee on Education, Family and Housing

SECTION 1. Title This Ordinance shall be known as the **"Student Mobile Phone and Electronic Gadget Regulation Ordinance of San Miguel, Leyte"**.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy

It is the policy of the Municipality of San Miguel to:

a) public and private elementary and secondary schools;

b) Support and align with existing educational policies discouraging the misuse of mobile phones by students during classroom instruction;

b) Safeguard student focus, discipline, and academic performance by regulating the use of mobile phones and similar gadgets during class hours.

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. JEROME P. BALMARANDA
SB MEMBER

HON. DANILO L. AUREO
SB MEMBER

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
SB MEMBER

HON. THELMA M. BRAZIL
SB MEMBER

HON. RAUL A. SALAÑO
SB MEMBER

HON. RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
SB MEMBER

HON. SAMUEL P. SALOMON
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

a. The Local Government further recognizes the importance of responsible and guided use of technology in education and shall encourage its appropriate utilization strictly for academic purposes, consistent with existing educational policies and standards.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms

For the purposes of this Ordinance:

a) Mobile Phone – A portable electronic communication device capable of transmitting or receiving phone calls, messages, applications, or internet access.
b) Similar Electronic Gadgets – Any handheld device such as tablets, smartwatches, or gaming devices capable of communication or internet access.
c) School Hours – The officially approved class periods and instructional hours as defined by each school's calendar and timetable.
d) Student – Any learner enrolled in elementary or secondary levels in public or private schools within the municipality.
e. Headphone set -is device worn over or in the ears that allows a person to listen to audio privately

SECTION 4. OBJECTIVES

The Ordinance aims to:

1. Promote a conducive learning environment by minimizing distractions caused by the use of mobile phones and similar electronic gadgets during class hours.
2. Enhance students' academic performance by encouraging focus, active participation, and engagement in classroom activities.
3. Instill discipline and responsible use of technology among students within school premises.
4. Support teachers in maintaining classroom order and effective instruction without unnecessary interruptions from electronic devices.
5. Ensure that mobile phones are used only for legitimate educational purposes, when authorized by the teacher or school administration.
6. Protect students from potential negative effects of excessive gadget use, including reduced attention span, academic decline, and exposure to inappropriate content.
7. Encourage collaboration among school authorities, parents, and local government units in enforcing policies related to proper gadget use.
8. Align local school policies with national education goals of improving literacy, comprehension, and overall student development.

SECTION 5. Coverage. This Ordinance shall apply to all elementary and secondary students enrolled in public schools within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte.

SECTION 6. PROHIBITED ACTS

During class hours, it shall be unlawful for any student to:

a) Use or operate mobile phones or similar electronic gadgets inside the classroom, unless expressly authorized by the teacher for academic purposes;

b) Use, operate, or access such devices for non-academic, non-instructional, or non-emergency purposes that may disrupt or interfere with teaching and learning processes;

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. FRANCIS JAY P. SABDAO
SB MEMBER

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President, Liga ng mga Barangay

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SB MEMBER

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

c) Display, handle, or keep visible any mobile phone or electronic gadget in a manner that distracts the student, other learners, or the teacher, or that undermines classroom discipline and management;

d) Record, capture, photograph, or video any part of the class, including teachers and fellow students, without prior authorization from school authorities;

e) Use mobile phones or electronic gadgets for cheating, plagiarism, or any form of academic dishonesty during examinations, quizzes, or class activities;

f) Access social media platforms, online games, or entertainment applications during class hours unless authorized for instructional purposes;

g) Use gadgets to bully, harass, intimidate, or threaten any student, teacher, or school personnel, including acts of cyberbullying;

h) Use electronic devices to access, store, or distribute inappropriate, obscene, or harmful content within school premises;

i) Connect to unauthorized internet networks or use mobile data in a manner that bypasses school regulations or disrupts school systems;

j) Charge electronic devices using school electrical outlets without permission from school authorities;

k) Use gadgets in a manner that compromises school safety, including use during emergency drills or official school activities where attention is required;

l) Lend, borrow, or trade gadgets during class hours in a manner that causes disruption or loss of instructional time;

m) Refuse to surrender or turn off gadgets when instructed by teacher or authorized school personnel;

SECTION 7. Exceptions

The prohibitions in Section 5 shall not apply in the following circumstances:

a) When the use of mobile phones or electronic devices is explicitly authorized by a teacher or school administrator for instructional or educational purposes directly related to the lesson or school activities. Such authorization must be limited to the specific activity and time period required for the educational purpose.
b) When a student is permitted to use a mobile phone or device for urgent communication regarding health or safety, and such use is verified by school authorities as necessary (contacting a parent/guardian or emergency services).

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

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HON. THELMA M. BRAZIL
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HON. RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
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President, Liga ng mga Barangay

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HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

SECTION 8. Sanctions and Penalties

Students who violate this Ordinance shall be subject to progressive disciplinary consequences, as determined by the school administration in consultation with the student's parents or guardians. The objective of these sanctions is corrective, educational, and designed to encourage compliance with school rules.

a) First Offense – Verbal warning and counseling with the student regarding responsible use and the importance of adhering to the policy.

b) Second Offense – Written notice to the student's parents or guardians documenting the violation and outlining further expectations and potential consequences for repeated infractions.

c) Third Offense – Confiscation of the device until the end of the school day and required parent/guardian acknowledgment of the incident. Additional disciplinary measures may be implemented, such as remain in classroom, community service, or participation in a digital citizenship workshop.

d) Fourth and Subsequent Offenses – Confiscation of the device, which shall be released only to a parent or guardian; and other disciplinary actions consistent with the school's behavior management guidelines (e.g., in-school suspension, loss of device privileges, or other interventions as appropriate).

e) Severe or Aggravated Violations – For violations involving misuse of devices for academic dishonesty, harassment, threats, or other serious misconduct, the school may impose additional sanctions in accordance with existing disciplinary policies and rules, up to and including suspension.

SECTION 9. Monitoring and Enforcement. School administrators, teachers, and authorized school personnel shall be responsible for monitoring compliance within school grounds during class hours. This may include random checks, class monitoring, or designated gadget zones.

SECTION 10. Roles and Responsibilities of Parents and Guardians

In support of the effective implementation of this Ordinance and consistent with national education policies, parents and guardians shall perform the following duties:

1. Ensure Compliance with the use of cellphone and Gadget Regulations
   Parents and guardians shall guide and ensure that their learners comply with school policies on the regulated use or prohibition of mobile phones and similar electronic devices during class hours.
2. Reinforce Discipline at Home
   Parents and guardians shall instill discipline, responsible cellphone and gadget use, and respect for school rules at home, consistent with the objective of minimizing distractions and promoting a focused learning environment.
3. Limit Unauthorized Use of Devices
   Parents and guardians shall refrain from contacting learners through mobile phones during class hours, except in cases of emergency, to avoid disruption of instructional time.
4. Support School Enforcement Measures
   Parents and guardians shall cooperate with school authorities in the enforcement of this Ordinance, including acknowledging and respecting reasonable disciplinary actions imposed for the violations of this ordinance.

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. JEROME P. DE NARANDA
SB MEMBER

HON. DANILO L. AUREO
SB MEMBER

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
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SB MEMBER

HON. SAMUEL P. SALOMON
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

5. Participate in School Programs and Orientations
   Parents and guardians shall actively participate in school meetings, orientations, and activities related to digital discipline, child protection, and responsible use of technology.
6. Ensure Proper Use of Devices Outside Class Hours
   Parents and guardians shall monitor and regulate the use of mobile phones and electronic devices of their learners outside school to promote healthy digital habits and prevent misuse.
7. Coordinate with School Authorities
   Parents and guardians shall maintain open communication with teachers and school officials regarding concerns on student behavior, discipline, and compliance with this Ordinance.
8. Promote Learner Well-being and Safety
   Parents and guardians shall support initiatives that promote the physical, emotional, and psychological well-being of learners, consistent with the policy of maintaining a safe and motivating learning environment.
9. Failure of parents or guardians to cooperate with the provisions of this Ordinance may warrant appropriate interventions by the school, including mandatory conferences or referral to appropriate school or local authorities, consistent with existing laws and child protection policies.

SECTION 11. Roles and Responsibilities of the Barangay Officials

In support of this Ordinance and consistent with the principles of shared governance and community participation in education, the Barangay Officials shall undertake the following responsibilities:

1. Support Enforcement of Gadget Regulations
   The Barangay, through the Punong Barangay and Barangay Council, shall assist schools in promoting and reinforcing compliance with regulations on the use of mobile phones and electronic gadgets during class hours within their jurisdiction.
2. Coordination with Schools and DepEd Officials
   The Barangay shall establish regular coordination with school heads, teachers, and DepEd officials to ensure effective implementation of this Ordinance and alignment with national education policies. This reflects the mandated home-school-community partnership in education governance.
3. Community Awareness and Information Campaigns
   The Barangay shall conduct or support information drives, seminars, and campaigns for parents and students on:
   1. Responsible use of mobile devices
   2. Digital discipline
   3. Importance of minimizing distractions during class hours
4. Facilitation of Parent and Community Involvement
   The Barangay shall encourage active participation of parents, guardians, and community stakeholders in school programs, meetings, and policy implementation to strengthen collective responsibility in education.
5. Monitoring and Reporting
   The Barangay shall monitor the general compliance within the community and submit reports or feedback to the LGU or school authorities to improve the implementation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 12. Roles and Responsibilities of Teachers

1. Enforce the Policy
   1. Ensure that students comply with the prohibition or regulated use of mobile phones and similar electronic gadgets during class hours.

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
SB MEMBER

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President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

2. Remind students of the school's rules at the beginning of the school year and whenever necessary.

2. Monitor Student Compliance
    1. Observe and monitor students during instructional time.
    2. Address violations in accordance with school rules and the ordinance.
3. Implement Fair and Consistent Discipline
    1. Apply disciplinary measures prescribed by the school and the ordinance in a fair, respectful, and non-discriminatory manner.
    2. Record and report repeated violations to the school administration.
4. Promote Responsible Digital Citizenship
    1. Educate students on the responsible, ethical, and safe use of mobile phones and electronic gadgets.
    2. Integrate lessons on digital responsibility, online safety, and proper technology use whenever appropriate. This aligns with DepEd guidance encouraging teachers and parents to educate students on responsible cellphone use.
5. Coordinate with Parents and Guardians
    1. Inform parents or guardians of repeated violations or disciplinary actions.
    2. Work with families to reinforce appropriate gadget use both at school and at home.
6. Support Educational Use of Technology
    1. Allow the use of mobile phones or electronic gadgets only when specifically authorized for legitimate educational activities or emergency situations, consistent with DepEd policies.
7. Model Appropriate Gadget Use
    1. Demonstrate responsible and professional use of electronic devices during instructional hours.
    2. Avoid unnecessary personal use of gadgets while teaching.
8. Document and Report Violations
    1. Maintain records of gadget-related incidents when required.
    2. Submit reports to the school head for monitoring and appropriate action.
9. Maintain proper custody of deposited cellphones during class hours and promptly report any loss, damage, or related incident to the school administration for appropriate action, in accordance with existing school policies.

SECTION 13. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Ordinance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall not be affected.

SECTION 14. Repealing Clause. All ordinances, resolutions, rules, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 15. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after publication in a newspaper of local circulation and posting in at least three (3) conspicuous public places in the municipality.

IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR)

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC GADGETS BY STUDENTS DURING CLASS HOURS IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, LEYTE, PROVIDING FOR GUIDELINES, SANCTIONS, AND MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SECTION 1. TITLE. These Rules shall be known as the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Mobile Phone and Electronic Gadget Regulation Ordinance of the Municipality of San Miguel, Leyte.

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
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President, Liga ng mga Barangay

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SB MEMBER

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

SECTION 2. OBJECTIVES

These Rules are issued to:

a. Ensure effective implementation of the Ordinance;
b. Promote discipline and minimize distractions in schools;
c. Protect students from misuse of electronic devices;
d. Provide clear guidelines for schools, students, and parents.

SECTION 3. COVERAGE

These Rules shall apply to:

- All public and private elementary and secondary schools
- All enrolled students within the Municipality
- All teaching and non-teaching personnel involved in enforcement

SECTION 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS

a. Class Hours – Official instructional time as scheduled by the school;
b. Electronic Gadgets – Mobile phones, tablets, smartwatches, and similar devices capable of communication, recording, or internet access;
c. Authorized Use – Use permitted by the teacher for instructional or emergency purposes;
d. Confiscation – Temporary custody of a gadget by school authorities due to violation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. GENERAL POLICY

a. The use of mobile phones and electronic gadgets during class hours is strictly regulated;
b. Gadget use shall be allowed only for academic or emergency purposes upon approval of the teacher;
c. Schools shall adopt internal policies consistent with this IRR.

SECTION 6. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. School Heads / Principals

- Ensure dissemination and enforcement of the Ordinance and IRR
- Establish school-level guidelines
- Designate personnel to handle violations

B. Teachers

- Enforce classroom restrictions
- Authorize gadget use when necessary for instruction
- Report violations

C. Students

- Comply with all provisions of the Ordinance and IRR
- Use gadgets responsibly and only when allowed

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

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President, Liga ng mga Barangay

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HON. JOSE NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

D. Parents/Guardians

- Support enforcement of the policy
- Ensure students understand the rules

SECTION 7. ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM

a. Each school shall designate a Gadget Control Officer or Committee;
b. Regular monitoring shall be conducted during class hours;
c. Schools shall submit periodic reports to the Municipal Government (through the Municipal Education or Youth Office, if applicable);

SECTION 8. CONFISCATION PROCEDURE

a. Upon violation, the gadget may be confiscated by the teacher or authorized personnel;

b. The gadget shall be properly recorded in a logbook indicating:

- Name of student
- Date and time
- Nature of violation

c. Return of gadget shall follow:

- 1st Offense – Returned after class
- 2nd Offense – Returned to parent/guardian
- 3rd Offense – Subject to disciplinary action

d. No gadget shall be permanently confiscated.

SECTION 9. PENALTIES

Schools shall impose the following graduated sanctions:

- First Offense – Warning and confiscation
- Second Offense – Written warning and parent notification
- Third Offense – Disciplinary action (community service, guidance intervention, or suspension subject to school rules)

SECTION 10. EXCEPTIONS

The following are allowed:

a. Use of gadgets for instructional purposes approved by the teacher;
b. Use during emergency situations;
c. Students with medical conditions or special needs, upon proper documentation;

SECTION 11. INFORMATION AND DISSEMINATION

- The Municipality shall coordinate with schools for orientation programs;
- Schools shall post the rules in visible areas;
- Parents shall be informed through meetings or written notices;

Certified Correct:

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Concurred:

HON. FRANCIS JAY D. SABDAO
SB MEMBER

HON. THELMA M. BRAZIL
SB MEMBER

HON. RAUL A. SALAÑO
SB MEMBER

HON. RICHARD LEN B. LAPIDARIO
SB MEMBER

HON. JEROME M. PEÑARANDA
SB MEMBER

HON. SAMUEL P. SALOMON
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

HON. DANILO L. AUREO
SB MEMBER

HON. JOSH NOVEM B. LABACLADO
President, SK Pambayang Pederasyon

HON. LETECIA G. ESPOS
SB MEMBER

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

SECTION 12. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- The Municipal Government shall conduct annual evaluation of the implementation;
- Schools shall submit compliance reports;

SECTION 13. COMPLAINT MECHANISM

- Complaints may be filed with school authorities or the Municipal Government;
- All complaints shall be acted upon promptly and fairly;

SECTION 14. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision is declared invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 15. EFFECTIVITY. These Rules shall take effect upon approval and dissemination in all schools in the Municipality.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED - July 27, 2026

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution/ordinance.

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Attested by:

HON. ESTANISLAO D. SABDAO, JR.
Municipal Vice-Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

ATTY. NORMAN D. SABDAO
Municipal Mayor

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HON. SAMUEL P. SALOMON
PRESIDENT, LIGA NG MGA BARANGAY

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SB MEMBER

HON. JOSS NOVEM B. LABACLADO
PRESIDENT, SK PAMBAYANG PEDERASYON

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL
-oOo-

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that Municipal Ordinance No. 2026-15, Series of 2026 as embodied under Resolution No. 187, Series of 2026 entitled: **"AN ORDINANCE SUPPORTING AND STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION POLICIES ON THE USE OF MOBILE PHONES AND SIMILAR ELECTRONIC GADGETS DURING CLASS HOURS AND PROVIDING LOCAL MECHANISMS FOR ENFORCEMENT, PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT, AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE",** has been posted in three (3) conspicuous places within the municipality and shall remain posted for three (3) consecutive weeks.

Done this 25th day of August 2026 at San Miguel, Leyte.

BRYAN NEIL B. BRAZIL
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan