

Education officials reported that classes for public schools in the City opened as scheduled yesterday, June 5 with no major problems reported.

Education supervisor for School Governance and Operations Division (SGOD) chief Dr. Rosalio B. Conturno, Jr., told local media that everything is in place for the opening of school year 2017-2018, and that no issues or incidents have arisen or have been reported during the first day of classes.

“[We] monitor the ongoing opening of classes, not only the opening of classes but the regularity of classes. We want to ensure, whether classes are actually ongoing,” he said

“So far wala naman kameng natanggap [concern],” Conturno reported.

Relative the stringent implementation of the ‘No ID, No Entry policy’ and other security measures in Zamboanga City, Conturno said school officials have been directed to come up with certification and temporary IDs for their students, in coordination with barangay officials.

“For our students, we already instructed our principals to develop a mechanism to collaborate with barangay officials and PTA officials to come up with certification or a temporary ID, because some of our schools are still coming up with their IDs,” he said.

All DepEd personnel have likewise been instructed to always wear their official IDs.

Conturno also disclosed that the DepEd has enough teachers for local schools in the City.

“So far, no hay gat kame problema with regards to number of teachers because we were given 178 new teaching positions for elementary, 145 for senior high school, and 78 for junior high school,” Cortuno explained.

Meanwhile, the Zamboanga City Police Office assured the public of its security of schools, having deployed its personnel to public schools.

Some 214,285 students from kindergarten to senior high school were expected to return to public schools in Zamboanga City.

DepEd Asst. Regional Director and Division of City Schools OIC Superintendent Pete Natividad said the projected figure of 214,285 students for this school year is slightly higher compared to last year's figure of 203,189. (Jasmine Mohammadsali/PR)