



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Laguna
Municipality of Los Baños
Special Science and Nature City
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 0038
Series of 2025

**Establishing a Core Group to Develop an Implementation Plan for
“Rizal Classrooms of the Future”
To Enhance the Delivery of Inclusive and Quality Education in the Municipality of
Los Baños**

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution prescribes the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and to take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all (Article XIV, Sec. 1). Further, the Constitution directs the State to "(establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society/ (Article XIV, Section 2);

WHEREAS, even prior to the enactment of RA 10533 in 2013 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013", Batas Pambansa Blg. 232 or the "Education Act of 1982", had mandated the State to promote the right of every individual to relevant quality education, regardless of sex, age, creed, socio-economic status, physical and mental conditions, racial or ethnic origin, political or other affiliation. The State shall therefore promote and maintain equality of access to education as well as the enjoyment of the benefits of education by all its citizens (Sec. 3). It further provides that the State recognizes its responsibility to provide, within the context of the formal education system, services to meet the special needs of certain clientele (Sec. 24);

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11927: This law supports the growth and development of digital technology, digital careers, and innovations in local communities. It mandates local government units to create policies promoting digital transformation,

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE) Plan of 2019-2025, by the end of 2025, more women and girls, especially those from poor and marginalized groups, are empowered and enjoy the benefits of social, economic, and human development; they are in high-growth areas such as STI and ICT;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 17 series of 2010 issued by the Provincial Government of Laguna mandated the creation of a committee to formulate and develop an implementation scheme for the eReader Rizal Tablet to enhance High School education and for other purposes;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines, the digital divide continues to limit access to learning opportunities, particularly in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDA), where basic ICT infrastructure is lacking. For many schools in these communities, internet connectivity and digital resources remain out of reach, making it difficult for students and educators to participate in the evolving education landscape;

WHEREAS, committed to addressing the challenges in digital learning and education technology, the Department of Education (DepEd), through the Information and Communications Technology Service (ICTS), reported the milestones of its Digital Rise Program during the 2022 World Book and Copyright Day Celebration. The Digital Rise Program is an educational framework that anchors to the infrastructure, software, and capacity building of learners and teachers in technology.

WHEREAS, in the Philippines, based on the 2024 EDCOM report, 16% of students attained at least Level 2 proficiency in mathematics, 24% of students attained the said level in reading, while 23% of students passed Level 2 or higher in science. All of these are way below OECD averages and are behind our neighbors in ASEAN. This crisis in education has been highlighted by the findings of EDCOM 2 that 18M Filipino high school graduates are functionally illiterate;

WHEREAS, Republic Act 11981, also known as "Tatak Pinoy (Proudly Filipino) Act, it is declared the policy of the State to encourage, support, and promote the production and offering of Philippine products and services of increasing diversity, sophistication, and quality by domestic enterprises that are globally competitive. Pursuant to Article XII, Section 1 of the Constitution, emphasizing the promotion of industrialization and full employment through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets,

WHEREAS, MGLB adopted gender mainstreaming as a strategy with the passage of Municipal Ordinance No. 2016-1551 entitled "*An Ordinance Institutionalizing the Gender and Development System in the Municipality*". The commitment to do GAD was further enhanced through the enactment of the New GAD Code of Los Baños in 2022;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Government of Los Baños is committed to creating an inclusive learning environment that leverages cutting-edge, locally developed technology to prepare students for success in the digital age. By introducing an innovative electronic device, students will gain the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in a rapidly changing world, meeting the evolving demands of education and setting them up for future achievement.

NOW THEREFORE, I, NEIL ANDREW N. NOCON, Municipal Mayor of the Municipality of Los Baños, Province of Laguna, by virtue and powers vested in me by law do hereby order the creation of the core group to develop an Implementation Plan for "Rizal Classrooms of the Future" to enhance the Delivery of Inclusive and Quality Education in the Municipality of Los Baños as follows:

Section 1. DEFINITION.

1.1 The "Rizal Classrooms of the Future". While the Rizal Tablets are a key component, the project encompasses a broader vision – creating a modern classroom ecosystem. This ecosystem's various elements are inspired by Jose Rizal's family members, including his siblings (Paciano, Narcisa, Soledad, Trinidad, and Francisco) and his mother, Teodora Alonso, reflecting a comprehensive approach to learning.

1.2 The "*Rizal Tablet*" is an electronic device designed to support learning. This device comes pre-loaded with digital textbooks, a learning management system and, references, enabling students to access a vast array of resources for research, study, and information processing. With its ample storage capacity, the Rizal Tablet can store an entire library's worth of content, allowing students to access materials both in and out of school.

Section 2. SCOPE OF THE PROJECT. The implementation of the Rizal Tablet will be rolled out in phases, with the initial phase focusing on selected primary and secondary public schools in Los Baños. This strategic approach recognizes that effective tablet-assisted learning goes beyond mere device distribution. To maximize the benefits of this technology, several key elements are crucial, i.e.

- Pedagogical Shift: Teachers must adapt their teaching methods to fully leverage the potential of the Rizal Tablet, incorporating digital resources and interactive learning experiences.
- Robust Infrastructure: Schools need reliable internet connectivity, sufficient power supply, and adequate technical support to ensure seamless device operation.
- Comprehensive Training: Educators require thorough training to effectively integrate the Rizal Tablet into their teaching practices, developing engaging lesson plans and assessments.
- Strong Administrative Support: School administrators play a vital role in promoting a culture of innovation, providing resources, and monitoring progress to ensure the successful implementation of tech-assisted learning.

By prioritizing these elements, the phased implementation of the Rizal Tablet can help create a supportive ecosystem that fosters student-centered learning, enhances academic outcomes, and prepares students for success in the digital age.

Section 3. OBJECTIVE. To facilitate the effective rollout of the "Rizal Classrooms of the Future," which aims to improve inclusive, future-ready ready and quality education in Los Baños, a dedicated core group will be formed. This team will spearhead the development of strategies and plans to ensure the project's successful implementation.

Section 2. COMPOSITION OF THE CORE GROUP. The composition of the core group is hereby organized.

Chair:	Hon. Neil Andrew N. Nocon Municipal Mayor
Alternate Chair:	Mr. Anatoly M. Guinto Executive Assistant V/ Chief of Staff
Vice Chair:	Ms. Soledad Villanueva DEPED- District Supervisor
Members:	Hon. Jay G. Rolusta SB Committee Chair on Education
	Ms. Twila T. Torres, EnP MPDC
	Ms. Joyce Ann Mae L. Del Valle Acting Municipal Budget Officer
	Ms. Karen L. Mercado Designated GAD Officer
	Mr. John Marvin Canaria PIO
	Prof. Ari Luis Halos UPOU
	Dr. Agham P. Cuevas UPLB Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
	Lt. Col. Janette Chavez-Arceo MGLB GFPS-EXECOM Member Private Sector Representative

Representative from the Office of the Governor

Technical Working Group: Mr. Frederick Zaide

Mr. Vernon Velasco

Prof. Violeta Quintana

Mr. Miguel Paolo Abella
ICSO-Representative

Secretariat: Office of the Mayor

Section 3. FUNCTIONS. The Core Group shall have the following functions:

1. To spearhead and act as an oversight committee responsible for guiding and monitoring the formulation of the implementation plan, strategic framework, operational rules, and policy guidelines for the establishment of the Rizal Classrooms of the Future in collaboration with the education sector and other relevant government agencies and instrumentalities;
2. To strengthen linkages with partner agencies like DEPED, concerned offices, or organizations working on promoting inclusive educational learning materials with the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT);
3. To request assistance, recommendations, and expertise from national and local government agencies, as well as private sector partners, to support the successful implementation of the project;
4. Provide regular progress updates and strategic recommendations to the LCE about the program achievements, challenges, and areas for improvement to ensure that programs are meeting their intended goals and objectives;
5. To measure the gender impact of the said project in addressing the gender gap in ICT and education;
6. To perform such other functions as may be necessary to accomplish the above responsibilities and duties.

Section 5. FUNDING. Funds needed relative to the development of the GAD Activity entitled Rizal Classrooms of the Future shall be included in the Annual GAD Plan and Budget of the LGU, which is at least 5% of the total LGU Budget, subject however, to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

Section 6. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in force until lifted and amended by another order or superseded by law or ordinance.

DONE this 22nd day of September 2025 at Los Baños, Laguna.


NEIL ANDREW N. NOCON
Municipal Mayor