**Republika ng Pilipinas**

**Kagawaran ng Edukasyon**

**Rehiyon XI**

**SANGAY NG ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL**

**Peňaplata, District II, Island Garden City of Samal**

**Telefax No. 084-301-4121**

March 17, 2015

Dear Graduates,

School Year 2014-2015 comes to a close with Commencement Exercises inspired by the theme *“ Saktong Buhay: sa De-kalidad na Edukasyon Pinanday”* where each one of you is the celebrity in the ceremonies. When your name is called for you to march on stage to receive your certificates as graduates, you also would begin to make the first few steps towards the next level of learning. May the occasion bring you back to where you started four or six years back and vividly journey to what you have become today. The roads that you have trodden all through these years may have been rugged and rough but the imperfections have been the sharpening tools that enabled you to successfully get to the finish line - your graduation day.

Everyone in your respective schools had done their best in providing you the basic learning experiences to prepare you for further learning. *Sana ay nabigyan namin kayo ng de-kalidad na edukasyon*. May you always cherish the years you spent in school with your teachers and peers and keep in your hearts the values you learned and be resolved to live by these principles. As you leave the gates of your alma mater, you carry the responsibility of keeping the drive to become productive citizens of the country and be contributors in making the Philippines competitive not only in the ASEAN region but worldwide.

For John R. Wooden, ***“Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming”***. Nothing can beat hard work in pursuing success. You might be gifted with skills but these should be coupled with work ethics that could ensure life sustenance and a life of purpose for each one of you. Make the most of everyday and try your best not to waste time or any resource.

Proverbs 21:31 says “ The horse is made ready for the battle but victory rests with the Lord”. Your learning in school may have prepared you for greater heights and more difficult hurdles in life but it is the Almighty God who disposes what He sees is best for you. It is best to always ask God to teach us His ways.

Your parents have been treasures that you should not forget to thank and be thankful for. Share your dreams and walk with them as you trek the paths of life and whether victorious or in any circumstance in life, continue to walk with them.

Be grateful, too, for the school stakeholders and its officials who, in one way or another, significantly collaborated as a family in providing you “a home away from home”.

From all of us in DepED, our heartfelt congratulations to everyone!