



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cavite
CITY OF BACOOR

Office of the Sangguniang Panlungsod



DISTRICT I

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
City Councilor

HON. MIGUEL M. BAUTISTA
City Councilor

HON. ADRIELITO G. GAWARAN
City Councilor

HON. MANOLO S. GALVEZ JR.
City Councilor

HON. RICARDO F. UGALDE
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HON. HORACIO M. BRILLIANTES JR.
City Councilor

HON. RANDY C. FRANCISCO
City Councilor-ABC President

HON. PALM ANGELS S. BUNCIO
City Councilor- SK Federation President

Attested by:
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



CITY ORDINANCE NO. 497-2026
Series of 2026

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A FREE SCHOOL BUS SYSTEM FOR THE BENEFIT OF PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, TRANSPORTING THEM SAFELY FROM DESIGNATED PICK-UP POINTS TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND VICE-VERSA WITHIN THE CITY OF BACOOR, CAVITE.

Sponsored by:
Hon. Manolo S. Galvez, Jr.

Co-Sponsored by:
Hon. Simplicio G. Dominguez, Hon. Reynaldo M. Fabian, Hon. Randy C. Francisco, Hon. Adrielito G. Gawaran, Hon. Reynaldo D. Palabrica and Hon. Levy M. Tela.

WHEREAS, Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160 (the "Local Government Code of 1991") empowered local government units to exercise the powers expressly granted, those necessarily implied therefrom, as well as powers necessary, appropriate, or incidental for its efficient and effective governance, and those which are essential to the promotion of the general welfare.

WHEREAS, the same law likewise mandated local government units to ensure and support within their respective territorial jurisdictions, the promotion of public health and safety.

WHEREAS, it is commonly said that the youth is the hope of the motherland because their handiwork shall mould the future of our country. However, the Final Report of the 2nd Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2) which came out on 27 January 2026 shows a very grim picture and exposes how much government has neglected the education of Filipino school children.

WHEREAS, among the reasons cited by EDCOM 2 in its Final Report that contributed to the very poor academic performance of students enrolled in public elementary schools and high schools all over the country is absenteeism caused by poverty-related factors, bullying, and other reasons.



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WHEREAS, many students enrolled in public schools in the City of Bacoor belong to poor families that can barely afford putting food on the table much less paying the cost of commuting from their places of residence to the school where their children studies.

WHEREAS, the City of Bacoor must formulate ways by which it can help school children improve their academic proficiency, minimize absenteeism, and lessen the financial burden being borne by poor families with children enrolled in public schools.

WHEREAS, establishing a public school bus system for the benefit of school children enrolled in public schools in the City of Bacoor who belong to poverty stricken families shall not only help improve the academic performance of the said students but also promote public health and safety.

NOW THEREFORE, be it ordained by the 6th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite that:

Section 1. Title. This Ordinance shall be known and referred to as the "**Bus ng Batang Bacooreño Ordinance**".

Section 2. Establishment of the Public School Bus System. A public school bus system to be known as the **Bus ng Batang Bacooreño** that will safely transport for free public school children from designated pick-up points and to the schools where they are enrolled and vice-versa within the City of Bacoor, Cavite is hereby established. **PROVIDED that:** whenever the said buses are not ferrying students, the said motor vehicles can be used to fetch senior citizens and persons with disabilities who have transactions at the City Hall or are beneficiaries of ongoing social services programs of the City Government. **PROVIDED further that:** when public schools are on break, the said motor vehicles may be used to provide free rides for city residents with valid Electronic Special Bacoor Resident (e-SBR) Cards anywhere within the City of Bacoor during work days.

Section 3. Authority of the City Government to Lease E-Vehicles. The City Government is hereby authorized to lease privately owned electric powered vehicles to minimize the operational cost of the public school bus system in accordance with pertinent laws and government regulations. Cooperatives that own and operate e-buses and other e-vehicles shall be given preference by the City Government in choosing the juridical entity from which the said motor vehicles shall be leased pursuant to the relevant

2 City Ordinance No. 497-2026, (Bus ng Batang Bacooreño Ordinance)
16 February 2026



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provisions of Republic Act No. 9520 (the "Cooperative Code of 2008") and its implementing rules and regulations.

Section 4. Safety and Operational Standards. The e-vehicles to be leased by the City Government shall be operated in accordance with the applicable safety and operational standards being implemented by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and the Department of Education (DepEd), if any. The said vehicles should also have enough space to safely accommodate the school bags and other belongings of the children who will use them.

Section 5. Identification of Pick-Up Points. The City Planning and Development Coordination Office (CPDCO) in coordination with the Bacoor Traffic Management Department (BTMD), the DepEd, and the Liga ng mga Barangay shall identify the location of the various pick-up points and bus stops to be constructed by the City Government.

Section 6. Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance of Pick-up Points. The City Engineering Office is hereby directed to submit the design of the said pick-up points, waiting areas, and bus stops for the approval of the City Mayor not later than thirty (30) days after the effectivity date of this Ordinance. The said bus stops shall be solar powered, well lit, clearly marked, and must have a roof. When possible, the said bus stops should also have a toilet that can only be opened with the use of a digital security lock. All pick up points, waiting areas, and bus stops must have closed caption television (CCTV) cameras to be installed in strategic locations and must be constructed in accordance with the safety standards of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and of the Department of Transportation (DoTr). The maintenance of all CCTV cameras to be used by virtue of this Ordinance as well as the custody of all CCTV recordings shall be the sole responsibility of the E-Governance Department. The officials of all barangays having jurisdiction over the pick-up points, bus stops, and waiting areas to be used by virtue of this Ordinance shall be primarily responsible to maintain the cleanliness and security of the said pick up points, waiting areas, and bus stops.

Section 7. Anti-Bullying and Absenteeism Measures. To protect students who will use the e-vehicles from bullying and to discourage them from cutting classes, the said motor vehicles shall be equipped with closed caption television (CCTV) cameras as well as geographic positioning system



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City Mayor



(GPS) equipment that will enable parents to monitor the whereabouts and behavior of their children. To help prevent absenteeism, only school children who are using identification cards with radio frequency identification (RFID) features shall be allowed to enter the said buses which shall all be equipped with the appropriate scanners at the expense of the City Government.

Section 8. Maintenance of E-Buses. The e-buses/e-vehicles to be used as public school buses shall be maintained and shall always be kept in sanitary condition by the registered owner/s of the said motor vehicles.

Section 9. Guidelines in the Use and Operation of E-Buses/E-Vehicles, Bus Stops, and Waiting Areas. (A) The following guidelines shall be observed by the school children who shall use the e-buses/ vehicles aforementioned:

- a) All types of bullying shall not be allowed inside the buses or at the pick-up points, bus stops and waiting areas.
- b) Drinking any beverage or food while on the bus shall not be allowed.
- c) Littering and vandalizing any part of the said e-buses shall be prohibited.
- d) The driver or conductor of the said buses shall have the authority to require school children to behave and to pick up any litter they may have left behind inside the bus. In case a student refuses to comply as directed, the said driver or conductor shall have the authority to report the said infraction to the principal of the school where the said learner is enrolled for appropriate action.
- e) Other than the driver and the conductor, no other adult shall be allowed to board the said e-buses at any time.
- f) While waiting for the buses to arrive, all school children shall be required to line up and to patiently wait for their turn to board or disembark the bus. Children who refused to line up or who cuts the line shall not be allowed to board the bus and his/her behavior shall be reported to his/her parents or guardian/s by the school principal where he/she is enrolled.
- g) No student shall be allowed to run after a moving bus or to do any act that will endanger himself/herself or any other person while inside the bus.



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h) All students shall be required to wear seatbelts while the bus is in motion. **The driver shall have the authority not to drive the bus unless all of the passengers are wearing seatbelts.**

(B). The following guidelines shall be observed by the drivers and conductors who shall operate the e-buses aforementioned:

a) No driver or conductor shall be allowed to board or operate a bus if they are under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs, if they are afflicted with a contagious disease, if they are not wearing the proper attire as mandated by the LTO and by the LTRFB, if they do not have a valid driver's license, if they have been previously convicted of reckless imprudence, or if they have done any act or omission that shows that they are not fit to work near children.

b) Before operating the e-bus, the driver shall personally check if: (i) the bus is in good running condition, (ii) is clean, (iii) all seatbelts are operational, and (iv) free from all types of obstructions.

c) All e-buses to be operated under this Ordinance shall not exceed 30 kilometers per hour when on any city or national road and 20 kilometers per hour when operating inside a school or residential zone within the City of Bacoor.

d) Conductors shall assist the passengers in safely loading and unloading their school bags and other belongings. Conductors are strictly enjoined to handle the bags and other belongings of the said children with utmost care.

e) Drivers and conductors are strictly prohibited from using lewd remarks or gestures while operating the e-buses, from getting the contact details of the school children under their charge except during emergencies, or from using coarse or vulgar language within earshot of the children.

Section 10. Community Support. The parents of the school children and other members of the community are hereby enjoined to help ensure the security of the children who shall use the e-buses, waiting areas, pick up points, and bus stops mentioned above by reporting any violation hereof to a special hotline to be operated and maintained by the Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (BDRRMO).

Approved:
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



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Section 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The City Legal Services Office shall submit the proposed implementing rules and regulations of this Ordinance for the approval of the City Mayor not later than sixty (60) days following the effectivity date hereof.

Section 12. Repeal. All ordinances, resolutions, memoranda, orders, and other local issuances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 13. Separability. In case any provision hereof is declared void, all remaining provisions of this ordinance not affected by the said declaration shall remain valid.

Section 14. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately after it has been published in a newspaper of general circulation within the City of Bacoor, Cavite.

APPROVED this 16th day of February 2026 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly approved in accordance with law.

Certified:

[Signature]
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Attested:

[Signature]
ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Attested by:

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Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

Approved:

[Signature]
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor

Date of Approval: 25 FEB 2026



Approved:

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
City Mayor



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