

CDC News (May 2003)

At the 12th CDC Meeting held on 30 May 2003, the following key issues were deliberated and noted:

Enhancing Students' Putonghua Proficiency

- Members suggested that more systematic studies should be conducted to compare the impact of learning through Putonghua or Cantonese on students' learning progress and thinking. The Putonghua curriculum and its learning and teaching should be evaluated.
- It is envisaged that the situation would change shortly as more and more primary schools had attempted using Putonghua to teach Chinese Language.

Review/Streamlining of Subjects at S4-5 and S6-7 Levels

- Criteria on the review of senior secondary subjects were discussed. Timetable for abolishing obsolete subjects could be formulated together with HKEAA after consulting schools.
- Senior secondary curriculum should not be dominated by the university admission or examination mechanism. Members suggested that other international recognized qualifications could replace some examination subjects. Senior secondary colleges with their own characteristics could be set up so that resources could be grouped together to offer specific subjects.

Progress Report of Curriculum Reform

- The Chairperson, Prof WONG Yuk-shan would report on behalf of the CDC on the progress of the curriculum reform at a reporting session on the Progress of Education Reform organized by the Education Commission to be held on 14 June 2003.

Revised CDC Structure

- A new functional committee on Gifted Education would be formed.
- The CDC – HKEAA Committees on S4-7 Public Examination Subjects would be set up on a need basis under the KLA Committees concerned and the HKEAA School Examinations Board.
- A few amendments were made in the Guidelines on Meeting/Working Procedures of CDC and its Standing Committees to align with those of the Education Commission.