

Gist of the Second Meeting of
Curriculum Development Council Committee on Gifted Education (2008-2009)

Date: 18 June 2009
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.
Venue: E304, 3/F, East Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre

Notes:

- 1. To welcome new co-opted members— Dr. Echo Wu and Mrs. Helen Yu.**
- 2 To confirm the minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**
 - 2.1 The minutes of the first meeting was confirmed without any amendments.
 - 2.2 The Chairperson invited Mrs Helen Yu to update the committee the latest development of the 11th Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG) and the initial planning of hosting the 12th APCG.
 - 2.3 Mrs. Yu reported that the 11th APCG would be held from July 29 to August 1, 2010 in Sydney. 30 children and youths from each district would be invited to participate in the Children & Youth Summit/Summer Camp of the conference. She would request the organiser to allow Hong Kong to fill up the quota of the Mainland and Macau SAR should there be any vacancies.
 - 2.4 Mrs. Yu proposed to host the 12th APCG in 2012 in Hong Kong.
 - Suggested venue: one of the universities in Hong Kong.
 - Suggested partners: EDB, HKAGE and other parties
 - Suggested activity: visits to the neighbouring regions such as the Mainland and Macau.
 - 2.5 The other potential bidder for the 12th APCG—Dubai, Saudi Arabia. HK might also consider hosting the 13th APCG in 2014.
 - 2.6 The Secretary reported that under the Primary One Admission Policy (POA policy), pupils under 5 years 8 months were not eligible to apply for a place in P1, but government and aided schools could offer a place to the underage at their own discretion after the POA results were announced in June. The practice of ESF schools was not restricted by this rule.
- 3. To report on the progress of the Ad Hoc Committees on revising the School-based Guideline**
 - 3.1 Dr. Anna Hui was elected as the Chairperson of the said Ad hoc Committee. Two meetings were held. Four chapters were drafted and discussed.
 - 3.2 The Guideline would be a complementary and an updated version of the ‘Guidelines on School-based Gifted Development Programmes’ published in 2003. The new version of the Guideline aims to provide advice and reference down to classroom level in which exemplars of different KLAs would be showcased.
 - 3.3 The KLAs sub-committees will be set up and each of which would consist of a primary school

teacher, a secondary school teacher, an EDB officer and an Ad Hoc committee member. It is targeted that the revised Guideline would be published in the s.y. 2009-10.

4 To report on the latest development of programmes at all levels

- 4.1 SCDO(GE)2 reported the latest development of the Gifted Education Section with reference to the tabled summary of “An update of the latest provision of Gifted Education Section” (D2).

5 To discuss the possible areas of concern when consultancy service is sought from overseas GE experts

- 5.1 The Vice Chairperson proposed to consult GE experts to advise on the current practice and future development of gifted education in Hong Kong. It was deemed that evidence-based research to inform policy would be crucial.

- 5.2 Members proposed to line up a panel of local experts to brainstorm the areas of concern and suggest possible research.

The priority of areas of concern:

1st: The impact evaluation, the interface of KG, primary and secondary education, the tracking of gifted students, and the barriers and success factors leading to SB development of GE

2nd: Acceleration, underachieving gifted, etc.

- 5.3 Areas such as underachieving gifted, curriculum differentiation, dual exceptions, etc. were regarded as interconnected. The focus of study would depend on the needs and funding. Longitudinal retrospective study was proposed.

- 5.4 Suggestion was made to better utilise the resources by consolidating a research plan through discussion between the GE Section and the Research Division of the HKAGE.

- 5.5 It was also suggested that some educational research institutes would help. We should also make the best use of the existing mechanisms e.g. ESR, FIs in QAD. A local model similar to the trifocal model but with local adaptation might be desirable.

- 5.6 The vice chairperson welcomed all the suggestions and would take into consideration of them.

6 Any other business

- 6.1 A consolidated business plan on GE development between the GE Section and the HKAGE was desirable. However, there was not any formal communication channel between the GE Section and HKAGE. Some members of CDCC on GE are also members of the Board of Directors or one of their functional committees and they might also serve as channels of communication between EDB and HKAGE.

- 6.2 Items to be addressed in the business plan:

- How detailed should the consolidated business plan be

- The overlapping role of their EP and the EPs in EPS Section of EDB.
- How one EP in the HKAGE could cater for the high demand.
- Whether the EP would go into schools and handle cases.

6.3 The major responsibilities of both GE Section and the HKAGE under the 3 tier mode of implementation must be well sought out by both parties to minimise gaps of services and overlapping.

It was suggested that the monitoring role of the government on the HKAGE and the degree of autonomy of HKAGE should be sorted out by the senior directorates of EDB.

6.4 Member suggested a referral system to be set up to refer cases and enquiries from the public so as to better use the available resources.

6.5 The secretary reported that the AD (Student programmes and services) of the HKAGE had been invited to become member of the CDCC in the coming term of office.

6.6 A vote of thanks from both the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson to members who have been serving for three terms (six years) and who, abide by the six-year rule, would need to step down. The nomination of new members is now in progress.