

**Gist of the First Meeting of  
Curriculum Development Council Committee on Gifted Education (2008 – 2009)**

**Date:** 17 October 2008  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
**Venue:** E306, 3/F, East Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre

**Notes:**

**1. To confirm the minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was confirmed without any amendments.

**2. To update the latest development of the programmes at all levels**

The Secretary reported the latest development of the Gifted Education Section with reference to the tabled report of “An update of the latest provision of Gifted Education Section” (D2).

The Vice Chairperson supplemented that the development of Humanities web-based learning course in “Emerging China” matched well with the CE’s Policy Address about strengthening of National Education.

Member pointed out that previous cluster school projects were not so successful and enquired for some useful experience and the Secretary explained its failure with a few reasons. First the timing and readiness of schools was inappropriate. Second, the awareness of the general public in GE was low. Third, there was shortage of local expertise in the field to steer and co-ordinate the projects. Fourth, the competition amongst schools in the same region discouraged the active participation for the school clusters.

Seeking collaboration with the District Office would be an alternative that help avoid tension among schools.

The Chairperson also raised the question about the roles of EP in the provision for the gifted. Ex-officio member from the EPS suggested clarifying the roles of the EPs in the EPS and that from the HKAGE in order not to duplicate the effort. Subsequent meeting and discussion would be arranged between the EPS and the HKAGE.

**3 To discuss the desirability and feasibility of hosting the Asia-Pacific Conference (APCG) on Giftedness 2012**

The Chairperson proposed to host the AP Conference on Giftedness 2012 as a preliminary meeting was held on 8 September among a group of local dedicated people. The Vice Chairperson briefly reported the discussion, including the rationale of hosting, forming various sub-committees, the suggested venues and organisers, the time line for preparation, etc.

The Chairperson further added that by the time of 2012, the HKAGE would be in the fourth year of service, it would be a good time for the HKAGE to hold a big event and the Vice Chairperson supplemented that the Associate Director of the Professional Teacher Development, HKAGE, had the experience in organising the AP Conference.

Cantonese or PTH speakers from China, Taiwan and Singapore would be desirable in this Conference and in order to facilitate the running of conference, collaboration with one of the universities in Hong Kong should be sought.

So far it was known that the other potential bidder for the APCG was Saudi Arabia.

**4. To discuss the set up of ad hoc committee for the development of “School-based Gifted Education**

## **Guideline 2009”**

s the Vice Chairperson proposed to set up an ad hoc committee on “Developing Guidelines on School-based Gifted Education 2009” to update the general public about GE. The committee should comprise school heads, GE Coordinators and subject panels, specialists, academics, officers from the GE Section and other KLAs from the EDB as well as members of CDCC.

### **5 To nominate co-opted members**

The Vice Chairperson suggested for members’ consideration three potential candidates: Dr. Anna HUI (HKBU), Mrs. Helen YU (HKPolyU) and Dr. Echo WU (HKIED). After the polling, Mrs Helen YU KU and Dr. Echo WU were elected by the committee members and the committee would nominate them to the CDC secretariat as co-opted members for 2008-09.

### **6 To update the latest development of the Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education**

The Executive Director of the HKAGE reported the development of HKAGE and covered the following:

There were three phases of development of the HKAGE. Phase 1 was to establish the corporate governance of the Academy which was registered a company limited. Phase 2 was to identify the service delivery and accommodation. Phase 3 was to recruit a full team of staff with five divisions, namely, Students Programmes and Services, Teacher Professional Development, Parent Support, Research and Development, and Corporate Services.

The Students Programmes and Services Division inherited the L3 programmes but nomination process was simplified.

The Parent Support Division had set up a consultation centre to provide free service for the public through inquiries by phone and email.

To avoid duplication of effort with the GE Section, the Professional Teacher Development Division would provide generic training while the GE Section would provide specific training on GE curriculum, pedagogical strategies, school and teacher networking.

A web developer was being employed to develop an online learning platform for the HKAGE

### **7 To seek endorsement from the members for the Reference Manual on Acceleration**

During the course of development of the reference manual of Acceleration, a sharing session on "Acceleration as an option in Gifted Education" was held on 26 July 2008.

Both the Chinese and English versions of the Reference Manual had been uploaded onto the website of GE Section.

The Committee endorsed the *Reference Manual* but amendments of some technical terms were suggested. The manual would be sent to CDC for them to receive and/or for comments and the next CDC meeting would be on 14 Nov 2008.

Member suggested that P1 was a good transition point to introduce acceleration. Enquiry was launched to see if the POA (Primary One Admission policy) could be relaxed. The Vice Chairperson responded that the approval from Senior Directorate level might be needed and he would follow up with identifying the appropriate level to initiate the discussion on POA issue.

### **8. Any other business**

The Vice Chairperson proposed that the Committee could discuss, in the coming meetings, issues on the development GE policy in Hong Kong; contribution of Small Class teaching to GE;

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.