

**Gist of the Second Meeting of  
Curriculum Development Council Committee on Gifted Education (2009 – 2010)**

**Date:** 2 March 2010 (Tue)  
**Time:** 2:30 p.m. – 6:50 p.m.  
**Venue:** E303, 3/F, East Block, EDB Kowloon Tong Education Services Centre

Notes:

- 1. To welcome new co-opted members – Mrs Ho Wu Yin-ching and Dr Anna Hui**  
*Post-meeting note: Mrs Ho tendered resignation from being a co-opted member after the meeting*
- 2. To confirm the minutes of last meeting and matters arising**  
The minutes of the 1st meeting was confirmed without any amendments.
- 3. To update on the latest development of programmes at all levels including the services from the HKAGE**  
The Secretary updated the latest development of GE Section with reference to the tabled document.  
All the resources produced by the GE Section would be burnt on a CD-ROM and sent to all CDCC members and schools later.  
*(Post meeting note: the Curriculum resource CD was sent to all members on 22 July)*

The GE Section would consider re-organising the seminar “*Catering for the Affective Needs of Gifted Students in Regular Classroom*” as it had been over-subscribed. Further partnership projects on affective education would be initiated.

The excellent results achieved by the delegates in the 5<sup>th</sup> IJSO was attributed to the effectiveness of the student training programme by CUHK as well as the inclusion of affective education elements in the training.

The Associate Director of the HKAGE updated the latest development of the HKAGE:

1. The total no. of headcount for Teacher Professional Development programmes/services (including outreaching programmes) was 531.
2. The total no. of headcount for Parent Support seminars was 972.
3. The total no. of consultation and assessment cases handled was 152.
4. The total no. of headcount for Student Programmes and Services programmes/services was 788.
5. For annual school nomination, over 1800 nominations had been received from 230 secondary schools, making a 40% increase when compared with that of last year.

Members cautioned that increase in nomination might raise the expectation from the public on the provision from the HKAGE. It was doubted that if the HKAGE could meet the expectation.

The AD concluded that future development of HKAGE would include:

1. the provision of face-to-face and e-learning programmes.
  2. the provision of advanced programmes for twice-exceptional gifted students.
  3. the collaboration with tertiary institutions for more student programmes
- 4. To discuss the possibility of hosting the 2012 Asia Pacific Conference on Giftedness (APCG)**

The Vice-chairperson stated that:

1. it would be too rush for HK to bid the 2012 APCG.
2. 2012 would be a critical year as the new CE and senior officials of the HKSAR government would be elected/appointed.
3. EDB would be heavily occupied by the evaluation of the NAS

It was not desirable for the EDB to host such a big scale international conference.

This line-to-take was agreed by the HKAGE. EDB would support bidding APCG for 2014.

It was agreed among committee members that:

1. HK would not bid for the 2012 APCG.
2. Mrs Helen Yu, the Honorary Secretary to the APCG, would help convey our intention to Prof. Shi Jian-nong of the Mainland.

In response to what could be showcased in HK, the Vice-chairperson stated that:

1. gifted education provision at Level 3 could yield tangible results more easily than provision at Levels 1 and 2.
2. narrowing the theme would enable us to cumulate sufficient amount of materials for showcasing in the 2014 APCG.
3. curriculum development on creativity in GE could be done more in the near future.

#### **5. To discuss the implication of the HKDSE on the further study gifted students in secondary education**

A member expressed that if nothing were to be done for the high achieving students in terms of exemption, we would be risking of losing the tip top students as they would need to read for three years for a degree in British universities while they had to spend four years in Hong Kong.

“Solutions” were proposed :

1. Those gifted students in the first cohort of the 2012 HKDSE might sit for the HKALE at the same time. They might get excellent result in the HKALE and be admitted to the 3-year undergraduate programmes in local universities.
2. Secondary schools could provide pull-out programmes to senior secondary students as acceleration under NSS.
3. Universities could consider granting exemption to students who had excellent performance in international competitions.
4. Universities could revise the year 1 curriculum of the 4-year undergraduate programmes to enable acceleration for the gifted students before they started the 4-year undergraduate programmes. These students could complete the undergraduate programme in less than 4 years.

The Chairperson cautioned against the possible disturbance of various acceleration programmes/mode on the study of the regular senior secondary students. She suggested that acceleration should be best done in year 1 of local undergraduate programmes or at junior secondary level.

Some members added that:

1. exemption policy might be abused by some universities as a means to compete for the high-ability students.
2. it would be hard for individual students to convince the universities that they were “qualified” to pursue university programmes without any public examination result as reference.

The Chairperson concluded that

1. CDCC on GE would propose to the CDC the implication and consequence of launching the

HKDSE.

2. Government officials and university heads should be alerted to provide leeway for gifted students to accelerate in university study.
3. The Secretary would further compile a paper based on the tabled document.
4. CDCC on GE should plan to introduce guidelines on acceleration in NASC context.

**6. AOB**

The Chairperson proposed to organise a study trip for all committee members to learn about the GE development in other countries. She suggested discussing the issue with the Vice-chairperson after the meeting and would furnish all members with additional information.

The next meeting proposed by the Secretary: 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 8<sup>th</sup> June or 9<sup>th</sup> June of 2010

The meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.