

**CDC-HKEAA Committee on Physics and
Combined Science (Physics Part) (2015-2017)
Gist of Forth Meeting**

Date: 7 June 2017 (Wednesday)

Venue: E246, East Block, EDB Education Services Centre

Time: 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Present:

Prof CHAN Kwok-sum (Chairman)

Mr HO Yau-sing, Willie

Mr LAW Man-wai

Dr PUN Chun-shing, Jason

Mr CHUNG Sai-chak

Mr LEUNG Ngai-chung

Mr YING Pui-chi, Bosco

Mr SZETO Yuk-tong

Mr CHOI Chit-kai

Dr KWOK Ping-wai

Mr LIU Sing-po

Ms LIN Chi-wan

Dr LAU Yiu-hon (recording minutes)

Absent (with apologies):

Dr LO Wai-chau, Edward

Mr WONG Kim-wah

Gist

1. The minutes of the last meeting on 21 November 2016 were confirmed without any amendments..
2. Mr Szeto gave a brief summary to members about 2017 HKDSE in Physics and Combined Science (Physics). In 2017, the number of physics candidates was 11,255 (12,170 in 2016; 13,184 in 2015) and the number of CS(physics) candidate was 444 (630 in 2016; 1,063 in 2015). He revealed that the level of difficulty of questions was comparable to the last few years. The mean scores of candidates in 2017 was significantly higher than the mean scores of candidates in 2016. Students performed better this year than last year. He also mentioned that the grading process was based on the recommendations of Expert Panel and the Group Ability Indicator (GA1) to ensure the levels were consistent across years. The briefing Sessions for teachers to review the candidates' performance and common errors in 2017 HKDSE Physics and CS(Physics) would be held on 12 and 19 October 2017.
3. Mr. CHOI updated members about the progress of the Science Education (SE) KLA Curriculum Guide. The SEKLA Curriculum Guide has been endorsed by

CDC. The SEKLA Curriculum Guide (English version, Draft May 2017) together with the “Supplement to Science Education Key Learning Area Curriculum Guide: Science (Secondary 1-3) (Provisional Final Draft 28 February 2017)” are available at EDB’s website for teachers’ information. A briefing session about the updated SEKLA Curriculum Guide was held on 8 and 16 May 2017 for principals and science teachers.

4. Mr. CHOI reported to members about the latest development of STEM education. A one-off grant of \$200,000 for STEM education has been distributed to all secondary schools in March 2017. A briefing session on the “Use of Resources Support for Implementation of STEM Education in Secondary Schools” for teachers was organised on 20 April and 4 May 2017.
5. Mr. CHOI presented a PPT to members about the issue of learner diversity in studying SS subjects and also Physics. He then invited members to comment on the learner diversity among students in studying Physics and CS(Physics). Points after discussion between members were summarised as below.
 - Members generally felt that LD is not a big issue in Physics. Students studying Physics in schools are usually the more able students. The LD issue can be handled by using appropriate teaching strategies.
 - Members appreciated that there is sufficient provision in the design of the curriculum to cater for LD, and the HKDSE Physics Papers have measures to cater for LD, e.g. broad coverage of topics with varying levels of difficulties, increasing difficulty for different parts of a structural questions.
 - The suggestion to set more questions on contexts that students have past experiences on was welcome by members as students would feel less stressful when they attempt the questions during the examination. From analysis of data/results from previous examinations, setting questions on contexts that students are familiar would not undermine the differentiation ability of the papers.
6. Dr. Lau reported that the “Construct-a-Catapult Competition for Junior School Students” was successfully held on 16 and 17 June as a Showcase event in the WorldSkills Hong Kong Competition cum Carnival 2017 to promote STEM education. Thirty school teams comprising S1 to S3 students have been selected to participate in three different sessions of the competition. During the competition, each team was asked to design-and-construct a catapult within ninety minutes. Students needed to launch ping pong balls by using the catapult to pass through a given target.

7. The PD programmes planned for Physics teachers in 2017/18 s.y. were reported for members' information and comments. Events such as SBA conference, 2017 HKDSE Briefing Session, Visit to Daya Bay Nuclear Power Station and Daya Bay Neutrino Laboratory, Mobile apps application for Investigative Study, Enriching Knowledge Series in elective topics will be organised in the 2017/18 s.y.
8. As a follow-up, a visit to the HKSAR Standards and Calibration Laboratory for the One Committee members of physics was confirmed to be held on 22 June. Members were invited to join the visit.
9. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.