# 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)228/06-07 (The minutes have been cleared with the Chairman)

Ref: CB2/PL/ED

#### **Panel on Education**

## Minutes of meeting held on Thursday, 12 October 2006, at 12:10 pm in Conference Room B of the Legislative Council Building

**Members**: Hon Jasper TSANG Yok-sing, GBS, JP (Chairman)

**present** Hon LEE Cheuk-yan

Hon Mrs Selina CHOW LIANG Shuk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong Hon SIN Chung-kai, JP

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, JP Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, JP Hon Audrey EU Yuet-mee, SC, JP

Hon MA Lik, GBS, JP

Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, SBS, JP Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung Hon Patrick LAU Sau-shing, SBS, JP

**Members** : Dr Hon YEUNG Sum (Deputy Chairman)

absent Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Clerk in : Miss Odelia LEUNG

**attendance** Chief Council Secretary (2)6

**Staff in** : Mrs Vivian KAM

**attendance** Assistant Secretary General 2

Mr Stanley MA

Senior Council Secretary (2)6

## Ms Katherine YEUNG Legislative Assistant (2)6

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#### I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

[Appendices III and IV to LC Paper No. CB(2)8/06-07]

### Election of Chairman

In the absence of the Chairman of the Panel for the 2005-2006 session, Ms Audrey EU, Deputy Chairman, presided over the election. Ms EU called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2006-2007 session.

2. <u>Mr Jasper TSANG</u> was nominated by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong and the nomination was seconded by Mr Tommy CHEUNG. Mr Jasper TSANG accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, <u>Ms Audrey EU</u> declared that Mr Jasper TSANG was elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2006-2007 session. Mr Jasper TSANG then took the chair.

## Election of Deputy Chairman

- 3. <u>The Chairman</u> called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2006-2007 session.
- 4. <u>Dr YEUNG Sum</u> was nominated by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong and the nomination was seconded by Mr MA Lik. <u>Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong</u> confirmed that Dr YEUNG Sum accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, <u>the Chairman</u> declared that Dr YEUNG Sum was elected as the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2006-2007 session.

### II. Schedule of meetings for the 2006-2007 session

5. <u>Members</u> agreed to hold regular meetings of the Panel on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm, except for April 2007 the regular meeting thereof would be held on the third Monday of the month, i.e., 16 April 2007.

#### III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

[Appendices V and VI to LC Paper No. CB(2)8/06-07]

Items for discussion at the meeting on 13 November 2006

6. <u>Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong</u> proposed that the Panel should discuss the new education initiatives in the 2006-2007 Policy Address, i.e. subsidizing early

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childhood education and gifted education. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Ms Emily LAU</u> supported his suggestion. <u>Members</u> agreed to discuss these two subjects at the next regular meeting scheduled for 13 November 2006.

[Post-meeting note: The Chairman subsequently directed that deputations should be invited to present views on the two subjects. To allow sufficient time for discussion, the Panel would discuss the subject of "Subsidizing early childhood education" at the regular meeting on 13 November 2006. The subject of "Gifted education" would be discussed at a special meeting on 16 November 2006. ]

## Items for discussion at future meetings

Hostel places for non-local students, and articulation and employment opportunities for sub-degree programme graduates

7. <u>Mr Patrick LAU</u> proposed discussion on the provision of hostel places for non-local students to facilitate the development of Hong Kong into a regional education hub, and the articulation and employment opportunities for sub-degree programme graduates.

Use of Information Technology in education

8. <u>Mr SIN Chung-kai</u> expressed concern about the strategic development plan for the use of information technology (IT) in education after 2007. He pointed out that in discussing the way forward on the use of IT in schools in 2004, the Administration had undertaken to review the matter in 2007.

Training of talent for textbook writing and use of vacated school premises

9. <u>Mrs Selina CHOW</u> said that the textbook industry was concerned about the training of talent for textbook writing. She suggested that the Panel should discuss the matter at a future meeting. She also suggested that the Panel should examine the overall plan for use of vacated school premises.

Remuneration for school clerks and janitors

10. Mr LEE Cheuk-yan highlighted the concerns of the Hong Kong School Clerks and Janitors General Union about the inclusion of salaries and allowances for clerks and janitors in aided schools in the constituent grant under the Operating Expenses Block Grant (OEBG) in 2000. He pointed out that under the OEBG, aided schools had discretion in determining the terms of employment for their clerks and janitors, and the salaries and allowances of clerks and janitors in some schools had not been increased in line with the annual inflation and OEBG adjustments.

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11. <u>The Chairman</u> proposed and <u>members</u> agreed that all the subjects raised be included in the Panel's list of outstanding items for discussion.

#### City University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Bill 2006

12. Referring to the submission of the City University of Hong Kong Staff Association concerning City University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Bill 2006 [LC Paper No. CB(2)3176/05-06(01)], Ms Emily LAU enquired if the Panel would discuss the Bill to be introduced into the Council on 18 October 2006. Members were of the view that as the House Committee would consider whether a Bills Committee should be formed to scrutinize the Bill, any concerns could be discussed in the context of the Bills Committee.

## IV. Any other business

- 13. <u>Members</u> noted that the Panel would hold a special meeting on 19 October 2006 at 11:35 am to receive a briefing by the Secretary for Education and Manpower on the Chief Executive's Policy Address 2006-2007.
- 14. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:24 pm.

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
1 November 2006