

For Information

Panel on Education

School-based Professional Support Programmes Financed by the Education Development Fund

Purpose

This paper reports the progress of the School-based Professional Support (SBPS) Programmes financed by the Education Development Fund (the Fund) in the 2009/10 school year.

Background

2. In July 2004, the then Education and Manpower Bureau set up the Fund with a grant of \$550 million as approved by the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council. With a view to providing differentiated school-based professional support for building schools' capacity in taking forward the education reform initiatives, the Fund supports the implementation of five SBPS Programmes among schools. They are: (i) Principal Support Network; (ii) School Support Partners (Seconded Teacher Scheme); (iii) Professional Development Schools Scheme; (iv) University-School Support Programmes; and (v) Collegial Participation in External School Review.

3. We have last reported the progress of the implementation of the Programmes up to the 2008/09 school year vide Information Paper No. CB(2)2036/08-09(01).

Progress Update

4. The Advisory Committee on the Education Development Fund which comprises frontline teachers, principals, academics and community members continues to advise on the operation of the Fund and the implementation of the SBPS Programmes. The School Development Key Group, a cross-divisional working group within EDB, continues to oversee and monitor the delivery of the Programmes on a regular basis.

5. The demand for the support services under the five Programmes remains high over the years, with an increase in the number of schools supported by SBPS Programmes from 467 in 2008/09 to 525 in 2009/10. Information on the number of schools supported by the SBPS Programmes in 2009/10 and the preceding years is set out at **Annex I**. A brief account of the five Programmes and the progress of their implementation in the 2009/10 school year is at **Annex II**.

6. Over the past six years, the Fund has allocated a total of \$380 million to support about 3300 services to schools. As at August 2010, the Fund has a balance of \$229 million, including an estimate of \$59 million interest accrued since 2004. The balance of the Fund should adequately cover the estimated expenditures incurred from the Programmes up to 2012/13.

7. In the 2010/11 school year, in addition to the implementation of five SBPS Programmes among schools, we will continue to set up learning circles within and among schools for sustaining the collaborative culture, to take steps to help schools set up a mechanism to sustain the development of relevant practices within schools, and to develop support strategies to address schools' latest development needs.

8. We will conduct a study in 2011, findings of which will shed light on the need for topping up the Fund to finance further Programmes and the strategic direction for taking forward the school-based structured support in future.

Advice Sought

9. Members are invited to note the progress of the SBPS Programmes.

**Education Bureau
November 2010**

Information on Schools Supported by Services financed by Education Development Fund

	2004/05 School Year			2005/06 School Year			2006/07 School Year				2007/08 School Year				2008/09 School Year				2009/10 School Year			
	Sec	Pri	Sp	Sec	Pri	Sp	Sec	Pri	Sp	PPI*	Sec	Pri	Sp	PPI*	Sec	Pri	Sp	PPI*	Sec	Pri	Sp	PPI*
Number of schools Provided with SBPS services	165	108	10	228	216	20	218	246	21	-	170	220	15	48	170	196	14	87	204	204	19	98
Total Number of Schools ^	462	664	62	469	613	62	473	561	61	1015	469	537	60	989	466	515	60	998	463	493	60	960
Percentage of Schools provided with SBPS services	35.7%	16.3%	16.1%	48.6%	35.2%	32.3%	46.1%	43.9%	34.4%	-	36.2%	41.0%	25.0%	4.9%	36.5%	38.1%	23.3%	8.7%	44.1%	41.4%	31.7%	10.2%
Total	283			464			485				453				467				525			

*PPI stands for pre-primary institutions which include kindergartens and kindergarten-cum-child care centres

^ Figures of primary, secondary and special schools from Controlling Officer's Report

Point to note:

2009/10 School Year

Upon the resumption of the second phase of the External School Review (ESR) in 2009/10 school year, more secondary schools participated in the programme of Collegial Participation in ESR that year, thus contributing to an increase in the number of secondary schools being provided with SBPS services.

**Progress of Implementation of the
School-based Professional Support Programmes**

I. Principal Support Network (PSN)

Strategy	Experienced principals are seconded, by invitation, to provide collegial support for partner principals. Network clusters are formed for interactive professional sharing among principals, with a view to enhancing their leadership skills through various modes of professional exchange activities.
Progress of Implementation (2009/10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seven “Middle Managers Learning Community” workshops with contents on enhancing deputy primary school heads’ capacity in school development, professional leadership and team building were completed. They were all well received by the participants. ➤ Workshops with networking activities aiming at facilitating school leaders in coping with SEN students were arranged under the “Special Educational Needs (SEN) Support Programme”. ➤ A series of talks delivered by outstanding experts, business and community leaders under the “Education Leadership Programme” were organized to stimulate principals to examine their work from different perspectives. ➤ Sharing sessions and school visits aiming at facilitating teachers to cater for the less academically-inclined students were arranged under the “Support Programme for Teachable Students”.
No. of Beneficiaries	In 2009/10, 56 partner principals from secondary, primary and special schools joined the one-to-two collegial principal support networks. There were about 830 participants in other support activities, such as workshops, seminars and visits, under the Principal Support Network.
Accumulative Expenditure (9.2004 to 8.2010)	\$7.8 M

II. School Support Partners (Seconded Teacher Scheme) (SSP)

Strategy	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <p>Experienced frontline teachers are seconded, by invitation, on a full-time or part-time basis to provide peer support to teachers in other schools on various theme-based or key learning area projects and to establish platforms for professional sharing.</p> <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p> <p>Under the “Mainland-Hong Kong Teachers Exchange & Collaboration Programme”, Mainland expert teachers have been invited to work alongside local school teachers on various areas such as curriculum design and collaborative lesson planning and to share professional ideas and research outcomes so as to enhance the effectiveness of learning and teaching in Hong Kong schools.</p>
Progress of Implementation (2009/10)	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <p>In 2009/10, 49 seconded teachers were recruited on a part-time basis for the implementation of the partnership projects, such as theme-based learning networks, preparation for the New Senior Secondary Curriculum and the catering for learner diversity and support to small class teaching, etc.</p> <p>The ‘Pilot Scheme on Hong Kong Teachers’ Exchange Activities to Mainland’ was completed in May 2010. Ten English language teachers participating in the Pilot Scheme were seconded to conduct on-site exchange activities with schools in Foshan and Shenzhen for 2 weeks and 1 week respectively.</p> <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p> <p>In 2009/10, the Bureau continue to provide intensive support for Chinese Language and Mathematics teaching to primary and secondary schools as well as that for music, physical or arts integrated activities to kindergartens. In addition, a district-based network of primary schools was established to facilitate schools’ development in the learning and teaching of Mathematics through learning communities.</p>

No. of Beneficiaries	<p><u>SSP(Local)</u></p> <p>In 2009/10, a total of 49 local primary and secondary seconded teachers participated in various SSP projects.</p> <p><u>SSP(Mainland)</u></p> <p>In 2009/10, a total of 52 Mainland teachers were seconded under the Mainland-Hong Kong Teachers Exchange & Collaboration Programme, providing intensive support to 14 secondary schools, 62 primary schools and 48 pre-primary institutions. Another 30 primary schools with more than 50 teachers had benefited from the district-based network with focus on the learning and teaching of Mathematics.</p>
Accumulative Expenditure (9.2004 to 8.2010)	\$113.4M

III. Professional Development Schools (PDS) Scheme

Strategy	<p>Schools with exemplary practices in learning and teaching and a good sharing culture are designated as PDSs. Each PDS will form a network with two or three partner schools focusing on specific pedagogical themes to foster an interactive collaborative culture and enhance the effectiveness of learning and teaching through various exchange activities.</p>
Progress of Implementation in 2009/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 2009/10, there were 18 PDSs, including 9 primary schools, 8 secondary schools and 1 special school. ➤ The areas for professional sharing covered a wide range of subjects, including Chinese, English, Mathematics, General Studies, Liberal Studies and Integrated Education.
No. of Beneficiaries	<p>In 2009/10, 53 partner schools, including 25 secondary, 27 primary and 1 special schools benefited from the scheme.</p>
Accumulative Expenditure (9.2004 to 8.2010)	\$22.8M

IV. University-School Support Programmes (USP)

Strategy	Universities with a proven track record of offering support programmes are commissioned to provide a diversified mode of support services to cater for the schools' developmental needs through connecting research-based pedagogies with classroom practices.
Progress of Implementation (2009/10)	<p>Seven projects were financed by the Fund in 2009/10:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Quality School Improvement Project (2008-2011) <i>(Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i> (2) Professional Development Network for Knowledge Building in Schools (2008-2011) <i>(Centre for Information Technology in Education, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong)</i> (3) Preparing students for the New Senior Secondary Liberal Studies: A school-based approach to enhancing enquiry learning at Key Stage 3 (2008-2010) <i>(Department of Mathematics, Science, Social Science and Technology, Faculty of Languages, Arts and Sciences, The Hong Kong Institute of Education)</i> (4) Support for Transition to the Implementation and Leadership of Liberal Studies (2008-2010) <i>(The Centre for University and School Partnership,, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i> (5) Supporting Secondary Schools in the Teaching and Learning of Chinese for non-native learners (2008-2011) <i>(Centre for Advancement of Chinese Language Education and Research, Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong)</i> (6) Empowering Early Childhood Institutions in Implementing Effective School-based Curriculum (2008-2011) <i>(Centre for Childhood Research and Innovation,</i>

	<p><i>The Hong Kong Institute of Education</i>)</p> <p>(7) School Improvement Project for Early Childhood Education (2008-2010)</p> <p><i>(The Centre for University and School Partnership, Faculty of Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)</i></p>
No. of Beneficiaries	<p>➤ In 2009/10, 105 secondary schools, 40 primary schools, 11 special schools and 50 pre-primary institutions benefited from the above-mentioned Programmes.</p>
Accumulative Expenditure (9.2004 to 8.2010)	\$231.4M

V. Collegial Participation in External School Review (ESR)

Strategy	<p>Experienced serving principals and teachers are invited to engage in the ESR of other schools as external reviewers to enhance their understanding in the school self-improvement processes and to strengthen the professional competency of the ESR team.</p>
Progress of Implementation (2009/10)	<p>➤ Full implementation of the second cycle of ESR commenced for primary, secondary schools and specials schools in 2009/10.</p>
No. of Beneficiaries	<p>Between September 2009 and August 2010, the Bureau had invited 138 external reviewers from 72 secondary schools, 59 primary schools and 7 special schools to participate in the ESR.</p>
Accumulative Expenditure (9.2004 to 8.2010)	\$3.6M