

LegCo Panel on Education

**List of issues suggested for discussion
(as at 16 June 1999)**

1. Provision of library facilities in primary schools

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong. Education Commission Report No. 5 has recommended provision of a library in each primary school. Mr CHEUNG is concerned about the policy and resources allocated for this purpose.

2. Native-speaking English Teachers Scheme

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung would like to receive a briefing on the progress and effectiveness of the Scheme. Since the Scheme has been implemented for only half a year, the Administration suggested and members agreed to discuss the issue in **September 1999**.

3. Subsidy to kindergartens

At the policy briefing on 12 October 1998, Miss CHOY So-yuk asked the Administration to consider increasing the subsidy to kindergartens so that more kindergartens could achieve the target of having 60% of teachers to be Qualified Kindergarten Teachers without having to increase the tuition fees.

4. Policy on university hostels

When discussing a Public Works Subcommittee paper (PWSC(98-99)9) about the new student hostel in City University on 4 September 1998, PWSC members had urged for a more generous provision for publicly-funded student hostel places at UGC - funded institutions. The PWSC Chairman has advised that issues related to the policy on university hostels be further considered by the Panel on Education.

5. Review of academic structure

The Education Commission (EC) has been tasked to review the structure of pre-primary, primary, secondary and tertiary education which will cover, among others, the age at which students should begin each stage of education, the duration of each stage, the curriculum and assessment methods, and the

interface between the different stages. On 20 April 1998, two working groups, namely, the Working Group on Pre-primary and Universal Basic Education and the Working Group on Post-Secondary 3 Education, were set up under the EC to conduct the review. The Working Groups will consult the various advisory bodies and education community.

The EC Chairman has briefed the Panel on the Consultation Paper on Aims of Education at a meeting on 1 February 1999. The Panel may wish to follow up on future developments.

6. Quality indicators for measuring value-added improvement in student performance

At the meeting on 19 April 1999, members noted that ED was developing a set of quality indicators for measuring and monitoring school performance and value-added improvement in student performance in major domains of education. The Panel agreed to discuss the issue at a future meeting.

7. Information technology training for teachers

At the LegCo Members' meeting with Tsuen Wan Provisional District Board (TWPDB) on 6 May 1999, members of TWPDB considered that the Administration should formulate a clear strategy for defining the training needs of teachers in information technology so as to avoid wasting teachers' time.

LegCo Members attending the meeting also considered that implementation of the new arrangements for acquisition of computers and IT training for teachers as detailed in the Finance Committee paper [FCR(98-99)71] should be examined by the Panel on Education. A list of concerns raised by TWPDB members was tabled at the meeting on 17 May 1999.

8. Composition, functions and supervision of management committees of primary and secondary schools

Item proposed by Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong at the meeting on 17 May 1999. Mr CHEUNG would like to discuss the composition, functions and supervision of management committees of primary and secondary schools, in particular the criteria for appointment of school managers.

9. Sex harassment in university campus

Item proposed by Miss Cyd HO. Miss HO is concerned about the reported cases of sex harassment in university campus and the mechanisms in place to receive and investigate such complaints. The Panel agreed to include the item in the list of issues suggested for discussion.

10. Provision of primary school places in Tai Po

At the LegCo Members' meeting with Tai Po Provisional District Board (TPPDB) on 22 April 1999, members of TPPDB considered that the Administration should use updated figures in planning the future demand for primary school places in Tai Po, taking into account of the newly arrived children from the Mainland. LegCo Members receiving TPPDB shared their views and agreed to refer the issue to the Panel for follow-up.

11. Supervision of the administration of UGC-funded tertiary education institutions

The Panel discussed the issue at the meeting on 17 May 1999 and requested the attendance rate of members of the governing councils and a written response to the concerns and suggestions in the submissions received.

Miss Emily LAU has also requested an information paper about the recent consultancy study on the management structure of UGC-funded institutions, in particular the appointment system of the Dean of Faculty.

The Panel may wish to follow up the issues at a future meeting.

Legislative Council Secretariat

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