

Panel on Education

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 26 February 2008)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Review of the financial assistance scheme for designated evening adult education courses

Item proposed by Hon CHEUNG Man-kwong. The Administration has undertaken to review the financial assistance scheme for evening adult education courses in the 2007-2008 school year, and would wish to seek members' views on the proposed way forward for the scheme. 26 March 2008

2. Creation of a deputy head rank in public sector primary schools

Item proposed by the Administration. The Administration intends to seek members' advice on the proposed arrangements of the initiative announced in the 2007 Policy Address regarding the creation of a deputy head rank in public sector primary schools. 26 March 2008

3. New initiatives in education

At the meeting on 11 October 2007, members expressed concern about the new initiatives in education, in particular the provision of 12-year free education, the implementation of small class teaching, and the development of Hong Kong into a regional education hub. Members agreed to consider the need to discuss the related issues at appropriate time. To be confirmed

The Panel will discuss the implementation details of small class teaching in public sector primary schools on 29 February 2008.

4. Future development of the textbook industry and development of talents for textbook writing

Item proposed by Mrs Selina CHOW at the meeting on 13 October 2005. Members noted that arising from the Administration's proposals on various copyright-related issues, the textbook industry had expressed grave concern about the To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

impact of the proposed exemption of non-profit-making educational establishments and educational establishment subvented by Government from the proposed criminal liability for copying and distribution of copyright infringing printed works on the future development of the textbook industry. Members agreed to receive views from the industry and other sectors which might have different perspectives on the issue, including the Consumer Council which conducted annual surveys on textbook prices. Members of the Panel on Commerce and Industry will be invited to join the discussion of this item.

At the meeting on 12 October 2006, Mrs Selina CHOW proposed and members agreed to discuss the development of talents for textbook writing.

5. Academic freedom and institutional autonomy

At the meeting on 12 November 2007, members agreed that the Administration, the UGC and members of the public be invited to comment on the research report on academic freedom and institutional autonomy prepared by the Research and Library Services Division of the Legislative Council Secretariat. Members also agreed to discuss the subject upon receipt of submissions from interested parties and the responses from the Administration and UGC.

To be confirmed

6. Arts and cultural studies in school education

Item proposed by Mrs Selina CHOW at the meeting on 13 October 2005. Mrs CHOW considered that the Panel should discuss the curriculum for arts and cultural studies in schools in the light of the Government's policy commitment to enrich the quality of life in Hong Kong.

To be confirmed

7. Remuneration for school clerks and janitors

Item proposed by Mr LEE Cheuk-yan at the meeting on 12 October 2006. Mr LEE is concerned that since the inclusion of salaries and allowances for clerks and janitors in aided schools under the Operating Expenses Block Grant (OEBG) in 2000, the salaries and allowances of clerks and janitors in some aided schools have not been increased in line with the inflation and OEBG adjustments.

To be confirmed

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for discussion**

8. Plagiarism in academic work

Item proposed by Mr Albert CHAN at the meeting on 11 October 2007. Mr CHAN is concerned about the mechanism for handling complaints about plagiarism in academic work. To be confirmed

Council Business Division 2
Legislative Council Secretariat
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