

Panel on Education

List of outstanding items for discussion
(position as at 6 May 2008)

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

1. Education for ethnic minority students

At the meeting on 29 February 2008, members agreed to revisit the subject and receive deputations in June 2008. Members also agreed to visit schools admitting ethnic minority students to observe their lessons. The visit is scheduled for 30 May 2008.

12 June 2008

The Administration will report the progress of various support measures for non-Chinese speaking students including development of the supplementary Chinese Language curriculum guide, and updates on the on-going support measures.

2. Progress of Preparation for the New Senior Secondary (NSS) and Higher Education Academic Structure (334)

Item proposed by the Administration. The Administration will report the progress of 334 in three interconnected arenas: further preparation of schools; interface between schools, post-secondary institutions and employers; as well as communication channels among key parties.

12 June 2008

3. Review of Post-secondary Education Sector

At the meeting on 14 April 2008, Mr CHEUNG Man-kwong suggested that the Panel should receive the views of deputations on the Report on Phase 2 Review of the Post-secondary Education Sector at a future meeting.

To be confirmed

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

4. The arts and culture in the school curriculum

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

The Administration will report the latest development of the arts and culture in the school curriculum in basic education and new senior secondary education, as well as the support measures provided for teachers and schools.

5. Review of first-year-first-degree places

Item proposed by Mr SIN Chung-kai at the meeting on 29 February 2008. Mr SIN is concerned about the limited number of articulation places for sub-degree holders and that the number of publicly-funded first-year-first-degree places has remained unchanged at 14 500 for many years. To be confirmed

6. Planning of public sector primary school places

Item proposed by Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung at the meeting on 29 February 2008. Mr LEUNG is concerned about the planning of public sector primary schools and classes in the light of the fluctuations in population. To be confirmed

7. 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 discussed the implementation details of small class teaching in public sector primary schools on 29 February 2008.

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

8. 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 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. To be confirmed

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

9. 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

10. 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

**Proposed timing
for discussion**

11. 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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