立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)372/12-13 (These minutes have been cleared with the Chairman)

Ref: CB4/PS/1/12

Panel on Education

Subcommittee on Integrated Education

Minutes of the first meeting held on Tuesday, 8 January 2013, at 9:30 am in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present

: Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung (Chairman)

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, SBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che

Hon Claudia MO

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan

Members

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

absent Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP

Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP

Hon IP Kin-yuen (Deputy Chairman)

Clerk in attendance

Miss Polly YEUNG

Chief Council Secretary (4)4

Staff in attendance

Mr KWONG Kam-fai

Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Esther CHEUNG Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Sandy HAU

Legislative Assistant (4)3

I. Election of Chairman (and Deputy Chairman)

Election of Chairman

Mr Abraham SHEK, the member who had the highest precedence among members of the Subcommittee present, presided at the meeting and called for nominations for the chairmanship of the Subcommittee.

2. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> nominated Dr Fernando CHEUNG and the nomination was seconded by <u>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che</u>. <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> accepted the nomination. There being no other nomination, <u>Mr SHEK</u> declared Dr CHEUNG elected as Chairman of the Subcommittee. <u>Dr CHEUNG</u> then took the chair.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. <u>Members</u> agreed to elect a deputy chairman for the Subcommittee. <u>The Chairman</u> called for nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Subcommittee. Noting that Mr IP Kin-yuen, who was not present at the meeting, had agreed to his being nominated as a candidate for the deputy chairmanship of the Subcommittee, <u>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che</u> nominated Mr IP. The nomination was seconded by <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> and <u>Dr Kenneth CHAN</u>. As there was no other nomination, <u>the Chairman</u> declared Mr IP Kin-yuen elected as Deputy Chairman of the Subcommittee.

II. Schedule of meetings and items for discussion

- 4. <u>The Subcommittee</u> deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex I**). A list of issues to be studied by the Subcommittee as proposed by members was set out in **Annex II**.
- 5. The Subcommittee noted that in November 2012, the Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC") announced the findings of the "Study on Equal Learning Opportunities for Students with Disabilities under the Integrated Education System" ("the EOC Study"). Members would like to be briefed on the findings of the EOC Study, which they considered to be useful reference for the Subcommittee. In this connection, the Chairman said that according to his understanding, the incumbent Chairperson, Mr LAM Woonkwong, would serve until the end of January 2013. As the next meeting of the Subcommittee would be held in February 2013, members agreed to invite the incoming Chairperson of EOC to attend the next meeting to exchange views with the Subcommittee on the findings and recommendations of the EOC Study. Members further agreed to extend the invitation to Mr LAM to attend the next meeting as the former Chairperson to share his views and observations,

<u>Action</u>

and noted that it would be up to Mr LAM to accept the Subcommittee's invitation.

(*Post-meeting note*: On 15 January 2013, the Government announced the extension of Mr LAM's term of office as the Chairperson of EOC for two months up to 31 March 2013.)

- 6. The Chairman advised that owing to the complexity and diversity of the issues proposed to be studied, it might take the Subcommittee more than 12 months to complete its study. Nevertheless, he said that the Subcommittee should strive to complete its work within 12 months. Should the Subcommittee find it necessary to work beyond 12 months, it would obtain the endorsement of the Panel and report to the House Committee to seek an extension.
- 7. <u>The Chairman</u> also said that he would consider the date of the next meeting, and notify members of the relevant meeting arrangements shortly.

(*Post-meeting note*: The next meeting of the Subcommittee would be held on Tuesday, 19 February 2013, at 2:30 pm. The schedule of meeting from March to July 2013 was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)297/12-13 on 9 January 2013.)

III. Any other business

8. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 10:05 am.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
1 February 2013

Panel on Education

Subcommittee on Integrated Education

Proceedings of the meeting of the meeting on Tuesday, 8 January 2013, at 9:30 am in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required	
Agenda Item I – E	Agenda Item I – Election of Chairman (and Deputy Chairman)			
	Mr Abraham SHEK Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Ms Claudia MO Dr Kenneth CHAN Dr Fernando CHEUNG	Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman		
Agenda Item II – S	Schedule of meetings and item	s for discussion		
000313 - 000810	Chairman Ms Cyd HO	The Chairman proposed to study – (a) the problems faced by students of major types of special educational		
		needs ("SEN") in mainstream schools and the support currently available to them;		
		(b) the implementation of Individual Education Plan ("IEP") for SEN students in primary and secondary schools;		
		(c) teacher training; and (d) placement of SEN students in mainstream schools.		
		Ms HO's suggestions/views that — (a) the Education Bureau ("EDB") should conduct a comprehensive survey on the facilities of special schools; and (b) there should be early identification of SEN students and universal assessment.		
		The Chairman's view that while the Subcommittee should focus on issues related to integrated education ("IE"), it could consider whether the facilities at special schools and mainstream schools were conducive to SEN students' learning, and how they could be improved.		
000811 - 001013	Ms Claudia MO Chairman	Ms MO's view that SEN students were disadvantaged by the existing allocation system of school places which was primarily based on students' academic performance.		
		The Chairman's view that Ms MO's concern was related to the availability of placement information for the parents of SEN		

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		students.	
001014 - 001221	Mr CHEUNG Kwok-che Chairman	Mr CHEUNG's views/enquiries that — (a) the transfer of information on SEN students when they progressed from primary schools to secondary schools was not done effectively; (b) whether the Learning Support Grant was provided up to Secondary 3 only; and (c) little was done about the implementation of IE in kindergartens and child care centres.	
		The Chairman's views that — (a) the transfer of information on SEN students from primary to secondary schools had been improved over the years; (b) the implementation of IE in kindergartens and child care centres should receive proper attention and be beefed up; and (c) the provision of Special Child Care Centres was insufficient.	
001222 - 001542	Dr Helena WONG Chairman	Dr WONG's views that — (a) the implementation of IE in mainstream schools in Hong Kong and the difficulties faced by the stakeholders should be examined; (b) there were different IE models in overseas jurisdictions; and (c) there was concern about the quality of training for teachers. The Chairman's remarks that — (a) during the previous LegCo, a subcommittee was formed to study issues related to the support for children with SEN; (b) the relevant information set out in the former subcommittee's report [LC Paper No. CB(2)2140/07-08] should be updated as several years had lapsed since it was last prepared; and (c) EDB had launched training courses to enhance the professional capacity of teachers in catering for students with SEN in mainstream schools. According to EDB, the target of at least 10% of teachers in each school should have completed the Basic Course on Catering for Diverse Learning Needs had already been met.	The Secretariat to update information on overseas practices as shown in Appendix V of

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001543 - 001956	Ms Cyd HO Chairman	Ms HO's views/suggestions that — (a) the 30-hour basic training course was insufficient for teachers of SEN students in mainstream schools; (b) the articulation arrangements of SEN students from special schools to mainstream schools were problematic and should be reviewed; and (c) the provision of additional subsidies to enable SEN students to acquire remedial training after admission to mainstream schools should be explored.	
		The Chairman's view that issues arising from the articulation of SEN students from special schools to mainstream schools, including the role of former skills opportunity schools and other support measures such as the use of "education vouchers" could be studied. He was concerned about the lack of midway options as the choice for SEN students appeared to be limited to either special schools or mainstream schools.	
001957 - 002242	Ms Claudia MO Chairman	Ms MO's views/report that — (a) the opportunities for SEN students to receive higher education, including the admission of these students by higher education institutions and related learning support, were very limited; and (b) she had written to EDB urging the Administration to produce more announcements in the public interest ("API") to advocate equal opportunities for SEN students. The Chairman's views that — (a) under the New Academic Structure for	
		 (a) under the New Academic Structure for Senior Secondary Education and Higher Education (i.e. the "3-3-4" structure), it appeared that the last tier of higher education was not easily accessible to SEN students; and (b) the importance of community education could be incorporated when various issues were examined by the Subcommittee. 	
002243 - 002431	Ms Cyd HO Chairman	Ms HO's views that the difficulties faced by SEN students pursuing higher studies should be studied.	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
		The Chairman's comments that — (a) the Administration had always been reluctant to assert its role in the affairs of higher educational institutions on the grounds of institutional autonomy; and (b) despite the complexity and diversity of the issues proposed to be studied, the Subcommittee would strive to complete its work in 12 months, and seek an extension if necessary.	
002432 - 002904	Dr Helena WONG Ms Cyd HO Chairman	Dr WONG's views that — (a) institutional autonomy must not override the requirement to comply with the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (Cap. 487); (b) The Hong Kong Polytechnic University had issued a code of practice regarding equal opportunities; and (c) the Subcommittee could invite the Equal Opportunities Commission ("EOC") to share its views. The Chairman's views/suggestions that — (a) EOC announced the findings of the study related to equal learning opportunities in November 2012 ("the EOC Study"); (b) the Subcommittee could invite the incumbent Chairperson and the incoming Chairperson of EOC to attend the next meeting to exchange views with members on the findings and recommendations of the study. Ms HO noted the imminent change of Chairperson of EOC.	
002905 - 003157	Ms Claudia MO Ms Cyd HO Chairman	Members agreed to the following arrangements for the next meeting – (a) EOC would be invited to brief members on the findings of the EOC Study; (b) both the incoming Chairman and Mr LAM Woon-kwong should be invited; (c) the Administration would be invited to provide its response to the findings and recommendations of the EOC Study. Ms HO's suggestion that the staffing structure in EDB for implementing IE policy should be studied in due course.	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action required
003158 - 003251	Chairman	Concluding remarks	

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Panel on Education Subcommittee on Integrated Education List of issues to be studied

- 1. The problems faced by students of major types of special educational needs ("SEN") in mainstream schools and the support currently available to them
 - (a) Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorders, Autistic Spectrum Disorders, Communication Difficulties, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties, and Specific Learning Difficulties;
 - (b) Hearing Impairment;
 - (c) Intellectual Disability;
 - (d) Physical Disabilities; and
 - (e) Visual Impairment.
- 2. Early and timely identification of SEN students and early intervention
- 3. Current mechanism for placing SEN students into mainstream primary and secondary schools, including parents' choice of schools and home-school cooperation
- 4. New Funding Model ("NFM") for integrated education ("IE") in primary and secondary schools
- 5. Individual Education Plan ("IEP") for SEN students in primary and secondary schools
- 6. Professional development and training for teachers to cater for the needs of SEN students in mainstream schools
- 7. Issues arising from the articulation of SEN students from special schools to mainstream schools, including the role of former skills opportunity schools and other support measures
- 8. Opportunities for SEN students to receive university/higher education, including the admission of these students by higher education institutions and the learning support available to them
- 9. Measures/plans to improve the facilities of special schools and mainstream schools to better cater for SEN students and IE
- 10. Policy responsibility for IE, including the existing organizational setup and the resources allocated for implementing the IE policy

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