

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(4)106/13-14  
(These minutes have been  
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB4/PL/ED

**Panel on Education**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Thursday, 10 October 2013, at 2:40 pm**  
**in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP (Chairman)  
Hon IP Kin-yuen (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, SBS, JP  
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH  
Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP  
Hon WONG Yuk-man  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP  
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin  
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok  
Hon Dennis KWOK  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP  
Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP  
Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen

**Members absent** : Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che  
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon Charles Peter MOK

**Clerk in attendance** : Miss Polly YEUNG  
Chief Council Secretary (4)4

**Staff in attendance** : Mrs Percy MA  
Assistant Secretary General 4

Mr KWONG Kam-fai  
Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Mr Ian CHOW  
Council Secretary (4)4

Miss Queenie LAM  
Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2

Miss Winnie CHENG  
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)1

Ms Sandy HAU  
Legislative Assistant (4)3

---

Action

**I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman**

(Appendix III to LC Paper No. CB(4)2/13-14 -- Terms of reference of the Panel

Appendix IV to LC Paper No. CB(4)2/13-14 -- List of Government advisory bodies relevant to the Panel)

Action

Election of Chairman

Dr LAM Tai-fai, the incumbent Chairman, invited nominations for the chairmanship of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session. Mr MA Fung-kyok nominated Dr LAM Tai-fai and the nomination was seconded by Mr Christopher CHUNG. Dr LAM Tai-fai accepted the nomination.

2. Mr IP Kin-yuen, the incumbent Deputy Chairman, took over the chair and invited further nominations. There being no other nomination, Mr IP Kin-yuen declared Dr LAM Tai-fai elected as Chairman of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session.

Election of Deputy Chairman

3. The Chairman invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session.

4. Dr Kenneth CHAN nominated Mr IP Kin-yuen and the nomination was seconded by Dr Helena WONG. Mr IP Kin-yuen accepted the nomination. As there was no other nomination, the Chairman declared Mr IP Kin-yuen elected as Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session.

**II. Schedule of meetings for the 2013-2014 session**

5. Members agreed that the regular meetings of the Panel for the 2013-2014 session would continue to be held on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm, except for the meeting in March 2014 which would be re-scheduled for Tuesday, 18 March 2014, at 2:30 pm.

*(Post-meeting note: The schedule of regular meetings for the 2013-2014 session was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)13/13-14 on 11 October 2013.)*

**III. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

(Appendix V to LC Paper No. CB(4)2/13-14 -- List of outstanding items for discussion

Action

Appendix VI to LC Paper No.      -- List of follow-up actions)  
CB(4)2/13-14

Items for discussion at the regular meeting on 11 November 2013

6. The Chairman informed members that the Administration had proposed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting on 11 November 2013 -

- (a) Redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School at Robinson Road, Hong Kong; and
- (b) Statutes of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Statute 2013.

Members agreed to include the two items on the agenda of the next regular meeting.

*(Post-meeting note: At the request of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, the item on "Vocational Training Council's Proposed Enhancement of IT Infrastructure and Services and Longitudinal Study on Students" was included on the agenda to replace the item on "Redevelopment of Ying Wa Girls' School at Robinson Road, Hong Kong".)*

Special meeting

7. Referring to his letter addressed to the Panel Chairman and tabled at the meeting (subsequently issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)26/13-14(01) on 15 October 2013), Mr Michael TIEN expressed concerns about the chaos arising from applications for admission to kindergartens, in particular the situation in the North District, as well as the panic over the availability of places. He therefore suggested that the Panel should discuss the subject as soon as possible. Dr Elizabeth QUAT highlighted that the supply and demand of kindergarten places was a territory-wide issue. Some members, including Ms Cyd HO, Dr Helena WONG, Dr Kenneth CHAN and Dr Fernando CHEUNG, also considered that the Panel should discuss the subject. The Deputy Chairman remarked that the Panel should also receive public views if a special meeting was to be held.

Action

8. Members agreed that a special meeting would be held in the morning of 28 October 2013, and that the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman would work out the meeting arrangements with the assistance of the Secretariat.

*(Post-meeting note: On the instruction of the Chairman, the special meeting was scheduled for 28 October 2013 at 8:30 am to discuss with the Administration issues related to the supply and demand of kindergarten places.)*

Items for discussion at future meetings

9. Dr Helena WONG suggested that the Panel should discuss the following items –

- (a) funding for University Grants Committee-funded postgraduate programmes and enrollment of non-local students on these programmes;
- (b) governance of self-financing post-secondary institutions and establishment of an oversight body for the self-financing post-secondary sector; and
- (c) review on the implementation of Territory-wide System Assessment.

10. Dr Kenneth CHAN referred members to items (1) and (3) on the "List of outstanding items for discussion", namely, review of the policy on Direct Subsidy Scheme schools and review on the subvention arrangements for the English Schools Foundation, and reiterated his request for discussion of these matters. He also suggested that the Panel should discuss the award of bonus to staff by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority.

11. Dr Fernando CHEUNG referred to the recent complaints against Chun Tok School, and suggested that the Panel should discuss the mechanism of handling complaints against special schools. He said that he would set out his concerns in writing. Ms Cyd HO expressed her concern about the sub-standard facilities at some special schools and considered it necessary to examine the existing policy on redevelopment of special schools.

Action

12. Mr WU Chi-wai proposed to discuss the provision of financial assistance to post-secondary students. Noting the rising prices of textbooks, Dr Fernando CHEUNG suggested that the Panel should discuss this matter. Dr Elizabeth QUAT proposed to hold a joint Panel meeting with the Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting to discuss matters on e-Learning.

13. Mr Michael TIEN said that he had written to the Ministry of Education in the Mainland earlier this year suggesting to explore the feasibility of establishing publicly-funded schools in Shenzhen offering the Hong Kong curriculum. He proposed that the Panel should discuss this matter.

14. Dr Priscilla LEUNG said that the Panel should discuss the long term planning and policy on education to tie in with the population policy. She also considered it necessary for the Panel to follow up the review of the curriculum and assessment of the Liberal Studies subject and item (5) on the "List of outstanding items for discussion", namely, grievance procedures of the University Grants Committee-funded institutions.

15. Mr Abraham SHEK proposed to follow up issues related to small class teaching and education for non-Chinese speaking/ethnic minorities students. Mr WONG Kwok-hing suggested that the Panel should review with the Administration the implementation of vocational education to meet Hong Kong's needs for trained personnel.

16. The Deputy Chairman said that he would propose a number of discussion items, which included the following–

- (a) interim measures to support kindergartens and improvements to the Pre-primary Education Voucher Scheme;
- (b) teacher-to-student ratio in secondary schools;
- (c) employment opportunities for young teachers; and
- (d) review of the policy on Direct Subsidy Scheme schools.

The Deputy Chairman indicated that he would confirm his proposed discussion items in writing after the meeting.

17. The Chairman took note of members' suggestions and views for consideration.

Action

*(Post-meeting note: On the subsequent instruction of the Chairman, the items on "the award of bonus to staff by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority" and "mechanism of handling complaints against special schools" were included on the agenda of the next regular meeting to be held on 11 November 2013.)*

**IV. Any other business**

Subcommittee on Integrated Education

18. Members agreed that the Subcommittee on Integrated Education should continue its work in the 2013-2014 session. The Chairman informed members that the membership of the Subcommittee would be re-opened to Panel members, and that it would be for the Subcommittee to decide at its first meeting in this session whether re-election of its Chairman was necessary.

*(Post-meeting note: The relevant notice to Panel members was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(4)14/13-14 on 11 October 2013.)*

19. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 2:55 pm.

Council Business Division 4  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
31 October 2013