

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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4 May 2016

Miss Polly YEUNG Clerk to Panel on Education Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central Hong Kong

Dear Miss YEUNG,

Legislative Council Panel on Education Motion passed at the meeting on 11 April 2016

I refer to your letter of 26 April 2016 requesting the Education Bureau (EDB) to provide response to the matters stated in the motion passed at the meeting on 11 April 2016 as well as the issues raised in the Panel Chairman's letter dated 15 April 2016.

The Government is committed to enhancing the quality of education in Hong Kong. Over the years, EDB has improved the provision of teaching staff resources on a need basis and implemented a number of measures to enhance the teaching grade in recognition of the challenges of school administration and demand on quality education. The unit cost for a subsidized primary school place has significantly increased by 110% from \$24,640 in the 2005-06 financial year to \$51,670 (revised estimate) in the 2014-15 financial year.

The motion and the issues raised in the Panel Chairman's letter involve staff establishment and salary structure of primary schools which are complex matters. They entail considering the updated duties of principals and teachers and related development over the years, treatment of grades and ranks of staff with regard to factors such as entry requirements,

 as well as academic qualifications and length of service. Pay levels of civil service teaching grades/ranks need to have regard to factors such as remuneration of other civil service grades/ranks with similar qualification requirements, recruitment and retention of relevant grades/ranks and the overall financial position of the Government. To what extent the relevant circumstances pertaining to the civil service grades and ranks should be considered in relation to the comparable peers in the aided sector would also require careful deliberation.

Due to the wide scope of issues and complexity of the subject concerned, the Administration would require time to deliberate the subject. We will update the Panel on the progress of our deliberation at an appropriate time.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs. HONG CHAN Tsui-wah)

Chan Jan Dal

for Secretary for Education