

立法會

Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)208/16-17
(These minutes have been
cleared with the Chairman)

Ref : CB4/PL/ED

Panel on Education

Minutes of meeting
held on Friday, 28 October 2016, at 9:00 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP (Chairman)
Hon IP Kin-yuen (Deputy Chairman)
Hon James TO Kun-sun
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, BBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS
Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP
Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP
Hon Kenneth LEUNG
Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP
Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP
Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP

Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon Alvin YEUNG
Hon Andrew WAN Siu-kin
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon LAM Cheuk-ting
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHAN Chun-ying
Hon Tanya CHAN
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Hon Jeremy TAM Man-ho
Dr Hon YIU Chung-yim

**Members
absent** : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon WU Chi-wai, MH
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP
Hon KWOK Wai-keung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon YUNG Hoi-yan
Hon Kenneth LAU Ip-keung, MH, JP
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon KWONG Chun-yu
Hon Nathan LAW Kwun-chung
Dr Hon LAU Siu-lai

**Clerk in
attendance** : Ms Angel WONG
Chief Council Secretary (4)4

**Staff in
attendance** : Mr Matthew LOO
Assistant Secretary General 4

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

Miss Mandy NG
Council Secretary (4)4

Miss Winnie CHENG
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)1

Ms Carman HO
Senior Legislative Assistant (4)2

Ms Sandy HAU
Legislative Assistant(4)4

Mr Griffin FUNG
Legislative Assistant(4)8

Miss Emma LAM
Clerical Assistant(4)3

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I. Election of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

Election of Chairman

Mr James TO, the member present who had the highest precedence, presided over the election of the Chairman of the Panel.

2. Mr James TO recapped that the nomination procedure of the Chairman election had been completed at the meeting on 18 October 2016. Six members, namely Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Dr YIU Chung-yim and Mr Sixtus LEUNG¹ were nominated for chairmanship. Subsequently, Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung, Ms Claudia MO and Dr YIU Chung-yim had given written notice to the Panel to withdraw from the election. In this connection, voting on the remaining three nominations, namely Mr IP Kin-yuen, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and Mr Sixtus LEUNG would be conducted at this meeting.

3. Mr James TO announced a vote by secret ballot. After all members had cast their votes, Mr TO invited Ms Claudia MO and Mr Abraham SHEK who had nominated/seconded the candidates to oversee the counting of votes. Of the members present for voting, 13 voted for Mr IP Kin-yuen, 26 voted for Dr CHIANG Lai-wan and no member voted for Mr Sixtus LEUNG. There was one invalid ballot as no vote had been marked on it. Mr James TO declared Dr CHIANG Lai-wan elected as the Chairman of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session.

¹ According to the Judgment of the Court of First Instance of the High Court on 15 November 2016, Mr Sixtus LEUNG has been disqualified from assuming the office of a member of the Legislative Council ("LegCo"), and has vacated the same since 12 October 2016, and is not entitled to act as a member of the LegCo.

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Election of Deputy Chairman

4. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan took the chair and invited nominations for the deputy chairmanship of the Panel.
5. Ms Tanya CHAN nominated Mr IP Kin-yuen and the nomination was seconded by Mr LAM Cheuk-ting. Mr IP Kin-yuen accepted the nomination. As there was no other nomination, Mr IP Kin-yuen was declared the Deputy Chairman of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session.

II. Schedule of meetings for the 2016-2017 session

6. Members noted the proposed schedule of meetings for the 2016-2017 session tabled at the meeting. The Chairman advised that subject to members' views, the regular meetings for the 2016-2017 session would be held on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm as in the last LegCo term.
7. The Deputy Chairman said that the regular meetings in the last LegCo term had often been extended until 7:30 pm or 8:00 pm to allow ample time for members to discuss on various issues, but some members were unable to stay behind. He considered it undesirable and suggested holding the regular meetings at an earlier timeslot. Members in general considered that the regular meetings should not clash with other committee meetings, and special meetings might be arranged with the consensus of members when necessary.
8. The Chairman advised that she and the Deputy Chairman would, with the assistance of the Secretariat, explore other timeslots for holding the regular meetings, and members would be duly notified. If no other timeslot was available, the regular meetings of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session would be maintained on the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm. Members raised no objection to the arrangements.

(Post-meeting note: The regular meetings of the Panel for the 2016-2017 session are scheduled for the second Monday of each month at 4:30 pm. The meeting schedule was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)40/16-17 on 1 November 2016.)

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III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

Items for discussion at future meetings

9. Members noted the "List of issues suggested to be considered" ("the List") and the "List of follow-up actions" tabled at the meeting. At the Chairman's invitation, members proposed items for future discussion.

10. Mr Michael TIEN proposed to discuss the following seven items at future meetings:

- (a) implementation of whole-day schooling and homework policy in primary schools;
- (b) review on the implementation of Territory-wide System Assessment ("TSA");
- (c) policy on the promotion of sports and art education in schools;
- (d) policy on reading promotion;
- (e) School-based After-school Learning and Support Programmes;
- (f) support for non-Chinese speaking students under the free kindergarten education policy; and
- (g) policy and guidelines in respect of the discussion of controversial topics, such as the notion of Hong Kong's secession from China, in schools.

11. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and Ms Claudia MO were also concerned about the implementation of TSA as proposed by Mr Michael TIEN. Mr CHAN requested the Education Bureau ("EDB") to brief the Panel on the way forward for TSA as soon as possible.

12. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen also considered it necessary for EDB to brief members as soon as possible on relevant guidelines, if any, in respect of the discussion of controversial topics, such as the notion of Hong Kong's secession from China, in schools.

13. Dr Fernando CHEUNG suggested discussing as soon as possible the policy on the provision of native-speaking English teachers ("NETs") for special schools and the follow-up actions undertaken by EDB in the light of the High Court's verdict regarding EDB's non-provision of a NET for a special school for children with intellectual disability.

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14. Dr KWOK Ka-ki noted that the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Integrated Education in the Fifth LegCo had not been fully implemented by the Administration, and considered that the Administration should formulate comprehensive policy for supporting students with special educational needs. He suggested the Panel to follow up this subject.

15. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan said that the teaching of Chinese history as an independent subject at junior secondary level was of great public concern, and suggested that the Panel should discuss this matter. The Deputy Chairman and Mrs Regina IP suggested that the discussion should also cover the Chinese History subject at senior secondary level. Dr Priscilla LEUNG expressed her concern about the lack of knowledge of Chinese history and Basic Law among students, and suggested that issues related to the curriculum of Chinese History should be discussed as soon as possible. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting concurred.

16. Dr Priscilla LEUNG referred members to item (4) on the List, namely review of the New Senior Secondary ("NSS") curriculum and the Liberal Studies subject, and reiterated her request for discussion of the matter. Mrs Regina IP considered that the teaching of Chinese literary classics and culture should be strengthened under the NSS curriculum.

17. Ms Claudia MO said that whole-day schooling and homework policy in primary schools should be discussed.

18. Mr HO Kai-ming expressed concern about the possible impact of the cessation of operation of the Business Services Centre under the Vocational Training Council ("VTC") in 2016-2017 on its students and staff. He said that the Panel might request written response from the Administration/VTC if the subject could not be arranged for discussion at future meetings.

19. Mr LAM Cheuk-ting said that many parents expressed concern about the difficulties of their children in getting admitted to the schools they preferred. He referred members to item (3) on the List, namely review on the policy for Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, and suggested the Panel to follow up this subject.

20. The Deputy Chairman said that he would propose to the Chairman in writing 17 discussion items, which included the following:

- (a) report of the Committee on Prevention of Student Suicides;
- (b) report on the 2016 TSA Tryout Study (Primary 3);
- (c) a Member's Bill to amend the University of Hong Kong Ordinance;

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- (d) review of the policy on admission of students under the non-Joint University Programmes Admission System;
- (e) planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places in the light of student population;
- (f) remuneration for contract teachers in primary and secondary schools;
- (g) salary structure of kindergarten teachers;
- (h) review on social worker establishment in special schools; and
- (i) pre-requisite attributes of the future Secretary for Education.

The Deputy Chairman said that the Panel should discuss the Reports mentioned in items (a) and (b) once they were issued.

21. Ms Tanya CHAN requested the Administration to brief the Panel on the latest free kindergarten education policy. She also suggested reviewing the existing governing legislation of individual University Grants Committee-funded institutions that the Chief Executive was the ex-officio Chancellor of various universities.

22. Members noted that the aforesaid proposed items would be compiled into the Panel's "List of outstanding items for discussion". The Chairman informed members that she and the Deputy Chairman would meet with the Secretary for Education to discuss the work plan of the Panel for the current session.

Items for discussion at the next regular meeting

23. Members agreed to discuss the following three items proposed by the Administration at the next regular meeting:

- (a) Promotion of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education;
- (b) Latest Development in Migration to Free Quality Kindergarten Education; and
- (c) Recommendations in the Final Report of the Committee on Prevention of Student Suicides.

Items (a) and (b) involved financial implications.

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IV. Any other business

24. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 9:34 am.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
30 November 2016