

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)651/18-19
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB4/PL/ED

Panel on Education

Minutes of meeting
held on Friday, 7 December 2018 at 10:00 am
in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members present : Hon IP Kin-yuen (Chairman)
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH (Deputy Chairman)
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Kin-por, GBS, JP
Hon Claudia MO
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP
Hon CHU Hoi-dick
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP
Hon HUI Chi-fung
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai
Hon AU Nok-hin
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

Members absent : Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon Tanya CHAN

Public Officers attending : Agenda item III

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP
Secretary for Education

Mrs HONG CHAN Tsui-wah
Deputy Secretary for Education (5)

Ms Jenny CHAN
Principal Assistant Secretary (Education Infrastructure)
Education Bureau

Dr SO Kwok-sang
Secretary General
Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

Agenda item IV

Dr CHOI Yuk-lin, JP
Under Secretary for Education

Ms Jessie WONG, JP
Deputy Secretary for Education (2)

Mrs Elina CHAN
Principal Assistant Secretary
(Infrastructure and Research Support)
Education Bureau

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

Staff in attendance : Ms Mina CHAN
Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Miss Mandy NG
Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Sandy HAU
Legislative Assistant (4)4

Action

I. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting

No information paper has been issued so far.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

(Appendix I to LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19 -- List of outstanding items for discussion

Appendix II to LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19 -- List of follow-up actions)

Schedule of meeting

2. The Chairman informed members that as the Panel on Public Service would not change its schedule of regular meetings, the Panel on Education continued to hold regular meetings on the first Friday of each month from 10:45 am to 12:45 pm.

Items for discussion at the next regular meeting

3. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting on 4 January 2019 at 10:45 am:

- (a) Eighth Matching Grant Scheme;
- (b) Recurrent funding for the University Grants Committee-funded universities; and
- (c) Extension of retirement age for newly-joined aided school teachers.

4. The Chairman referred members to a joint letter from the Deputy Chairman, Ms Starry LEE and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, requesting the Panel to consider holding a meeting jointly with the Panel on Welfare Services and the

Panel on Health Services ("the two Panels") to discuss the education-related recommendations in the Report of the Task Force on Prevention of Youth Suicides published by the Labour and Welfare Bureau recently. Dr Fernando CHEUNG expressed support for holding a meeting to discuss the Report as early as practicable. The Chairman said that he would explore with the chairmen of the two Panels the possibility of holding the meeting.

(Post-meeting note: The joint letter was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)335/18-19 on 14 December 2018.)

5. Dr CHENG Chung-tai said that the work of the Subcommittee on Rights of Ethnic Minorities had completed. He asked for the inclusion of the education-related issues raised by the Subcommittee in the Panel's List of outstanding items for discussion ("the List") for follow up. Moreover, as the Administration's review on the Chinese Language Curriculum Second Language Learning Framework would complete by the end of the year, the Panel should consider discussing the review report early next year. The Chairman responded that the subject matter on education support for ethnic minority students had already been on the List. The Panel would arrange discussion of the subject in due course.

Consultation on overseas duty visit

6. The Chairman advised that a circular had been issued on 16 November 2018 to seek members' preliminary views on whether an overseas duty visit should be conducted. Six members had responded to the circular. Suggested places to visit included Finland, Japan or places where special education was successfully implemented. The Secretariat would issue a circular to further consult members on the duty visit.

(Post-meeting note: A circular to further consult members on the duty visit was issued vide LC Paper No. CB(4)353/18-19 on 20 December 2018.)

III. Proposed non-recurrent funding support to the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

(LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19(01) -- Paper provided by the Administration)

Briefing by the Administration

7. The Secretary for Education ("SED") briefed members on the proposed creation of a non-recurrent commitment of \$360.8 million to support the effective

operation of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority ("HKEAA") for the four financial years from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2022 ("funding proposal"). Subject to Members' views, the Administration would seek the approval of the Finance Committee's ("FC") for the funding proposal in January 2019, such that the government funding could be made available to HKEAA to ensure its liquidity. Details of the funding proposal were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19(01)].

Discussion

Measures to improve the financial position of HKEAA

8. Dr CHENG Chung-tai urged the Administration to formulate medium- and long-term measures to ensure HKEAA's long-term financial sustainability. For instance, the Administration should consider bearing the operating cost for administering the Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination ("HKDSE") and providing royalties to HKEAA for offering candidates free use of HKDSE past papers. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan supported the suggestion of making past papers available for use by candidates free of charge.

9. Ms CHAN Hoi-yan further opined that it might not be viable for HKEAA to operate on a self-financing basis in the long run as she could not see the possibility of HKEAA generating additional income. The Administration should provide regular funding to sustain HKEAA's stable operation and pay the examination fees for HKDSE candidates to alleviate their burden. Mr LAU Kwok-fan said that the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong raised no objection to the funding proposal, and suggested the Administration to pay HKDSE fees for all local students in day schools.

10. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that he supported the Administration to provide HKEAA with the proposed one-off funding support and to review HKEAA's existing operation mode and cost structure to ensure its long-term financial sustainability. In the short run, the Administration should help HKEAA defray the high operating costs for administering the special examination arrangements ("SEA") for HKDSE candidates with special educational needs ("SEN candidates") and the maintenance costs of HKEAA premises so as to alleviate the financial burden on HKEAA. Moreover, HKDSE fees should be waived to align with the 15-year free education policy and to alleviate students' financial burden, in particular those from low-income families.

11. Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung shared the view that HKDSE fees posed great burden on students and should be waived. He further pointed out that the number of SEN candidates and SEA-related cost for the coming years would far exceed the Administration's projections in its paper. The Administration should provide

recurrent subvention for HKEAA to cover SEA-related cost.

12. SED explained that the Administration considered it more appropriate for students to bear HKDSE fees based on the "user pays" principle, which was a general fee-charging principle used in various policy areas. At present, HKDSE fees only covered part of the cost. In view of the continuous operating deficits of HKEAA, the one-off non-recurrent funding support was proposed to support the effective operation of HKEAA in the coming four years. Meanwhile, the current operation mode and cost structure of HKEAA would be reviewed comprehensively, such as exploring whether HKDSE fees could be set at a level which fully covered the cost and if so, whether there would be a significant increase in the examination fees given the declining candidature, with a view to ensuring its long-term financial sustainability. In fact, whether the examination fees were borne by the candidates or the Administration, the total amount received by HKEAA would be the same. As regards candidates with financial needs, examination fee remission and other measures were in place to provide assistance. Hence, no students would be denied access to public examinations because of financial difficulties.

13. Mr HO Kai-ming was supportive of the funding proposal as a short-term measure to maintain the operation of HKEAA in the coming four years. He asked whether the Administration would consider setting up a fund in the long run to generate investment income to assist towards the cost of conducting HKDSE, with a view to reducing examination fees. Dr Helena WONG said that the Democratic Party supported the funding proposal and urged the Administration to work out the future financial arrangement for HKEAA as early as possible. She suggested setting up a fund to generate an investment return of not less than \$200 million to support the operation of HKEAA or to pay the examination fees for school candidates sitting for HKDSE for the first time. Whether the Administration should pay all or part of the fees for these candidates could be further discussed.

14. While supporting the funding proposal, Mr HUI Chi-fung asked whether the Education Bureau ("EDB") would, in the long run, take up the responsibility of conducting HKDSE of which a vast majority of the candidates were local students. Moreover, he considered it unfair to use the funding allocation to assist in the conduct of international and professional examinations ("IPEs").

15. SED responded that the Administration would consider all practicable proposals that could help sustain the operation of HKEAA during the review. In considering whether HKDSE fees should be paid by the Administration or the candidates, the Administration would take into account the Government's fiscal policy, the objective of public examination and the rationale behind the current practice, etc., which would be thoroughly studied in the review. For IPEs, the profit derived from them had partially offset the aggravating deficit related to

HKDSE, as a matter of fact. Secretary General, HKEAA ("SG/HKEAA") added that because of the wide choice of subjects of HKDSE and the fewer number of subjects that a candidate would take, the cost per candidate was high.

16. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen considered that HKEAA could receive more income from conducting HKDSE if the Administration paid the fees for all local school candidates on a cost-recovery basis and set the examination fees for non-local HKDSE candidates at a level which fully covered the cost.

17. SG/HKEAA advised that HKDSE was internationally recognized, candidates had not been classified as "locals" and "non-locals". Moreover, HKDSE was curriculum-based and a vast majority of candidates were local students taking HKDSE. Therefore, HKEAA had not implemented a different level of examination fee specifically for non-local HKDSE candidates. At present, non-local HKDSE candidates being private candidates had to pay an initial fee of some \$400. Other than that, the examination fees for both local and non-local candidates would be the same. For the 2018 HKDSE, there were about 60 000 candidates and only less than 200 were candidates not using Hong Kong Identity Card for enrolment. Given such a small number of non-local candidates, their examination fees would not make much financial contribution to HKEAA. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen did not subscribe to SG/HKEAA's explanation, and considered that non-local HKDSE candidates should be charged examination fees on a cost-recovery basis as a broad principle.

18. The Chairman expressed his view that the cost per HKDSE candidate was high because of the complex examination papers, several examination papers for each subject, fewer number of subjects that a candidate would take, etc. As a review on school curriculum was being conducted by the Administration, he asked whether the senior secondary curriculum would be refined so that the examination format could be streamlined, thereby reducing the operating cost of HKDSE. SED responded that the review was still underway and no concrete recommendations were made for the time being. The Administration would take into account all practicable proposals that could improve HKEAA's operation mode and cost structure in determining its way forward.

19. Mr Tommy CHEUNG said that the Liberal Party was supportive of the funding proposal. However, the Administration should set a definite timeline for the review of HKEAA, such as carrying out necessary public consultation before the end of the current term of the Legislative Council ("LegCo") and revert to Members with the review findings at the beginning of the next term. SED took note of Mr CHEUNG's suggestion and envisaged that the Administration would come up with a concrete proposal in about two years' time.

20. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen asked what would happen if the funding proposal was not supported by Members. SED advised that if the funding proposal was not

approved by LegCo, HKEAA would be required to continue with the current mode of self-financing operation, and the fee for the 2019-2020 HKDSE would have to be increased by around 50% in order to support the conduct of the examination. Hence, the Administration put forth the funding proposal as a tide-over measure to avoid the need for the candidates to bear high examination fees.

(At about 10:50 am, the Chairman directed that the meeting be extended by 15 minutes to allow sufficient time for members to complete the discussion of all agenda items.)

Monitoring of HKEAA

21. Mr Gary FAN opined that HKEAA as a self-financing statutory organization should make its best endeavour to save costs and open up new sources of income before seeking additional funding from the Administration. For instance, HKEAA should control the high staff costs, in particular the remuneration for the management personnel.

22. Mr LEUNG Chi-cheung said that he supported the proposed non-recurrent funding support. However, the Administration should ensure prudent use of the funding allocation by showing the public that HKEAA's expenditures were reasonable. He also enquired whether a preliminary proposal on how to improve the operation of HKEAA had been worked out. Sharing similar concerns, Mr LAU Kwok-fan considered that the Administration should put in place appropriate mechanism to monitor and control HKEAA's expenditures to ensure proper use of public money.

23. While supporting the funding proposal, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan was gravely concerned that HKEAA was unable to sustain its operation even with various sources of income, including the sale of the past examination papers and provision of assessment services for organizations. He enquired about the measures taken and to be taken by the Administration to ensure HKEAA's prudent use of public money and continued efforts to cut costs and generate additional revenue.

24. SED explained that HKEAA was an independent statutory body with autonomy in its day-to-day operation. To effectively monitor the daily operation of HKEAA, representative(s) of EDB served as ex-officio member(s) of HKEAA. Also, HKEAA was required to submit its annual estimates of income and expenditure of its proposed activities to the Administration for approval. Regarding the review of HKEAA, the Administration had started discussion with HKEAA for some time. It seemed that the current mode of operation and cost structure of HKEAA could not support its long-term operation, and it was envisaged that more time was required to study the matter in detail. The

non-recurrent funding was proposed as a tide-over measure pending the comprehensive review. The funding required was based on HKEAA's latest estimates on its cash requirement in the coming four years to ensure liquidity, meet various planned/committed expenses and maintain its daily operation. On the monitoring of the use of the proposed new commitment of \$360.8 million, HKEAA was required to submit to the Government its proposed funding requirement with justifications for each of its financial year, as well as its annual audited accounts to ensure the proper use of the allocated government funding.

Non-local HKDSE candidates

25. Mr Gary FAN noted from media reports that HKEAA organized talks on the Mainland to attract students there to undertake HKDSE. He expressed dissatisfaction with and hesitation to this practice which would intensify competition among candidates. Also, the increasing number of Mainland students admitted to the University Grants Committee("UGC")-funded universities would lead to a decrease of local students' opportunity for admission. Mr FAN asked whether HKEAA would accept Mainland students' applications for HKDSE if the proposed non-recurrent funding was provided.

26. SED stressed that the annual 15 000 first-year-first-degree intake places offered by the eight UGC-funded universities were solely for admitting local students. Applications of local and non-local students would be admitted separately under the Joint University Programmes Admissions System. Hence, local students would not compete with non-local students for UGC-funded intake places. SG/HKEAA added that a few schools on the Mainland offered HKDSE curriculum for students from Hong Kong. The seminars were designed to provide relevant information for them. As these students only represented a very small percentage of the total number of HKDSE candidates every year, HKEAA could not rely on this income source to increase its revenue.

Motions

27. The Chairman referred members to the motion moved by Dr Helena WONG. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Mr LAU Kwok-fan proposed to amend the original motion to urge the Administration to pay the examination fees comparable to the cost of the examination for every *school* candidate. With the concurrence of members, the Chairman put to vote Dr Helena WONG's motion as amended by Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Mr LAU Kwok-fan. All members present voted for it. The Chairman declared that the amendment motion was carried (wording of motion in **Appendix I**).

28. The Chairman then referred members to the motion put forward by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen (wording of motion in **Appendix II**) and put it to vote. All members present voted for it. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

Summing up

29. The Chairman concluded that the Panel supported the Administration's submission of the funding proposal for FC's consideration.

IV. 3358EP – A 30-classroom primary school at Shui Chuen O, Sha Tin; territory-wide mechanism on school building works and standard of school premises (including facilities)

(LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19(02) -- Paper provided by the Administration

LC Paper No. CB(4)152/18-19(02) -- Submission from 工聯會
新界東辦事處

LC Paper No. CB(4)277/18-19(01) -- Submission from Hon IP
Kin-yuen

LC Paper No. CB(4)287/18-19(01) -- Further submission from
Hon IP Kin-yuen

LC Paper No. CB(4)287/18-19(02) -- Submission from Mr YAU
Man-chun, Sha Tin District
Councillor)

Briefing by the Administration

30. Under Secretary for Education ("US(Ed)") briefed members on the Administration's proposal to construct a 30-classroom primary school at Shui Chuen O, Sha Tin ("proposed school"), and the prevailing policy and established mechanism related to school building and improvement works for public sector schools, details of which were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)271/18-19(02)].

Discussion

School building project at Shui Chuen O

31. Mr Wilson OR, Mr Gary FAN, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and the Chairman expressed grave concern that Shui Chuen O Estate was available for intake in 2015 while the construction works of the proposed school was scheduled for completion in 2022 the earliest. They were disappointed that EDB had not taken into account the remote location of Shui Chuen O Estate when planning the building of the

proposed school. As a result, there was no primary school at Shui Chuen O and children residing there had to travel a long way to schools in other school nets for years. Mr FAN, Mr LAU, Dr CHEUNG and the Chairman considered the incident a planning blunder. The Chairman urged the Administration to take adequate measures to prevent recurrence of similar incidents.

32. US(Ed) and the Deputy Secretary for Education (2) ("DS(Ed)2") explained that in deciding when to kick-start a school building project, intake schedule of nearby new housing developments was not the sole consideration. EDB would take into account factors including the planned development of the area concerned, the school-age population projections which were compiled based on the population projections updated regularly by the Census and Statistics Department ("C&SD") and the projection of population distribution released by the Planning Department ("PlanD"), the actual number of existing students and school places available at various levels, etc. to consider with prudence if addition of a new operating school would commensurate with the long term sustainable development of the district concerned so as to avoid negative impact on the steady development of the school sector as a whole. Hence, the commencement date of a new school might not necessarily tie in with the population intake schedule of the nearby new housing developments. Regarding the proposed school, after taking into account the projected demand for public sector primary school places of the district including those arising from the population intake of the Shui Cheun O Estate, as well as the demand and supply situation and views of the existing schools of the district, EDB considered that the long-term demand of the Sha Tin District could justify its development and therefore launched the School Allocation Exercise ("SAE") in 2017. Meanwhile, to address the transient increase in demand for Primary One places in the district in the 2018-2019 school year, EDB, in consultation with schools in Sha Tin and the Sha Tin District Council, had arranged the proposed school to commence operation at a vacant school premises at Mei Lam Estate, Sha Tin, with effect from the 2018-2019 school year, pending completion of the new premises at Shui Chuen O.

33. Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen were worried that the future primary school-age population in Shui Chuen O might not be sufficient to sustain the operation of the proposed school upon its commencement in 2022. DS(Ed)2 advised that EDB had taken into account a basket of factors and considered that the proposed school could commensurate with the long term sustainable development of the district concerned before kicking-start the project.

34. Mr Gary FAN, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and the Chairman expressed grave concern that the proposed school was located at the hilltop and at a 20-minutes' walking distance from Shui Chuen O Estate. Dr CHEUNG was particularly concerned about the problems to be faced by wheelchair-bound students. Mr HO, Mr LAU and the Deputy Chairman

considered there a need to improve the commuting arrangements for students and parents of the new school such as provision of free school buses, elevator, footbridge, road lighting, pedestrian railings, seating benches, etc. Moreover, traffic loading would be likely to increase when the school commenced operation. The Administration should explore effective measures to maintain smooth traffic.

35. US(Ed) and DS(Ed)2 explained that the proposed location was appropriate for building the proposed school in Shui Chuen O Estate. EDB had liaised with the relevant departments on the commuting arrangements for students at the proposed school premises, such as extending existing green minibus routes to the main entrance of the proposed school. The school sponsoring body would also arrange school bus services for students. Furthermore, relevant departments were contemplating the installation of railings along the pedestrian walkway to the proposed school to enhance pedestrian protection. The Administration would continue to look into the feasibility and urgency of other proposals to further improve transport arrangements for students and teachers of the proposed school.

36. In view of the absence of community hall and sports centre at Shui Chuen O, Mr HO Kai-ming enquired whether the new school would open up its assembly hall and sports facilities for public use. US(Ed) advised that it was the Government's policy to encourage schools to open up their facilities for community use provided that learning and teaching would not be affected. Such policy was included in the School Administration Guide.

Policy and mechanism related to school building

37. Mr Wilson OR and Mr HO Kai-ming pointed out that the improper planning of the proposed school was not an isolated case. The construction of school premises in Anderson Road Development Area, Kai Tak Development Area, etc., also far lagged behind the population intake of the nearby new housing developments. Mr OR, Mr HO, Mr Gary FAN, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen and the Chairman strongly urged the Administration to tie in the commencement date of a new school with the population intake schedule of the nearby new housing developments.

38. Mr Wilson OR further stressed that the planning for school building must be people-oriented. Dr Fernando CHEUNG urged EDB to bear in mind students' interests in planning for school building. In planning for school building in new development areas ("NDAs"), Mr Gary FAN opined that EDB should observe the planning standards stipulated in the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines ("HKPSG"), that was, the provision of a 30-classroom primary school for 765 persons in 6-11 age group. Mr LAU Kwok-fun opined that instead of building a new school, EDB could consider the option of reprovisioning an existing school in an aged estate with declining student population. Mr HO Kai-ming considered that poor planning would discourage people from moving

into NDAs. EDB should be in line with the 2018 Policy Address to give priority to building infrastructure, such as school premises, so as to ensure adequate provision of ancillary facilities before or shortly after population intake in NDAs.

39. DS(Ed)2 explained that under the prevailing mechanism, PlanD would, in consultation with EDB, reserve sites for school development when preparing town plans and planning large-scale residential developments having regard to the planned population intake and service demand of the community in accordance with HKPSG. In order to decide whether the planned premises should be used for operating a new school or re-provisioning an existing school, and when to kick-start the relevant school building project, EDB would liaise with the existing schools of the relevant district and take into account a basket of factors including the planned development of the area concerned, the school-age population projections which were compiled based on the population projections updated regularly by C&SD and the projection of population distribution released by PlanD, etc.

40. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was worried that the school building projects in Kwu Tung North, Fanling North and Hung Shui Kiu, could not be completed in tandem with the population intake schedule of the nearby housing developments. The Deputy Chairman enquired whether the supply of school places would meet the increasing demand in Sham Shui Po and Cheung Sha Wan.

41. DS(Ed)2 reiterated that if operation of a new school would commensurate with the long term sustainable development of the district, EDB would kick-start the school building projects in NDAs timely. For example, the two school building projects in Queen's Hill were planned for completion at the time of population intake of nearby public housing developments. Regarding the supply of school places in Sham Shui Po and Cheung Sha Wan, the Administration ascertained that the long-term demand for school places in Cheung Sha Wan was justified for setting up a new school. A school site had been identified in the district and an SAE would be launched soon.

42. Mr Wilson OR asked for a concrete timeline to review the mechanism for planning school building with a view to early kicking-start the school building projects in NDAs. US(Ed) assured members that the Administration would continue to explore ways to improve the planning mechanism, despite the unavoidable limitations of the population projections. DS(Ed)2 added that the Administration would enhance communication with relevant bureaux/departments so as to obtain timely updates on the relevant projected school-age population with reference to the latest programme and population intake schedule of major housing developments as far as practicable, with a view to confirming the need for setting up new schools and then kicking-start the relevant school building project in time.

Allocation of Primary One places

43. Mr Gary FAN, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and the Chairman commented that as the commencement date of a new school might not necessarily tie in with the population intake schedule of the nearby new housing developments, students in NDAs such as Shui Chuen O were not allocated schools in their home school net. They asked whether such arrangement was contrary to the principle of vicinity adopted by EDB in allocating Primary One places for students and whether any quantified measurements were set for the principle.

44. US(Ed) explained that under the Primary One Admission ("POA") system, the whole territory was demarcated into a number of school nets which were delineated according to the distribution of public sector schools and the Planning Data Zones released by PlanD. There was no quantified measurement on the principle of vicinity and students were assigned to a school net according to their residential addresses. DS(Ed)2 added that at the Central Allocation ("CA") stage of POA, Primary One places were centrally allocated to children residing in the same school net. If there were insufficient school places in a school net, places would be borrowed from adjacent school nets. Therefore, it was the Government's long-standing policy to allocate Primary One places based on the principle of vicinity. The Chairman expressed disappointment that no quantified measurements were defined for the principle of vicinity.

45. Mr HO Kai-ming noticed that although the school operating at Mei Lam Estate for temporary use was in School Net 91, children residing far away in School Nets 88 and 89 would also be allocated to the school. He considered that children living in Shui Chuen O Estate should be given priority to be allocated to this school to avoid long distances to and from school. Moreover, as Mei Lam Estate was not close to Shui Chuen O, he enquired the reasons for not making use of vacant school premises nearer to Shui Chuen O Estate as temporary premises. DS(Ed)2 advised that since no school places were borrowed from School Net 91 to School Net 89 at CA stage, it was believed that these students were admitted to the school at the Discretionary Places Admission stage of POA when they made their own choices of schools.

Motions

46. The Chairman referred members to the two motions proposed by Dr Fernando CHEUNG, and the three motions respectively proposed by Mr Gary FAN, Dr Helena WONG and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen (wording of motions in **Appendices III to VII**).

47. The Chairman put to vote the first motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. The majority of members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

48. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr Gary FAN. The majority of members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

49. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Dr Helena WONG. The majority of members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

50. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen. The majority of members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

51. The Chairman put to vote the second motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. Six members voted for the motion, no member voted against and two members abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

52. The Chairman concluded that the Panel supported the Administration's submission of the proposal for the consideration of the Public Works Subcommittee ("PWSC"). Nevertheless, the Administration should get well prepared to address members' concerns when the proposal was discussed at PWSC meeting.

V. Any other business

53. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:04 pm.

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2018 年 12 月 7 日的會議上
就議程項目"建議向香港考試及評核局提供非經常撥款"
通過的議案

Motion passed under the agenda item
"Proposed non-recurrent funding support to the Hong Kong Examinations
and Assessment Authority"
at the meeting on 7 December 2018

議案措辭

本委員會促請政府為每名學校考生支付與成本相若的考試費用，從而減輕學生的財政負擔，也讓政府的免費教育涵蓋學生的公開考試費用。

(黃碧雲議員動議，並經張國鈞議員及劉國勳議員修正)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Government to pay the examination fees comparable to the cost of the examination for every school candidate so as to alleviate students' financial burden, and to subsume the payment under Government's free education.

(Moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan, amended by Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Hon LAU Kwok-fan)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2018 年 12 月 7 日的會議上
就議程項目"建議向香港考試及評核局提供非經常撥款"
通過的議案

Motion passed under the agenda item
"Proposed non-recurrent funding support to the Hong Kong Examinations
and Assessment Authority"
at the meeting on 7 December 2018

議案措辭

鑑於政府正計劃撥款 3.6 億元予香港考試及評核局支持其 2018 年至 22 年的運作，但長遠而言，在出生率持續偏低的情況下，考試及評核局未必能長期自負盈虧，本委員會要求政府當局應積極考慮以經常性撥款的形式，每年按每名學校考生的文憑試成本開支直接向學校考生提供資助，藉此減輕學校考生文憑試費用負擔及確保考評局可持續獨立運作。

(陳志全議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

Given that the Government is planning to provide a funding of 360 million to support the operation of the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority ("HKEAA") from 2018 to 2022, and that HKEAA may not be able to operate on a self-financing basis in the long run due to the persistent low birth rate, this Panel requests the Administration to proactively consider providing annual direct subsidies for school candidates in the form of recurrent funding based on the cost of HKDSE per school candidate, so as to alleviate the burden of HKDSE fees on school candidates and to ensure the sustainable operation of HKEAA in an independent manner.

(Moved by Hon CHAN Chi-chuen)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2018 年 12 月 7 日的會議上
就議程項目 "3358EP – 沙田水泉澳一所設有 30 間課室的小學；
以及一般建校工程相關機制及建校標準(包括校舍設施)"
通過的議案

Motion passed under the agenda item
"3358EP – A 30-classroom primary school at Shui Chuen O, Sha Tin;
territory-wide mechanism on school building works and standard of school
premises (including facilities)" at the meeting on 7 December 2018

議案措辭

本會促請教育局的建校及選址規劃必須以人為本，並加強與房屋署等有關部門的聯繫，確保新屋邨的建校及選址可同步規劃，讓服務該區的學校與居民搬進屋邨的時間無縫銜接，避免為學生、家長和學校帶來長期的折騰。

(張超雄議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges that the Education Bureau's planning for school building and site identification must be people-oriented and its ties with the relevant departments such as the Housing Department must be strengthened to ensure the planning for school building and site identification in new housing developments are synchronized in order to achieve a seamless arrangement for school commencement and population intake of the estates in the districts concerned, hence sparing long term sufferings of students, parents and schools.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

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territory-wide mechanism on school building works and standard of school
premises (including facilities)" at the meeting on 7 December 2018

議案措辭

本會促請政府為水泉澳邨的建校規劃失誤設法補救，包括加強跨部門合作，為新校提供足夠的公共交通、保安和行人過路等配套設施，以支援學校因地理環境特殊，以及應付未來區內人口增加對教育的需要。

(范國威議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Government to strive to get over the blunders made in the school building planning for Shui Chuen O Estate, including strengthening cross-departmental collaboration, providing sufficient ancillary facilities, such as public transport, security support and pedestrian crossings, to assist the new school in overcoming its geographical constraints and to meet the educational needs arising from future population growth in the district.

(Moved by Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

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Motion passed under the agenda item
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議案措辭

本會促請教育局成立包括有學校代表在內的常設機制，盡速檢討及修訂「標準校舍用途分配表」和「新建校舍家具及設備一覽表」，確保校舍及設備標準與時並進，以配合現代及未來的教學發展需要。

(黃碧雲議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Education Bureau to establish a standing mechanism which includes school representatives to expeditiously review and revise the "Schedule of Accommodation" and "Furniture and Equipment List for New Schools" to ensure that standards of school premises and equipment are up to date and cater for the present and future teaching development needs.

(Moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2018 年 12 月 7 日的會議上
就議程項目 "3358EP – 沙田水泉澳一所設有 30 間課室的小學；
以及一般建校工程相關機制及建校標準(包括校舍設施)"
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議案措辭

本會促請當局以「就近入學」的原則分派小學學位，包括小一統一派位及因遷居或有特殊需要而轉校的插班生學生。

(陳志全議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Administration to adopt the "principle of vicinity" in allocating primary school places, including at the Central Allocation stage of the Primary One Admission System and for the late admission of students who need to transfer to another school because of removal or special needs.

(Moved by Hon CHAN Chi-chuen)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

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就議程項目"3358EP – 沙田水泉澳一所設有 30 間課室的小學；
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議案措辭

本委員會對於水泉澳邨小學嚴重滯後，在屋邨入伙後至少七年才落成，並且選址在山頂以至小學生及家長上學困難，顯示教育局規劃失誤。本委員會表示遺憾，同時促請政府檢討及著實地落實「就近入學」政策。

(張超雄議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

The construction of the primary school at Shui Chuen O Estate lags far behind the population intake of the estate by at least seven years. Primary students and parents will find the school difficult to access given its tophill location. All these reflect the Education Bureau's planning blunders. This Panel expresses regret and urges the Government to review and effectively implement the "principle of vicinity" policy.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)