

立法會
Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)943/18-19
(These minutes have been seen
by the Administration)

Ref : CB4/PL/ED

Panel on Education

Minutes of meeting
held on Friday, 1 February 2019 at 10:45 am
in Conference Room 1 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
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, 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
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang
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 Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP
Hon HO Kai-ming
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding
Hon SHIU Ka-chun
Hon Tanya CHAN
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

**Member
absent** : Hon CHU Hoi-dick

**Public Officers
attending** : Agenda Item III

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP
Secretary for Education

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

Mr WOO Chun-sing
Deputy Secretary for Education (4)

Agenda Item IV

Dr CHOI Yuk-lin, JP
Under Secretary for Education

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

**Attendance by
invitation** : Agenda item III

Hong Kong Subsidized Secondary Schools Council

Dr Halina POON Suk-han
Chairman

Subsidized Primary Schools Council

Mr SO Ping-fai
Chairman

Hong Kong Aided Primary School Heads Association

Mr CHEUNG Yung-pong
Chairman

Hong Kong Special Schools Council

Dr LEUNG Wing-hung
Secretary

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

Staff in attendance : Miss Mandy NG
Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Peggy CHUNG
Council Secretary (4)3

Ms Sandy HAU
Legislative Assistant (4)4

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

(LC Paper No. CB(4)467/18-19(01) -- Letter dated 6 December 2018 from Hon SHIU Ka-chun concerning the proposed non-recurrent funding support to the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority

LC Paper No. CB(4)467/18-19(02) -- Administration's written response dated 24 January 2019 to the letter dated 6 December 2018 from Hon SHIU Ka-chun concerning the proposed non-recurrent funding support to the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority)

Members noted the above papers issued since the last meeting.

II. Items for discussion at the next meeting

(Appendix I to LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19 -- List of outstanding items for discussion

Appendix II to LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19 -- List of follow-up actions)

Items for discussion at the next regular meeting

2. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting on 1 March 2019 at 10:45 am:

(a) New resources to further support the research conducted by the higher education sector and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council; and

(b) Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education.

3. The Chairman advised that related organizations would be invited to exchange views with members during discussion of item (b) above.

Proposed items for discussion at future meetings

4. Mr Michael TIEN urged for early discussion of enhancing the interest of kindergarten ("KG") and primary school students, particularly those from low-income families in learning English. Mr HUI Chi-fung proposed discussion on implementation of Enhanced Speech Therapy Grant. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan proposed discussion on introduction of a suitable proportion of international curriculum in subsidized schools. The Chairman took note of members' views.

5. Referring to the letter from Dr Fernando CHEUNG about the Education Bureau's ("EDB") recent unsuccessful tendering of hearing aids for students with hearing impairment, the Chairman advised that he would follow up the matter with the Chairman of the Panel on Welfare Services.

6. Referring to the joint letter from Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Dr Elizabeth QAUT and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan requesting the Panel to discuss issues related to school bullying, the Chairman informed members that the letter had been forwarded to the Administration for written response.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)579/18-19(02) on 22 February 2019.)

7. In the light of numerous outstanding items for discussion, the Chairman suggested extending meeting time of regular meetings or holding additional meetings to discuss more items. Members raised no objection.

Overseas duty visit

8. The Chairman reported that he had met with the Consul-General of Finland in Hong Kong who considered September an opportune time for the Panel to visit Finland. He would further discuss the arrangements of the visit with the Consul-General and inform members of the details in due course.

III. Planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places in the light of student population and related stabilization measures

(LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(01) -- Paper provided by the Administration

LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(02) -- Background brief on the provision of primary and secondary school places in the light of student population prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

Written submissions from deputations not attending the meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(4)509/18-19(02) -- Submission from 東區中學校長代表

LC Paper No. CB(4)509/18-19(03) -- Further submission from 東區中學校長代表

LC Paper No. CB(4)509/18-19(04) -- Minutes of meeting on 28 November 2018 of Joint Committee of the Secondary School Councils and the Secondary School Heads Association of 18 Districts

LC Paper No. CB(4)509/18-19(05) -- Submission from The Association of Heads of Secondary Schools of Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung & Tsing Yi District

LC Paper No. CB(4)509/18-19(06) -- Submission from Southern District Joint Schools Conference)

Briefing by the Administration

9. The Secretary for Education ("SED") briefed members on the planning for the provision of school places and related arrangements under the existing Primary One Admission ("POA") System and Secondary School Places Allocation ("SSPA") System, and measures implemented by EDB in the light of fluctuations in student population. Details of the briefing were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(01)].

Oral presentation by deputations

10. Four deputations were invited to present their views at the meeting. Their major views were summarized in **Appendix I**.

Response by the Administration

11. SED thanked the deputations for presenting their views. He stressed that EDB had the responsibility to provide sufficient public sector school places for eligible school-age students. POA and SSPA Systems aimed at allocating Primary One ("P1") and Secondary One ("S1") places in an orderly manner. Appreciating the concerns of stakeholders (including schools and parents) arising from fluctuation of student population, EDB would continue to liaise closely with the school sector and to formulate pragmatic measures with a view to balancing different concerns and alleviating the impact on schools.

Discussion

Projected increase in demand for Secondary One places

12. Mr Michael TIEN said that quite a number of secondary school principals expressed reservation about the proposed arrangement of progressively reverting the allocation class size to 34 ("place reinstating") across the board to cope with the rebound in S1 student population. Since the demand for school places varied in individual districts, they considered that an across-the-board place reinstating would result in a mismatch between the demand for and supply of S1 places in some districts. To facilitate members' consideration of the appropriateness of the arrangement, Mr TIEN requested the Administration to provide in each of the past five years, the number of S1 places offered by each participating school in SSPA and the first three restricted school choices made by each P6 student on the Secondary One Choice of Schools Form.

13. SED explained that the actual demand for school places in individual districts could only be ascertained at a very late stage of the SSPA cycle. It was not practicable to adjust the allocation class size in individual districts by then in the light of the actual demand. On Mr Michael TIEN's request, SED advised that as applicant students might apply for S1 places under the Discretionary Places stage and make unrestricted school choices under the Central Allocation stage, the information requested would not help address the issue. In addition, it would be difficult to locate the old Secondary One Choice of Schools Forms. Nevertheless, EDB would try to provide relevant information available.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)823/18-19(01) on 30 April 2019.)

14. Mr LAU Kwok-fan considered it unfair that schools in the North District not affected by the decline in secondary student population were also required to reduce one S1 class in the previous years. For this reason, EDB should allow schools flexibility in adopting place reinstating with regard to the actual student enrolment.

15. Dr Helena WONG and Mr AU Nok-hin opined that the implementation of an across-the-board place reinstating would aggravate the pressure of student enrolment of secondary schools with insufficient intake, for example, in the Islands District. They urged the Administration to take into account the varying circumstances among districts and schools in planning S1 school places. Sharing similar concern, Mr Charles MOK opined that it might not be in the best interest of schools and students to adopt place reinstating across the board.

16. Mr SHIU Ka-chun relayed the concerns of some secondary school principals that the school sector had not been fully consulted on the across-the-board place reinstating. To his understanding, some principals did not support the arrangement because of the possible negative impact on under-enrolled schools.

17. Dr CHENG Chung-tai opined that as class size was reduced on a district basis in the previous years, such approach should apply to place reinstating alike. If the proposed arrangement could not be revised at this juncture, measures should be taken to alleviate the impact of across-the-board place reinstating on schools in the East, South, Islands and Kwai Tsing Districts. For instance, these schools should be allowed a certain degree of flexibility in the threshold for approving S1 classes.

18. SED advised that the provision of public sector secondary school places was planned on a territory-wide basis. To address the transient decline in S1 student population in past years, EDB adopted the district-based approach to reduce the number of students allocated per S1 class on the understanding that it would be reverted when the student population rebounded. However, as the rise

in demand for S1 school places in the coming years was not of transient nature, there was a need to implement place reinstating across the board. Meanwhile, EDB would closely monitor the supply of and demand for school places in individual districts and where necessary, provide assistance to the schools concerned. As regards the criterion for approving an S1 class, SED advised that the current threshold which had been reduced to 25 students per class since the 2012-2013 school year would be maintained.

19. Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Mr AU Nok-hin requested the Administration to provide the number of public sector S1 places and S1 students by district in the 2018-2019 school year, and the projected number of public sector S1 places and S1 students by district after implementing the across-the-board place reinstating by one school place for SSPA 2019. SED undertook to consider the request in consultation with the sector.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)823/18-19(01) on 30 April 2019.)

20. Mr Gary FAN enquired about the justifications for operating 35 additional S1 classes in the North, Tai Po, Yuen Long and Sha Tin Districts for SSPA 2019. In his view, the demand for S1 places would be affected by various factors such as parental choices. The current projection would not be accurate if it was solely based on the number of P6 students.

21. SED explained that EDB had taken into account various factors including the number of P6 students in individual districts, the trend of student movement in past years, etc. in planning for the operation of 35 additional S1 classes in the North, Tai Po, Yuen Long and Sha Tin Districts. The Administration once considered that an across-the-board place reinstating by two S1 places should be implemented in SSPA 2019 to meet the projected overall demand. After liaising with the school sector, both parties agreed that the anticipated demand for S1 school places could be coped with through the established netting arrangements, complemented by an across-the-board place reinstating by one school place and operating 35 additional S1 classes in the four Districts concerned where S1 places were in greater demand.

Projected decrease in demand for Primary One places

22. Dr Helena WONG was of the view that the relief measures taken to cope with the declining demand for P1 places should preserve the stability and strengths of schools and the teaching force. SED responded that to maintain the stability of the teaching force, aided primary schools concerned could apply on a yearly basis for retaining up to a maximum of three years the redundant teachers arising from reduction in the number of P1 classes due to the decrease of student population.

23. Dr Helena WONG, Mr HUI Chi-fung and Mr AU Nok-hin considered that it was incumbent on the Administration to seize the opportunity of the decline in P1 student population to uphold the policy on small class teaching ("SCT") in all primary schools. Mr HUI further enquired about the number of primary schools implementing SCT with a class size of 25 to 27. Dr Fernando CHEUNG called for the implementation of SCT in all primary schools and its extension to secondary schools. The Chairman remarked that the implementation of SCT was a standing policy. The Administration should vigorously promote and effectively implement SCT to meet public expectation.

24. SED explained that due to the transient increase in demand for P1 places in the previous years, many schools were not able to implement SCT. However, the existing policy for public sector primary schools to progressively implement SCT where circumstances permitted remained unchanged. In view of the decrease in overall projected demand for P1 places, EDB had been proactively discussing with schools in school nets with sufficient supply of P1 school places their plan of implementing SCT. Schools in school nets with an anticipated shortfall of school places still could not implement SCT for the time being. At present, 343 out of about 450 public sector primary schools were implementing SCT.

25. With the decline in the number of cross-boundary P1 students and doubly non-permanent resident children, Mr LAU Kwok-fan considered there a need to correspondingly adjust the number of school places in the "dedicated school net" which aimed at alleviating the excessive demand for school places arising from cross-boundary P1 students in some districts. SED advised that for POA 2019, in the light of the declining number of cross-boundary students, the "dedicated school net" was confined to schools in the eight school nets in Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, North District and Tai Po which were close to the boundary control points as well as some schools in Tung Chung. Moreover, the number of school places offered in the "dedicated school net" had been greatly reduced.

26. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen was concerned about the anxiety of local parents over securing school places for their children, particularly in the North District where there was a higher demand from cross-boundary students. As it was projected that the number of cross-boundary students was on the decline, he enquired whether the projection was accurate and suggested publishing the latest figures to ease the worries of parents.

27. SED explained that the number of cross-boundary P1 students was subject to year-on-year changes depending on family factors, distribution of their places of residence etc. Hence, it was difficult to make an accurate projection. On the other hand, EDB could better grasp the number of cross-boundary S1 students in individual districts because the school net to which a P6 student belonged was determined by the physical location of the primary school a student attended. According to the current assessment, the demand for S1 places in the North

District in the next few years was still acute and it was necessary to operate additional S1 classes in the District.

Planning and allocating of school places

28. In view of the absence of relevant statistics in the Administration's paper, the Chairman requested the Administration to include more statistical information in its papers for the forthcoming meetings to facilitate members' deliberations.

29. Mr MA Fung-kwok was disappointed that the Administration had not included in its paper any long-term planning of school places in the light of the changing demographic structure. In his view, demographic trends closely linked to education policy and planning. In planning for the provision of school places, the Administration should conduct comprehensive studies on Hong Kong's changing demographic structure brought about by the One-way Permit scheme, cross-boundary children and so on in the coming five years and share the findings with the school sector, with a view to formulating long-term plan to support schools to be affected.

30. SED explained that EDB had all along been monitoring the impact of the population changes on the demand for and supply of public sector school places. In view that the tight supply and demand of P1 school places arising from the increasing number of non-permanent resident children in past years was only transient in nature and would ease after the 2018-2019 school year, construction of new schools was not considered appropriate and flexible arrangements such as borrowing school places from other districts/school nets were adopted to temporarily increase the supply of school places to meet the transient increase in demand. However, given that the number of places for each secondary school by district would be affected by various factors, such as allocation results, mobility of population etc., it was difficult to accurately project the number of students in each district.

31. Noting that EDB would meet with the school sector to come up with the direction and strategies for the provision of school places every year, Mr AU Nok-hin was of the view that based on population projections, EDB should be able to formulate long-term plans, say, a three-year plan for tackling the fluctuations in student population so that schools could make advance planning.

32. SED advised that due to various factors, the actual demand for school places and the situation in different districts in every allocation cycle might vary. In order to strike the right balance between the steady development of schools and the needs of various stakeholders, it was necessary for EDB to meet and discuss with the school sector the strategies to cope with the changing demand for school places according to the latest information and data before the start of each allocation cycle.

33. Dr Fernando CHEUNG considered that EDB should enhance its communication with the school sector in planning school places. Referring to the concerns expressed by the Hong Kong Special Schools Council that under-enrolment might happen at certain special schools for children with intellectual disability and schools for social development, he requested the Administration to provide the number of students in each special school in this school year as well as the projection of future demand for places in these schools in the next five years.

34. SED said that information relating to projected demand would be provided to the Legislative Council ("LegCo") for consideration of new special school projects. He explained that in planning for special school building projects, one of the key considerations was school location. As such, although there was currently no tight supply and demand of special school places in Tung Chung, a new special school would be constructed there to cater for the needs of children with special educational needs in the Islands District.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)823/18-19(01) on 30 April 2019.)

35. Mr Charles MOK opined that EDB should review the POA and SSPA systems and publish statistics that were of public interest to enhance transparency of information. Dr CHENG Chung-tai suggested that a taskforce comprising representatives of the school sector, school heads associations, LegCo members, etc. should be set up to review the systems.

36. SED advised that EDB had all along been sharing relevant statistics relating to the planning for provision of school places with school heads associations and councils. Such information was not released publicly to avoid possible labelling effects. EDB would release information if there was consensus with the school sector. On the POA and SSPA systems, SED explained that the systems had been adopted for years after reviews and refinements in the past. EDB had all along been liaising closely with the school sector to ensure provision of sufficient school places under the allocation systems and sustained development of the school sector. EDB would keep an open mind to explore the feasibility of reviewing the allocation systems, which needed to strike a proper balance between the diverse needs of different stakeholders. The Chairman urged EDB to formulate an implementation timetable for the review.

Motions

37. The Chairman referred members to the four motions proposed by Dr Helena WONG, Mr SHIU Ka-chun, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Mr AU Nok-hin respectively (wording of motions in **Appendices II to V**).

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

39. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr SHIU Ka-chun. All members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

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

41. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr AU Nok-hin. A majority of members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

42. In conclusion, the Chairman thanked the deputations for attending the meeting and sharing their views.

IV. 3272ES – A 30-classroom secondary school at Site KT2e, Development at Anderson Road, Kwun Tong

(LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(03) -- Paper provided by the Administration)

43. The Chairman drew members' attention to Rule 83A of the Rules of Procedure, which provided that a Member shall not move any motion or amendment relating to a matter in which he had a pecuniary interest, whether direct or indirect, or speak on any such matter, except where he disclosed the nature of that interest. He reminded members to declare interest, if any, in the subject under discussion.

Briefing by the Administration

44. Under Secretary for Education ("US(Ed)") briefed members on the Administration's proposal to construct a 30-classroom secondary school at Site KT2e, Development at Anderson Road of Kwun Tong for the reprovisioning of Maryknoll Secondary School ("MSS"), details of which were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(03)].

Discussion

Reprovisioning of Maryknoll Secondary School

45. Mr SHIU Ka-chun, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Ms CHAN Hoi-yan and

Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan expressed concern that while the intake of the public housing estates in the Anderson Road Development Area ("Development Area") had been completed for years, the construction works of MSS which was the only secondary school in the Development Area were expected to complete in 2022. Without any secondary schools at the Development Area, students residing there had to travel long distances to schools. They said that the improper planning of the Development Area was not an isolated case and urged the Administration to expedite school building projects to dovetail with the intake of new development areas ("NDAs").

46. US(Ed) advised that sites for school development were reserved when planning large-scale residential development in accordance with the Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines. As construction of new school premises involved immense resources and provision of public sector secondary school places was planned on a territory-wide basis, EDB had to consider with prudence that the addition of a new operating school could 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. In deciding when to kick-start the school building programme, EDB needed to take into account school-age population projections, the actual number of existing students and school places available at various levels, other factors which might affect the supply and demand of school places, etc. Hence, the commencement date of a new school might not necessarily tie in with the population intake schedule of the nearby new housing developments. However, if EDB saw the need to provide new schools in NDAs, such as Queen's Hill, the school building projects would kick-start timely.

47. The Chairman shared members' concern about the construction of schools lagging far behind the population intake of NDAs including the Development Area. He was not convinced by the Administration's explanation and considered that the improper planning of NDAs had caused much inconvenience to residents. He strongly urged the Administration to take into account students' interests in the planning of school building in NDAs.

48. Ms CHAN Hoi-yan and Mr SHIU Ka-chun said that as the new school premises was used for reprovisioning purpose, most of the school places of MSS would have to be reserved for existing students. They wondered whether the new school premises could fully meet the demand for secondary school places in the Development Area. Mr SHIU enquired about the projections of school-age population aged over 12 residing in the Development Area and the number of places to be offered by MSS after reprovisioning. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan queried why the Administration had not kick-started MSS reprovisioning project earlier in the light of the projected population in the Development Area.

49. US(Ed) advised that MSS which currently operated 24 classes might operate up to 30 classes with an additional 200 places in the new premises. Since

there were adequate secondary school places to meet the current and future needs of the student population in Kwun Tong district and some students newly moved into the Development Area might not opt to change schools, it was therefore decided that the completed school premises would be used for reprovisioning purpose.

50. Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan envisaged that upon reprovisioning, many students of MSS were residing in other districts. As the traffic in Kwun Tong was very busy, they expressed concern about the potential traffic impact to be brought about by the large number of students travelling from other districts on Kwun Tong and urged the Administration to ensure smooth traffic flow within the district.

51. US(Ed) advised that according to the principal of MSS, students not residing in Kwun Tong district would only account for a maximum of 10% of the total students in MSS and most of them would travel on public transport. Moreover, students residing in other districts and residents of the Development Area would travel in different directions during the morning peak hours, with the former travelling from other districts to Kwun Tong and the latter from Kwun Tong to other districts. Hence, traffic congestion would not be aggravated.

52. Principal Assistant Secretary (Infrastructure and Research Support) ("PAS(I&RS)") supplemented that when preparing town plans for the Development Area, sites had been reserved for school development and traffic impact assessments had been conducted. The assessments showed that there would not be any traffic impact with the reprovisioning of MSS. Regarding the traffic issues raised by residents in the district, the Transport Department had maintained dialogues with the Kwun Tong District Council to explore practicable ways to improve transport arrangements for residents, including enhancing bus frequency during peak hours and increasing the maximum seating capacity of light buses from 16 to 19.

53. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan sought information on how the Administration would handle the existing school premises of MSS. US(Ed) advised that in line with the established mechanism, EDB would assess whether the to-be-vacant premises was needed to be reallocated for educational use. Once it was confirmed that the premises was no longer required by EDB, EDB would inform the Planning Department and other relevant departments for consideration of suitable alternative long-term uses in accordance with the central clearing house mechanism.

54. Ms CHAN Hoi-yan opined that the Administration should encourage new school premises including MSS to open up facilities for public use especially during weekends to resolve the problem of inadequate sports facilities in many districts. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan supported the suggestion of opening up school facilities for public use. US(Ed) responded that MSS would hire out its

classrooms and sports facilities to community organizations according to the Administration's guidelines for hiring of accommodation, provided that learning and teaching would not be affected.

School building planning in Anderson Road Development Area

55. Mr SHIU Ka-chun enquired about the construction progress of the four KGs, three primary schools and one secondary school in the Development Area. US(Ed) advised that EDB had reserved four 30-classroom school sites at the Development Area, including one for secondary school use and three for primary school use. The secondary school site was for reprovisioning MSS. One primary school site was for the reprovisioning of S.K.H. St. John's Primary School from School Net 46 to School Net 48, and the new school was expected to commence operation in September 2019. Another primary school site was for reprovisioning Hong Kong Taoist Association Wun Tsuen School from School Net 48 to School Net 46. The Administration had engaged the school concerned in the detailed design of the new school premises, and the Kwun Tong District Council would be consulted tentatively in late 2019/early 2020. Regarding the primary school site at On Sau Road, its preliminary preparatory works had been commenced and the school allocation exercise ("SAE") was planned to launch in 2019. For the four KGs, two had already been in operation. SAEs had been launched for the remaining two KGs and the allocation result would be announced shortly. Mr SHIU further requested the Administration to provide the aforesaid information in writing.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)666/18-19(01) on 20 March 2019.)

56. Dr Fernando CHEUNG was pleased to note that MSS which was currently accommodated in a school premises built decades ago would be reprovisioned. However, he expressed concern about schools accommodating in matchbox-style school premises and enquired about the number of schools in Kwun Tong which were built in accordance with past standards. US(Ed) advised that in Kwun Tong, 11 primary and 26 secondary school premises were constructed over 30 years. Dr CHEUNG urged the Administration to formulate a clear policy and a timetable to reprovision or redevelop sub-standard school premises.

School facilities

57. Dr Helena WONG was concerned that the Schedule of Accommodation ("SoA") for standard-design public sector primary and secondary schools, which listed out the number and types of rooms and facilities required for teaching and learning activities as well as school administration and support use, was not made available for public access. She requested EDB to provide SoA for primary, secondary and special schools for members' reference. Sharing similar concern,

the Chairman said that according to some school sponsoring bodies ("SSBs"), they were not given SoA when school building projects were initiated. He requested EDB to upload SoA to its website to facilitate access of the public and the school sector.

(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)666/18-19(01) on 20 March 2019.)

58. US(Ed) undertook to put SoA on EDB website and explained that when delivering school building projects, SoA would be provided to SSBs. EDB and the Architectural Services Department would make reference to SoA to assess the technical feasibility of a planned project and to prepare the detailed design of school premises in close consultation with the schools/SSBs concerned. To cater for the specific needs of the schools concerned, a 10% adjustment in the floor area of individual rooms/facilities was allowed provided that the overall increase in total floor area of the premises did not exceed 5%. She added that EDB was willing to follow up the cases mentioned by the Chairman whenever necessary.

59. Dr Helena WONG expressed concern about the out-dated reference lists of furniture and equipment ("F&E") for new primary and secondary school premises with obsolete items no longer met the prevailing learning and teaching needs, such as slide projector and video cassette recorder etc. She enquired whether EDB had heeded the views of teachers and schools and updated the reference lists periodically, for example, to include the installation of fresh water supply system and provision of water dispensers for implementing the Water Safety Plan ("WSP") in schools.

60. US(Ed) advised that the reference lists of F&E served as general guidance on furnishing and equipping new school premises. Under the prevailing mechanism, the Administration was responsible for F&E cost for reprovisioning/redevelopment projects for existing schools. To meet the school-based teaching and learning needs, schools were allowed flexibility in procuring F&E items on the reference lists. Schools were also free to procure items not on the reference lists provided that they were justified by operational needs and in line with the cost-effectiveness principle. In view that some of the items on the reference lists might no longer meet the prevailing learning and teaching needs, EDB was reviewing the lists and would take into account the views of the school sector, education policies and resources in the process.

61. PAS(I&RS) supplemented that EDB attached great importance to water safety in schools. Guidelines on enhancement of drinking water in schools were issued on and off and schools were encouraged to implement WSP on a voluntary basis. To safeguard drinking water safety, standalone stainless-steel drinking water storage tanks were installed in new school premises. A designated number of water dispensers would be provided to schools and schools were free to purchase more to cater for students' needs.

(At about 12:45 pm, the Chairman directed that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes to 1:00 pm.)

Motions

62. The Chairman referred members to the two motions proposed by Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Dr Helena WONG respectively (wording of motions in **Appendices VI and VII**) and directed the voting bell to be rung for five minutes to notify members of the voting.

63. The Chairman put the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG to vote. All members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was passed unanimously.

64. The Chairman put the motion moved by Dr Helena WONG to vote. All members present voted for the motion. The Chairman declared that the motion was passed unanimously.

V. Any other business

65. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:52 pm.

Council Business Division 4
Legislative Council Secretariat
28 May 2019

Panel on Education
Meeting on Friday, 1 February 2019, at 10:45 am

Agenda item III: Planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places in the light of student population and related stabilization measures

Summary of views and concerns expressed by deputations

No.	Name of deputation	Major views and concerns
1.	Hong Kong Subsidized Secondary Schools Council	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(04)]
2.	Subsidized Primary Schools Council	According to the deputation, the school sector was concerned about the decline in primary school-age population and the possibility that some districts might have a drastic decline in demand for school places in the next few years. To alleviate the impact of changes in student population, the Education Bureau ("EDB") should seize the opportunity to enhance the quality of education by implementing small class teaching ("SCT") in school nets with sharp decline in demand. In addition, the Administration should consider providing 12-classroom primary schools flexibility in the criterion for approving P1 classes to facilitate their sustained development.
3.	Hong Kong Aided Primary School Heads Association	The deputation expressed support to the implementation of SCT with regard to the special circumstances of individual districts and schools. Also, EDB could consider reprovisioning schools in districts with a large number of surplus places to new development areas where there was an increase in school-age population. In order to maintain a stable teaching force, schools should be allowed to retain redundant teachers and resolve the problem through natural wastage.
4.	Hong Kong Special Schools Council	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)472/18-19(05)]

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 2 月 1 日的會議上
就議程項目"因應學生人口規劃中小學學位的供應和
相關穩定措施"通過的議案

Motion passed under the agenda item
"Planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places
in the light of student population and related stabilization measures"
at the meeting on 1 February 2019

議案措辭

學童人口有升有降，學校不應因人口的波動而受到震盪，本會促請當局成立包括校長和教師代表在內的委員會，研究一套有系統的調節方法，並通過良好的規劃及調節，令學校制度變得穩定，避免人口升降帶來對學校生態的衝擊。

(黃碧雲議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

Student population goes up and down, and such fluctuations in student population should not trigger off adverse ramifications in schools. This Panel urges the authorities to set up a committee comprising representatives of principals and teachers to explore a systematic adjustment mechanism to stabilize the school system through proper planning and adjustment, thereby avoiding the impact brought about by population fluctuations on the school system.

(Moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan)

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**Motion passed under the agenda item
"Planning for the provision of primary and secondary school places
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at the meeting on 1 February 2019**

議案措辭

本會促請政府應妥善處理就小學適齡學生人口變化之下推出的「加派」、「大肚班」、「有時限學校」等過渡措施對學校生態帶來的衝擊，提出具體而有效的方法，如考慮參考中學模式，研究在小學推行「三保」或更具力度的措施，以確保小學維持穩定發展。

(邵家臻議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Government to properly handle the serious impact on the school system caused by the transitional measures implemented to cope with the changes in primary school-age student population, including "allocation of more students", "partly-enlarged class structure" and "time-limited schools". The Government should put forth concrete and effective ways, such as considering the implementation of targeted relief measures to sustain the development of schools, stabilize the teaching force and maintain the quality of education, or other enhanced measures in primary schools by drawing reference from the model adopted by secondary schools, so as to ensure the stable development of primary schools.

(Moved by Hon SHIU Ka-chun)

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議案措辭

小班教學可增加師生互動、加強學生專注力和有效照顧個別學生差異，本會促請當局應在小學盡快全面落實小班教學政策及於中學開展推動小班教學，提升教與學的質素。

(張超雄議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

Small class teaching ("SCT") can foster interaction between teachers and students, enhance students' concentration and effectively cater for student diversity. This Panel urges the authorities to as soon as possible fully implement the SCT policy in primary schools and commence promoting SCT in secondary schools so as to improve the quality of teaching and learning.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)

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議案措辭

各區人口有差異，政府不應該劃一規定各區每班人數，本會促請政府不應在中一適齡人口稍為回升便急於全面「復位」（每班增加一人），令不少人口偏少的學校分區收生更加困難，政府應該以區為本，在中一學額過剩地區維持原有的每班人數，如個別分區在「復位」後開班不足，應凍結原先班數。

(區諾軒議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

Given that population varies by district, the Government should not align the number of students per class in the districts. This Panel urges the Government not to fully implement "place reinstating" (allocating one more student per class) in a hasty manner merely upon a slight rebound of Secondary one ("S1") school-age population as such practice will increase the difficulty of student admission for quite a number of school districts with a low population. The Government should adopt a district-based approach by maintaining the original number of students per class in districts where there is a surplus of S1 places. If the number of classes operated in individual districts becomes insufficient after implementing "place reinstating", the number of classes should be frozen at the original level.

(Moved by Hon AU Nok-hin)

教育事務委員會
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 2 月 1 日的會議上
就議程項目"3272ES – 觀塘安達臣道發展區(地盤 KT2e)
1 所設有 30 間課室的中學"通過的議案
Motion passed under the agenda item
"3272ES – A 30-classroom secondary school at Site KT2e,
Development at Anderson Road, Kwun Tong"
at the meeting on 1 February 2019

議案措辭

因應學校的校舍條件，本會促請當局為設施低於標準的學校提供更多改善教學環境的出路，包括加快重置及重建計劃，確保校舍設施符合現代的教學標準，並配合未來的發展需要。

(張超雄議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

In view of the conditions of school premises, this Panel urges the authorities to provide more pathways for schools with sub-standard facilities to improve their learning and teaching environment, including speeding up the re-provisioning and redevelopment of these schools to ensure that school facilities meet the modern-day teaching standards as well as cater for future development needs.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)

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at the meeting on 1 February 2019

議案措辭

本會促請教育局適時更新學校的「標準校舍用途分配表」及「新建校舍家具及設備一覽表」，為提高透明度，更新資料應上載於該局網頁，方便學校及公眾查閱，另應盡快完成有關的檢討，讓教學設施現代化和切合學校需要。

(黃碧雲議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Education Bureau to update the "Schedule of Accommodation" for standard schools and "Reference Lists of Furniture and Equipment for New School Premises" in a timely manner. To enhance transparency, updated information should be uploaded to the website of the Bureau to facilitate access of schools and the public. Moreover, the relevant review should be completed as soon as possible to enable the teaching facilities to become up to date and cater for the needs of schools.

(Moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan)