立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(4)358/19-20 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB4/PL/ED

Panel on Education

Minutes of meeting held on Friday, 6 December 2019 at 10:45 am in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Members : Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP (Chairman)

present Hon IP Kin-yuen (Deputy Chairman)

Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung

Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP

Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP

Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP

Hon Claudia MO

Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, SBS, JP

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP

Hon CHAN Chi-chuen

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang

Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung

Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Hon Elizabeth QUAT, BBS, JP 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, BBS, JP

Hon HO Kai-ming

Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding

Hon Wilson OR Chong-shing, MH

Hon YUNG Hoi-yan, JP Hon CHAN Chun-ying, JP

Hon Tanya CHAN

Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP

Hon HUI Chi-fung

Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai

Hon AU Nok-hin

Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH, JP

Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS

Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

Member

attending

Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, GBS, JP

Members

Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP

absent Hon SHIU Ka-chun

Public Officers attending

Agenda item IV

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP Secretary for Education

Ms Gloria CHAN

Principal Assistant Secretary (Curriculum Development)

Education Bureau

Clerk in

: Ms Angel WONG

attendance

Chief Council Secretary (4)4

Staff in attendance

Miss Mandy NG

Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Miss Rachel WONG Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Sandy HAU

Legislative Assistant (4)4

Action

I. Matters arising from the policy briefing on 1 November 2019

(LC Paper No. CB(4)120/19-20(01) -- Wording of a motion to be moved by Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan

LC Paper No. CB(4)120/19-20(02) -- Wording of an amendment motion proposed by Dr Hon Helena WONG to amend the motion to be moved by Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan)

The Chairman referred members to the motion proposed by Ms Elizabeth QUAT and Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan (wording of motion in **Appendix I**), and the amendment motion proposed by Dr Helena WONG (wording of motion in **Appendix II**). The Chairman recapitulated that when a voting was being conducted on whether the motion should be proceeded with at the meeting on 1 November 2019, Ms Tanya CHAN claimed a division and Mr HUI Chi-fung requested to ring the voting bell to notify members of the voting. Due to insufficient time, the motion could not be dealt with. The voting would continue at this meeting.

2. <u>The Chairman</u> put to vote as to whether the amendment motion proposed by Dr Helena WONG should be proceeded with. At members' request, the Chairman directed that the voting bell be rung for five minutes to notify members of the voting. Of the members present, the following eleven members voted for proceeding with the amendment motion:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Charles MOK, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Dr Helena WONG, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Ms Tanya CHAN, Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr AU Nok-hin.

The following eighteen members voted against:

Mr Abraham SHEK, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Frankie YICK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Ms Alice MAK, Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Mr Jimmy NG, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr Holden CHOW, Mr Wilson OR, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan, Mr CHAN Chun-ying, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr Vincent CHENG, Mr Tony TSE and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan.

No member abstained. <u>The Chairman</u> announced that the amendment motion would not be proceeded with.

3. <u>The Chairman</u> put to vote as to whether the motion proposed by Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan should be proceeded with. Of the members present, the following seventeen members voted for proceeding with the motion:

Mr Abraham SHEK, Ms Starry LEE, Dr Priscilla LEUNG, Mr Frankie YICK, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Ms Alice MAK, Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Mr Jimmy NG, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr Holden CHOW, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan, Mr CHAN Chun-ying, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr Vincent CHENG, Mr Tony TSE and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan.

The following twelve members voted against:

Mr LEUNG Yiu-chung, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Charles MOK, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr Dennis KWOK, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Dr Helena WONG, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Ms Tanya CHAN, Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr AU Nok-hin.

No member abstained. <u>The Chairman</u> declared that the motion would be proceeded with.

(The meeting was suspended at 11:09 am and resumed at 11:24 am.)

- 4. Some members were concerned that the proposed motion had not been thoroughly discussed at the meeting on 1 November 2019 and requested to hold a discussion on the motion. The Chairman said that she would allow members to express their views on the motion before putting it to vote.
- 5. Dr Helena WONG, Mr AU Nok-hin, the Deputy Chairman, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Ms Claudia MO, Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr CHU Hoi-dick said that motion movers should not, without evidence, accused teachers of inciting students to take part in street violence. Dr WONG considered that the Chief Executive, senior government officials and the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of Hong Kong should hold responsible for the recent disputes in the society. Mr AU considered the motion a kind of smear on teachers. The Deputy Chairman expressed regret over the motion which had insulted and smeared teachers intentionally. He hoped the movers would consider withdrawing the motion. Dr CHEUNG considered that the movers had in fact accused all teachers and students. Ms MO and Dr CHENG considered this a kind of suppression and a censorship of teachers' thoughts. Mr CHU considered that the pro-establishment camp should hold responsible for the recent disputes and should not subject everyone to political censorship.
- 6. <u>Ms Tanya CHAN</u> opined that the motion was not relevant to the discussion of the Policy Address. The motion was a political censorship and all teachers would feel offended by it. <u>Mr CHAN Chi-chuen</u> said that many teachers were under enormous pressure to handle students who were arrested or injured during the recent social events. The Panel should stand by teachers and students, rather than suppressing their voices. Mr HUI Chi-fung opined that the motion did not

reflect the truth. School heads and teachers were under great pressure. The Administration and the Police, rather than teachers, should hold responsible for the recent demonstrations. Prof Joseph LEE opined that teachers should not be accused of making hate messages when they taught students to distinguish right from wrong by pointing out that the Administration had made wrong decisions and the Police had used excessive force. Mr Charles MOK considered that the motion would suppress freedom of thought and speech.

- 7. <u>Ms Elizabeth QUAT</u> emphasized that most of the teachers had upheld professional conduct and showed concern to students. However, there was concrete evidence indicating that some teachers had recently disseminated online hate messages targeting police or led students to participate in unlawful assemblies. In fact, many parents had strongly called for the Education Bureau ("EDB") to follow up seriously with teachers who had breached the law and discipline. As such, the motion was proposed to urge EDB to pursue the responsibility of these teachers. It was not targeted the teaching profession as a whole.
- 8. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan reiterated that the motion was solely proposed to urge EDB to follow up with teachers who had committed misconduct or offences. Members should not misinterpret the purpose of the motion. In his view, teachers served as students' role models. Parents had expressed grave concern that there would be a very significant impact on the young generation if teachers disseminated hate messages, incited students to participate in unlawful assemblies, etc. The Administration and the Panel should seriously address this imminent matter.
- 9. <u>Mr Tony TSE</u> and <u>Ms YUNG Hoi-yan</u> expressed support to the motion. In their view, teachers should not disseminate comments that incited hatred or persuade students to participate in unlawful assemblies/street violence, and students should not disseminate on the Internet comments relating to violence offences or hatred. <u>Mr TSE</u> said that teachers or students who obeyed the law and discipline would not be affected. Members should support EDB to deal with the matter seriously. <u>Ms YUNG</u> pointed out that students should be protected and teachers who breached the law and discipline should not be condoned.
- 10. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Ms Elizabeth QUAT</u> concluded that according to media reports, some teachers did make hate messages against the Police and incite students to participate in unlawful assemblies. EDB was also investigating some suspected cases of misconduct. Many parents were worried that students would be incited to participate in unlawful activities and hoped that the campus should be free from politics. She saw no reason for some members to object the motion which simply urged EDB to pursue the responsibility of teachers who breached the law and discipline.

11. <u>The Chairman</u> put the motion to vote. At members' request, <u>the Chairman</u> directed that the voting bell be rung for five minutes to notify members of the voting. Of the members present, the following seventeen members voted for the motion:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Ms Alice MAK, Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Mr Jimmy NG, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr Holden CHOW, Mr Wilson OR, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan, Mr CHAN Chun-ying, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr LAU Kwok-fan, Mr Vincent CHENG, Mr Tony TSE and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan.

The following twelve members voted against:

Prof Joseph LEE, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Charles MOK, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Dr Helena WONG, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Ms Tanya CHAN, Mr HUI Chi-fung, Dr CHENG Chung-tai and Mr AU Nok-hin.

No member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was passed.

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

(LC Paper No. CB(4)162/19-20(01) -- Letter dated 2 December 2019 from Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan concerning the governance and security arrangement of universities

LC Paper No. CB(4)162/19-20(02) -- Letter dated 2 December 2019 from Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen concerning the governance and restoration works of universities)

- 12. Members noted the above papers issued since the last meeting. At the invitation of the Chairman, <u>Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan</u> and <u>Mr Tony TSE</u> briefed members on the issues raised in their letters.
- 13. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan said that in the light of the recent incidents on university campus, governance and security issues of universities were of wide public concern. He considered there was a need to hold a special meeting to discuss whether and how the governance and security arrangements of universities should be enhanced. University management should be invited to attend the

meeting to facilitate a constructive discussion.

14. Mr Tony TSE said that there was an urgent need to discuss how repair and restorative works on university campus should be conducted so as to restore a safe learning environment for students. Meanwhile, the Administration had withdrawn certain agenda items on capital works projects of universities at the Finance Committee meetings. Members should be informed of the timeline for discussing these items in future.

(*The meeting was suspended at 11:56 am and resumed at 12:00 noon.*)

- 15. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> considered that bad governance of the Government and police brutality were major causes triggering the recent incidents on campus. Stepping up security control of universities could not solve the problem. Moreover, university campus should always be open to the public. <u>Mr AU Nok-hin</u> held a similar view that the crux of the recent social events hinged on constitutional issues. He further said that he had visited The Chinese University of Hong Kong recently and found the campus peaceful and safe.
- 16. <u>Dr Fernando CHEUNG</u> said that there were over 40 outstanding items for discussion. The Panel should accord priorities to those items which were more urgent and which could improve the education in Hong Kong. There was no urgent need to discuss the security arrangements of universities.
- 17. <u>The Deputy Chairman</u> said that members should not only criticize university management at the discussion, but should also facilitate universities in enhancing their development so as not to pin down the work of education.
- 18. Mr HUI Chi-fung pointed out that the Panel was tasked to monitor and examine Government policies relating to education. As universities enjoyed autonomy in their operation and management, it was outside the scope of the Panel's terms of reference to discuss governance and security issues of universities. Members should discuss how the Administration would support universities in dealing with the recent incidents on campus at the special meeting, if conducted. Prof Joseph LEE opined that governance, management and security were different issues and should not be mixed up.
- 19. <u>The Chairman</u> advised that university governance was in fact one of the items on the List of outstanding items for discussion, and security arrangement of universities was an important issue that should be discussed.
- 20. Given the diverse views on whether governance and security issues relating to recent incidents on university campus and related follow-up work should be discussed, the Chairman put the matter to vote. Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan

claimed a division. At members' request, the Chairman directed that the voting bell to be rung for five minutes to notify members of the voting. Of the members present, the following sixteen members voted for holding a special meeting to discuss governance and security issues relating to recent incidents on university campus and related follow-up work:

Mr Tommy CHEUNG, Ms Starry LEE, Mr MA Fung-kwok, Mr LEUNG Che-cheung, Ms Alice MAK, Ms Elizabeth QUAT, Dr CHIANG Lai-wan, Mr Jimmy NG, Mr HO Kai-ming, Mr Wilson OR, Ms YUNG Hoi-yan, Mr CHAN Chun-ying, Mr CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, Mr Vincent CHENG, Mr Tony TSE and Ms CHAN Hoi-yan.

The following eleven members voted against:

Prof Joseph LEE, Ms Claudia MO, Mr Charles MOK, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Dr Helena WONG, Mr IP Kin-yuen, Mr CHU Hoi-dick, Ms Tanya CHAN, Mr HUI Chi-fung and Dr CHENG Chung-tai.

No member abstained. <u>The Chairman</u> concluded that the Panel would hold a special meeting to discuss the governance, security arrangement and follow-up work of universities.

III. Items for discussion at the next meeting

(Appendix I to LC Paper No. -- CB(4)154/19-20

- List of outstanding items for discussion)
- 21. <u>The Chairman</u> advised that the list of outstanding items for discussion had been updated and circulated to members.
- IV. Proposal to set up a subcommittee to study the development of textbooks and teaching materials for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools

(LC Paper No. CB(4)68/19-20(01) -- Letter dated 30 October 2019 from Hon YUNG Hoi-yan to the Chairman of Panel on Education

LC Paper No. CB(4)81/19-20(03) -- Letter dated 31 October 2019 from Hon YUNG Hoi-yan to

the Chairman of Panel on Education)

- Members noted the letters dated 30 and 31 October 2019 from Hon YUNG Hoi-yan [LC Paper Nos. CB(4)68/19-20(01) and CB(4)81/19-20(03)], and the two letters respectively from the Deputy Chairman and Mr SHIU Ka-chun which were tabled at the meeting [subsequently issued vide LC Paper Nos. 171/19-20(02)-(03) on 6 December 2019].
- 23. The Chairman invited Ms YUNG Hoi-yan to speak on her proposal. Ms YUNG said that students should be well protected and schools should not become a political tool. Recently, she had received complaints from many parents about biased and politicized teaching materials which were not fit for student learning. Parents had complained to EDB, however, no action had been taken to ease their worries. The subcommittee, if formed, would study the development of textbooks and teaching materials (including worksheets) for kindergartens, primary and secondary schools; study the textbook review mechanism and the one-off professional consultancy service to publishers of senior secondary Liberal Studies ("LS") textbooks; and review the role of EDB in monitoring the quality of textbooks and teaching materials.
- 24. The Deputy Chairman considered that the prevailing textbook review mechanism was effective and a special measure to provide a professional consultancy service to publishers of LS textbooks had been introduced recently to ensure the quality of LS textbooks. Regarding worksheets, teachers designed and gave them to students on a need basis with an aim to reinforce learning. It was not practicable to set up a worksheet review mechanism to review worksheets before giving to students. All in all, it was not necessary to set up the proposed subcommittee.
- 25. <u>Mr AU Nok-hin</u> opined that teaching resources nowadays, in particular those for LS subject, were well developed. Teachers should be entrusted to exercise their professional judgement to select the textbooks and learning materials they deemed most suitable for their students. Endless controversies would be caused if a monitoring mechanism was put in place. Hence, the proposed subcommittee was not necessary.
- 26. <u>Dr Helena WONG</u> said that she did not object to holding a discussion on the prevailing textbook review mechanism at a future meeting. However, she considered it inappropriate for the Panel to set up a subcommittee to examine all textbooks and teaching materials. Textbooks and teaching materials should be reviewed by education professionals. The establishment of the proposed subcommittee to study the development of textbooks and teaching materials might lead to political censorship, making education become politicized.

- 27. <u>Ms Claudia MO</u> said that there was a textbook review mechanism for primary and secondary textbooks. It was not necessary to set up the proposed subcommittee to examine textbooks, teaching materials and teaching methods which aimed to control thoughts and shape political attitudes of students, in particular those in kindergartens.
- 28. Mr CHU Hoi-dick said that teachers should not be accused of educating students to oppose the Government and requested Ms YUNG Hoi-yan to circulate the biased textbooks and teaching materials to members, so as to facilitate the Panel's consideration on whether the proposed subcommittee should be set up.
- 29. Mr HO Kai-ming expressed support to the establishment of the proposed subcommittee. He opined that textbooks containing biased views would cause negative impacts on students. Textbooks should therefore be submitted for review to ensure that they were accurate in content, of good quality and fit for student learning. As there was no mechanism for submitting LS textbooks for review, some of the textbooks were not objective and contained controversial issues. The proposed subcommittee should urge EDB to step up its monitoring role and review the textbook review mechanism.
- 30. <u>Ms Elizabeth QUAT</u> expressed support to Ms YUNG Hoi-yan's proposal. She said that in the past years, she kept on receiving parents' complaints about biased teaching materials which caused negative impacts on their children. Youngsters nowadays spoke foul language, participated in unlawful activities, showed disrespect to elderly, etc. Many parents had become increasingly worried about the behavior of their children. To address parents' concerns and to safeguard the well-being of students, the proposed subcommittee was necessary for looking into the root causes of the problem with textbooks and teaching materials, with a view to putting forward recommendations to the Administration.
- 31. At 12:43 pm, the Chairman said that as the appointed end time of the meeting was 12:45 pm and there were still some members who would like to express their views on Ms YUNG Hoi-yan's proposal, discussion on this agenda item and the originally scheduled agenda items would be carried forward to the regular meeting in January 2020.
- 32. The meeting ended at 12:43 pm.

Council Business Division 4
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
27 February 2020

教育事務委員會 Panel on Education

在2019年11月1日的政策簡報會及會議上 就議程項目"教育局局長就行政長官2019年施政報告作出簡報"下提出, 並在2019年12月6日會議上通過的議案

Motion proposed under the agenda item "Briefing by the Secretary for Education on the Chief Executive's 2019 Policy Address" at the policy briefing-cum-meeting on 1 November 2019 and passed at the meeting on 6 December 2019

議案措辭

本委員會要求教育局:

- (1) 嚴肅追究違法違紀老師,包括發放煽動仇恨言論或慫恿學生 參與非法集會或街頭暴力事件;
- (2) 向所有學校的學生呼籲不要在網上發放任何暴力罪行或 仇恨言論。

(葛珮帆議員及張國鈞議員動議)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Education Bureau to:

- (1) seriously pursue the responsibility of teachers who have breached the law and discipline, including disseminating comments that incite hatred or persuading their students to participate in unlawful assemblies or street violence;
- (2) call upon the students of all schools not to disseminate on the Internet comments relating to violence offences or hatred.

(Moved by Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan)

教育事務委員會 Panel on Education

在2019年11月1日的政策簡報會及會議上 就議程項目"教育局局長就行政長官2019年施政報告作出簡報" 提出的議案

Motion proposed under the agenda item "Briefing by the Secretary for Education on the Chief Executive's 2019 Policy Address" at the policy briefing-cum-meeting on 1 November 2019

<u>議案措辭</u>

本委員會要求教育局:

- (1) 嚴肅追究林鄭特首及官員,施政違反民意,及強推送中 惡法,激化社會矛盾,老師應好好保護學生,避免在街頭暴力 事件受傷;
- (2) 向所有學校的學生呼籲,要好好保護自己,不要被暴力傷害。

(葛珮帆議員及張國均議員動議,並經黃碧雲議員修正)

Wording of the Motion

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Education Bureau to:

- (1) seriously pursue the responsibility of the Chief Executive, Mrs Carrie Lam, and her officials for intensifying social conflicts by implementing policies against the public opinion and unrelentingly pushing through the draconian China extradition law, while teachers should properly protect their students from getting injured in incidents of street violence;
- (2) call upon the students of all schools to properly protect themselves from getting hurt by violence.

(Moved by Hon Elizabeth QUAT and Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, amended by Dr Hon Helena WONG)