



Annual General Meeting On 19 November 2008

Chairman's Report

1. HKSSSC Membership

1.1 There are 349 member schools in Academic Year 2008-09, while there were 353 member schools in Academic Year 2007-08.

2. Work of Executive Committee (EC)

2.1 EC Meetings

10 EC meetings were held during December 2007 – October 2008.

2.2 Medium of Instruction (MOI)

With the suggestion of minor adjustment to the implementation of the suggestions proposed in the Report on Review of Medium of Instruction for Secondary Schools, the EC had taken the following actions:

- 2.2.1 Attending meeting with parents organized by the Committee on Home-School Cooperation on 28/11/2007
- 2.2.2 Meeting with Mr. CHEUNG Man-kwong, Chairman of Professional Teachers Union, on 3/12/2007 to share views on MOI policy;
- 2.2.3 Meeting with the Secretary for Education (SED) on 21/12/2007 to share views on MOI policy
- 2.2.4 Holding a Forum for member schools on “the Medium of Instruction in Hong Kong Schools” on 19/2/2008
- 2.2.5 Meeting with SED and the Permanent Secretary for Education (PSED) together with other School Councils / Principals Associations on 26/2/2008 to share views on MOI issues.
- 2.2.6 Conducting a survey to collect opinions from member schools in March 2008 and submitting the report to EDB.
- 2.2.7 Expressing the views of HKSSSC in accordance with our survey results in the following occasions:
 - i. Radio programme 「飛躍學堂」 on 27/10/2007
 - ii. Forum on MOI organised by HKFEW on 14/12/2007
 - iii. Forum on 「香港的教學語言：何去何從」 organized by the Committee on Home-school Cooperation and Ming Pao on 4/2/2008
 - iv. Forum on 「香港中學教學語言政策的再思」 organized by Education Eye (教育眼) on 15/2/2008.
 - v. RTHK programme 「香港家書」 on 15/3/2008

- vi. 「教學語言政策研討會」 co-organized by the Chartered Institute of Linguists Hong Kong Society (特許語言學會香港分會) and the Savantas Policy Institute (匯賢智庫) on 16/3/2008
 - vii. Metro Broadcasting programme 「明茶館」 on 29/3/2008 .
 - viii. RTHK programme 「城市論壇」 on 6/7/2008
- 2.2.8 Meeting with PSED on 30/4/2008 to reiterate the views of the Council
- 2.2.9 Requesting for clarification from EDB immediately after a misleading report by the press on 6/6/2008 stating that EDB had decided on the split class mode for MOI grouping, with SED clarifying on 7/6/2008 that no decision had been made yet.
- 2.2.10 Meeting with SED together with other School Councils / Principals Associations on 25/6/2008 to discuss possible arrangements.
- 2.2.11 Attending the special meeting of the Education Panel of the LegCo on 17/7/2008 to express the views of the Council.
- 2.2.12 Meeting with SED and PSED together with other School Councils / Principals Associations on 23/10/2008 to share views again, with EDB indicating the possibility of putting forward a proposal before the end of this year.

The EC has reiterated the Council's standpoint of putting benefits of students at top priority and not having a single splitting mode in the MOI policy in accordance with the views of member schools collected in the 2008 MOI Survey and the consensus reached in the General Meeting held on 27/5/2008.

2.3 Class Size for Secondary Schools

- 2.3.1 Meeting with SED together with other School Councils / Principals Associations on 24/1/2008. SED pointed out that the SSPA mechanism for 2008 had started and it would not be appropriate to change the quota of S.1 places, but agreed to discuss with the school sector to explore what could be done in the future. A copy of the report of the Survey on Educational Issues in 2007-08 Policy Address was submitted to SED.
- 2.3.2 EDB announced some new measures for facilitating development of secondary schools with a two-steps reduction of the number of students allocated to each S1 class.

2.4 Unsolicited Electronic Messages Ordinance

- 2.4.1 EC has collaborated with the other school councils to solicit mutual consent from respective members.

2.5 Responses to Consultations

- 2.5.1 Submission of EC's views to LegCo on the Third Strategy on Information Technology in Education from Hong Kong Subsidized Secondary Schools Council (English version only) [LegCo Paper CB(2)959/07-08(05)] (31 January 2008)
- 2.5.2 Submission of EC's views to LegCo to support the exemptions provided under Clause 26(2) of the Race Discrimination Bill [LegCo Paper CB(2)2206/07-08(01)] (11 June 2008)
- 2.5.3 Submission of EC's views to the University Grant Committee to support the

- Development Blueprint of HKIEd. (7 April 2008)
- 2.5.4 Submission of the Report on MOI Survey to LegCo (Chinese version only) [LegCo Paper CB(2)2605/07-08(05)] (17 July 2008)
 - 2.5.5 Submission of EC's views to EDB on 11/12/2008 agreeing to keep the procedure unchanged for the Secondary Six Admission Procedure 2008.
 - 2.5.6 Submission of EC's view to HKEAA on 7/12/2007 agreeing to the proposal of asking candidates to pay their examination fees directly to bank or via other e-payment modes.

3. Documents sent to members / uploaded to HKSSSC Website since last AGM:

- 3.1 Documents uploaded to HKSSSC Website:
 - 3.1.1 Joint Declaration to the Chief Executive of HKSAR on 『提升中學教育質素 降低每班學生人數』.
 - 3.1.2 Documents related to 2007-08 AGM held on 13/11/2007.
 - 3.1.3 Information related to the Forum on the Medium of Instruction in Hong Kong Schools 19/2/2008
 - 3.1.4 Reports and Results on the Survey related to Medium of Instruction (2008 年教學語言政策諮詢報告及問卷調查結果)
 - 3.1.5 Newsletter No. 2 (2007-08)
 - 3.1.6 Documents related to the 2007-08 General Meeting held on 27/5/2008
- 3.2 Documents sent to members
 - 3.2.1 Newsletter No. 1 (2008-09)

4. Liaison with EDB / HKEAA

- 4.1 Attending "Principals' Liaison Meetings on 3+3+4" on 12/11/2007, 31/1/2008, 19/3/2008, 26/5/2008, 2/7/2008, and 23/9/2008 to discuss various issues related to the implementation of 3+3+4 including laboratory technicians / workshop teachers, minor conversion to enhance teaching space, inter-sector liaison, SBA, international recognition of HKDSE, criteria for granting scholarships, Applied Learning, diversity learning grant, etc.
- 4.2 Attending the consultation meeting on 2nd phase of External School Review on 13/11/2007, the Council had requested to delay starting of the 2nd phase and the provision of more flexibility for schools to decide when to have the ESR
- 4.3 Attending consultation meeting with EDB on 18/12/2007 to discuss the implementation of increase of GM/CM ratio and additional VP post in primary schools
- 4.4 Attending a meeting on 「預防及支援輟學學生跨專業交流會議」 organized by EDB on 19/12/2007 to share views from EDB, Social Welfare Department, NGOs, PTAs, and other related organizations, with the hope to derive measures for better prevention of student drop-out.
- 4.5 Courtesy meeting with Principal Assistant Secretary (School Administration & Support) on 22/1/2008 to discuss issues related to GM/CM ratio, free education, tong fai and SEN.
- 4.6 Briefing session organized by CDI on 18/2/2008 to discuss the following issues related to the NSS implementation: proposed funding arrangement of the Diversity Learning Grant, progress on implementation of Applied Learning and arrangement for laboratory technicians / workshop teachers arrangement in the transition period
- 4.7 Briefing session by EDB on 29/4/2008 on the use of Learning Support Grant and the

implementation of the SEMIS(特殊教育資訊系統)

- 4.8 Discussion with EDB about teachers not meeting the SCOLAR requirement in the teaching of Chinese and English with subsequent letter from EDB to collect information and to encourage teachers to meet the requirement.
- 4.9 Briefing Session by EDB on 26/6/2008 on the arrangement for Learning Diversity Grant
- 4.10 Receiving letter dated 27/8/2008 from EDB stating the position of the EDB on the claim by some schools of school-based decisions to adjust their MOI arrangements, claiming that the EDB would be bound by duty to follow up should individual schools deviate from the existing policy arrangements;
- 4.11 Receiving phone call from EDB reminding schools not to announce the banding of students admitted into S.1 when responding to requests for the publication of SSPA choice of schools magazines.
- 4.12 Meeting with the Under Secretary for Education on 8 September 2008 to share views on the following issues: (1) 334 with discussion on the curriculum, professional training and class structure, (2) packing of classes, (3) support for the needy students and the lack of flexibility on the use of after school support fund, and (4) textbook issues such as electronic textbooks.
- 4.13 EDB had updated the school list of subsidized secondary schools joining the Licence Agreement scheme of the HKRRLS in 2008/09.

5. Requests from member schools for follow-up actions:

- 5.1 Request to ask HKEAA to have the Examination Question Papers of different languages and levels to be printed separately so students would not have to pay for those parts that they do not want. The request had been made before and the Council was informed that the printing cost would be very high if individual question paper was printed separately.
- 5.2 Request to ask EDB to allow schools with insufficient students to apply for “small class” teaching. The EC had discussed the issue with EDB but had no favourable response.

6. HKSSSC has nominated representatives to sit on the following committees:

- 6.1 Mr. CHOY Ko-leung and Mr. YUEN Tze-lam on the Subsidized Schools Provident Fund Control Board,
- 6.2 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the 「中學學位分配辦法檢討學校網工作小組」
- 6.3 Ms. Kelly CHENG Ka-lee on the Committee of the School-based After-school Learning & Support Programme
- 6.4 Mr. CHUNG Chiang-hon on the Advisory Committee for SSPA (中學學位分配委員會)
- 6.5 Dr. LAM Chi-hung on the JSEA Advisory Committee
- 6.6 Mr. YING Yu-hing on the Vocational Education and Training Advisory Committee
- 6.7 Mr. CHU Kai-wing on the 12th School Reporters Scheme (第12屆《明報》校園記者計劃顧問) organized by Ming Pao Newspaper Limited
- 6.8 Ms. SO Man-wan on the Organizing Committee for “On Your Mark 齊起步” 全港學界迎奧運大行動
- 6.9 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the A.S. Watson Group Student Sports Awards Advisory Board organized by the A.S. Watson Group
- 6.10 Ms. Kelly CHENG Ka-lee on the 香港教師中心諮詢管理委員會
- 6.11 Ms. Kelly CHENG Ka-lee on the organizing committee for 「2008-2009 中國中學生作文大賽」
- 6.12 Mr. YUEN Tze-lam on the HKU Careers Advisory Board for the period from 1 July 2008 to

30 June 2010;

- 6.13 Mr. LIU Ah-chuen on the CUHK Career Development Board from August 2008 to July 2010;
- 6.14 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the Advisory Committee on Anti-drug Measures in School Setting under the Task Force on Youth Drug Abuse.
- 6.15 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the Advisory Group on the Code of Aid (COA) for Aided IMC Schools
- 6.16 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the Advisory Committee on the Education Development Fund from September 2008 to August 2010
- 6.17 Mr. CHOY Ko-leung on the Committee on Special Needs Candidates of HKEAA from September 2008 to August 2011;
- 6.18 Dr. LAM Chi-hung and Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the HKEAA Advisory Group on SBA Implementation in the HKDSE
- 6.19 Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai on the HKEAA Advisory Group on Examination Administration System of the HKDSE
- 6.20 Ms. Halina POON Suk-han on the Committee of Respect Our Teacher Campaign

7 HKSSSC has agreed to be involved in the following activities:

- 7.1 「兒童及青少年精神健康 – 跨界別研討會」organised by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service as a supporting organization
- 7.2 《法制先鋒》常識問答比賽 organised by the Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law of Hong Kong as a supporting organization
- 7.3 《尊重版權「郵」你參與》郵票設計比賽 organized by the Hong Kong Reprographic Rights Licensing Society (香港版權影印授權協會) as a supporting organization
- 7.4 Project competition under the theme of 「國家改革三十周年活動」 organised by EDB as a supporting organization
- 7.5 「On Your Mark 齊起步——全港學界迎奧運大行動」 organised by the Wofoo Foundation (和富慈善基金) as a supporting organization
- 7.6 “Video Competition Project for Secondary Schools” (中學生錄像短片創作比賽) organised by ICAC as a supporting organization
- 7.7 「香港教育界慶祝國慶晚會」organized by the 「香港教育界慶祝國慶籌備委員會」 as a supporting organization.
- 7.8 「2008-2009 中國中學生作文大賽」 organized by the Hong Kong Institute for Promotion of Chinese Culture (香港中華文化促進中心) as a co-organizer.
- 7.9 “Arts Ambassadors-in-school Scheme” organized by Hong Kong Arts Development Council as a supporting organization.
- 7.10 「第四屆國情與基本法研習班」 organised by the Joint Committee for the Promotion of the Basic Law of Hong Kong as a supporting organization
- 7.11 「明日領袖高峰論壇 2008」 organised by 「傑出青年協會」 as a supporting organization;
- 7.12 香港教育界支援四川災區重建聯席會議

8 HKSSSC sent representatives to attend the following events:

- 8.1 Recruitment of Native English-speaking Teachers for EDB in Hong Kong, Canada and U.K.
- 8.2 Visit to the HKEAA Lai King Assessment Centre on 19/12/2007
- 8.3 「兒童及青少年精神健康 – 跨界別研討會」organised by the Hong Kong Council of Social Service on 19/12/2007

- 8.4 「性本善論壇」 organized by RTHK on 29/12/2007
- 8.5 「青少年濫藥問題專責小組會議」 organized by the Narcotics Division on 15/1/2008
- 8.6 「教學語言政策研討會」 co-organized by the Chartered Institute of Linguists Hong Kong Society (特許語言學會香港分會) and the Savantas Policy Institute (匯賢智庫) on 16/3/2008
- 8.7 Study tour at Chengdu organized by 中聯辦 during 20-25/3/2008
- 8.8 《尊重版權「郵」你參與》 kick-off ceremony on 22 /4/ 2008;
- 8.9 「全港學界迎接北京 2008 年奧運會 100 日倒數活動：〈動感之都迎奧運〉」 on 30/4/2008
- 8.10 Prize presentation ceremony of the 「2007/2008 中國中學生作文大賽—永隆文學之星」 on 8/5/2008
- 8.11 Selection board of the 「香港青年協會黃寬洋青少年進修獎勵計劃」 on 10/5/2008.
- 8.12 Inter-sector Sharing Session on the Preparation of 334 on 25/6/2008
- 8.13 Anti-drug Seminar for School Heads on 4/7/2008
- 8.14 Prize presentation ceremony of the 「香港青年協會黃寬洋青少年進修獎勵計劃」 organized by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups on 5/7/2008.
- 8.15 Selection Panel for the 11th Yan Chai Hospital Moral & Civic Education Award Scheme 「第 11 屆仁濟醫院公民獎勵計劃」 on 10/11/2008
- 8.16 Workshop on 「在學校內推廣國民教育」 organized by the Commission on Strategic Development
- 8.17 Selection boards and group leader of the Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Student and Youths (JENESYS) programme 2008
- 8.18 「兩岸四地學術大會」 held in Macau on 11/10/2008
- 8.19 Opening cum closing ceremony of the School Reporters Scheme organized by Ming Pao on 8/11/2008 , and Ms. Kelly CHENG Ka-lee would represent the Council;
- 8.20 「香港學界國慶訪京暨專業交流團 2008」 during 27/9/2008-1/10/2008

9. Work of Task Groups and Representatives

9.1 Professional Development Task Group

Ms. Halina POON Suk-han reported that the Professional Talk on Financial Management held on 30/1/2008 was well received and the task group would continue to arrange such sharing sessions in the future. It was also reported that the 2008 Principal Conference held on 29/5/2008 was also a very successful event.

9.2 Curriculum & Assessment Task Group

Dr. LAM Chi-hung reported that the Task Group had conducted a small-scale study on the expected workload of students and teachers to conduct SBA with the implementation of the NSS curriculum by collecting views of teachers from schools of EC members. It was noted that the results were so diversified that it would be difficult to conduct a large-scale study, but the results of the pilot study had been submitted to both EDB and HKEAA for their reference.

9.3 SSPA and Language Policy Task Group

[Refer to Session 2.2]

9.4 **Inclusive Education Task Group**

Ms. CHAN King reported that she had submitted the following proposal of the EC to the Task Group:

- 9.1.1 Additional teachers on top of ALA (i.e. 1 additional teachers for 5 SEN students under the Resource Schools measures)
- 9.1.2 1 TA for the admission of 1 to 5 SEN students
- 9.1.3 To cap the number of SEN students in each school
- 9.1.4 Additional promotion post at the rank of SGM for SEN Coordinator
- 9.1.5 Provision of preliminary tools for identifying SEN students for use by teachers / school
- 9.1.6 Referral mechanism of severe SEN students to short course in SOS
- 9.1.7 Extension of the categories of SEN beyond the existing eight categories to include students with chronic illness, students with mental health problems, etc

Ms. CHAN King also reported that the Ombudsman had completed a direct investigation into special examination arrangement for students with specific learning difficulties.

9.5 **Steering Committee on Review of Additional CEG**

Mr. YUEN Tze-lam reported that 3 rounds of survey were conducted with the results submitted to EDB in March 2008. The results were found positive, but as the Grant had served its purpose, it would not be continued.

9.6 **Vocational Education and Training Advisory Committee**

Mr. YING Yu-hing reported that with the implementation of 3+3+4, the following changes had been proposed: (i) all colleges, institutes and college centres to be clustered under one administration; (ii) Form 3 leavers were entitled for multi-entries and all S4 to S6 courses were free; (iii) the discipline-led curriculum was instituted-based; (iv) 3 levels of certificate would be awarded and qualifications would be rectified according to the requirement of the Mainland so as to enable graduates to work in China; (v) revision of courses offered by VTC as all S.5 students would be expected to stay on S.6 in mainstream schools.

9.7 **SSPA Advisory Committee**

Mr. CHUNG Chiang-hon reported that a survey on the revised SSPA system had been conducted and the committee was concerned about the drastic drop in student population.

9.8 **Copyright Task Group**

Mr. Tyrone CHOY Ko-leung reported that he had attended a meeting of the Consultative Committee of Views on Copyright Protection in the Digital Environment held in the summer 2008 and pointed out that it would not be necessary for the Council to submit any comments.

9.9 **The Committee of Respect Our Teachers Campaign**

It was reported that the annual celebration "Salute to Teachers 2008 - Teachers' Day and Commendation Certificate Presentation Ceremony" had been held on 12/9/2008 (Friday) at the Kowloon Bay Convention Hall. It was also reported that the HKSSSC representative would need to serve as the Treasurer of the committee in the coming year.

9.10 The JSEA Advisory Committee

It was reported that there would still be needs for allocation of S.4 places under NSS structure, though the demand of places would be smaller. It was pointed out that a number of representatives from CMI schools voiced out the needs for schools to keep an additional 5 percent of discretionary places in S.4 in the NSS allocation on top of the usual 5% for repeaters. It was noted that the Council would propose to keep 5 repeater places per S.4 class for the 2009 allocation but the additional repeater places should be kept for repeaters of the last cohort of HKCE students in 2010 and not for admitting additional S.4 students from other schools in 2009.

9.11 Subsidized Schools Provident Fund Board of Control

It was reported that two meetings had been held on 26/5/2008 and 27/10/2008, and the Board had organized an Open Forum for members on 10/10/2008.

9.12 Advisory Group on the Code of Aid (COA) for Aided IMC Schools

Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai reported that schools setting up IMC should note the change in the COA for IMC schools and should amend the terms with reference to COA in appointment letters. It was also noted that with the explicit statement of “Demotion” added in the COA of Aided IMC schools, schools had to be careful when applying this because schools might violate the Employment Ordinance if they tried to apply this to staff signing contracts before establishing IMC.

9.13 School Net Review Working Group

Ms. Shirley WONG She-lai reported that it was proposed to regroup the 18 school nets into around 9 – 10 nets.

– End of Report –

Report prepared by : Shirley WONG She-lai