



To: All Member School Principals

Newsletter No.2 (2007/08)

Though the Year of RAT has started quite a while, I would still like to make use of this opportunity to wish you all a successful and peaceful year to come. I would like to present here a brief report of what the Executive Committee has done and to announce some of the forthcoming events.

A. Reports

1. Annual General Meeting (2007/08)

The AGM (2007/08) was held on 13 November 2007 with 190 principals from member schools attended. After the AGM, we had a talk on “Empowering Leadership Capacity of Senior Teachers” by Dr. CHIU Chi-shing, Executive Project Director of the Quality School Improvement Project, HKIER, CUHK. He had enlightened us with his profound knowledge in leadership training.

2. The Third Strategy on Information Technology in Education

The Council submitted a position paper [CB(2)959/07-08(05)] at a Special Meeting of the Education Panel of the Legislation Council held on 31 January 2008. Members may refer to the following link for the papers:

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr07-08/english/panels/ed/papers/ed0131cb2-959-5-e.pdf>

3. Unsolicited Electronic Message Ordinance (UEMO)

The Council had solicited views from our legal adviser and the EDB. Though one of our legal advisers considered the activities conducted by school not of commercial nature, the views of EDB appear to be different as pointed out in the brief guide for school on UEMO issued to school on 3 March 2008. Please refer to School Administration of the EDB webpage details. (<http://www.edb.gov.hk/index.aspx?nodeID=6404&langno=1>)

4. GM/CM Ratio and 12 Years of Free Education

The Executive Committee had a meeting with PAS (School Administration & Support) on 22 January 2008 to ask for an early announcement of the details for the implementation of the new GM/CM ratio and to point out the needs for schools to collect Tong Fai after the implementation of the 12 years of free education.

5. Reduction of Class Size

The representatives of our Council and the representatives from the other school councils / heads associations met the Education for Secretary on 24 January 2008 to voice out our views on the gradual reduction of class size. The EDB issued a press release immediately after the meeting. (<http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/200801/24/P200801240258.htm>)

6. Medium of Instruction (MOI)

Upon the announcement by EDB on considering to make some adjustments to allow certain degree of flexibility for schools to enhance students' exposure to English under the existing MOI policy, representatives of our Council met with the Secretary for Education on 21 December 2007 to reiterate our stance on MOI policy based on our survey conducted in 2005. Understanding that the situation has changed, our Council held a Forum on MOI on 19 February 2008 to solicit views from our member schools and decided to conduct a survey by questionnaire to seek the members' opinions. The Secretary for Education invited representatives from various school councils / heads associations to a meeting on 26 February 2008 to share our views on the MOI policy. The EDB issued a press release immediately after the meeting. Members can refer to the following link for the press release: <http://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/200802/26/P200802260300.htm>. Our Council completed our survey in early March and the results of the survey are encouraging with majority of the responses agreeing with the proposal suggested by the Executive Committee. Members can refer to the Council webpage for the results and report of the survey.

7. Professional Development

A professional Talk on Financial Management was held on 30 January 2008 with our former chairman, Mr. Stephen HUI Chin-yim, and our Executive Committee member, Mr. YING Yu-hing, sharing their experiences with principals of our member schools.

B. Announcement

8. General Meeting

Date: 21 or 27 May 2008

Time: 9:00-12:30

Venue: YMCA of Hong Kong, Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui

Please keep the date and time free.

9. Hong Kong School Principals' Conference 2008

The Council is a co-organizer of this event, which will be held on 29 May 2008 at Hong Kong Institute of Education. More details will be sent to you in due course.

Thank you for your continuous support. Attached please find a CD Rom with the Member List for your reference.

Yours sincerely,



CHENG Ka-lee Kelly (Ms)
Assistant Honorary Secretary