

## **CDC News (November 2012)**

The 40<sup>th</sup> CDC Meeting was held on 9 July 2012 (Monday). Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

### **Curriculum Review in Basic and New Senior Secondary Education**

- A more holistic review on the curriculum reform in basic education and New Senior Secondary (NSS) levels was being conducted upon completion of both the first three-year cycle of the NSS curriculum and the inaugural HKDSE examination in 2012.
- The NSS review focused on the fine-tuning of curriculum and assessment to address the concerns of schools. An evidence-based and interpretative approach was adopted to collect information regarding the implementation process. Views from stakeholders would also be solicited for identifying key concerns and issues for the refinement of the review framework.
- The review was conducted in strategic phases. The short-term phase (2013/14 school year) aimed at addressing the major concerns of schools and fine-tuning the implementation of the curriculum and assessment. A long-term implementation plan (2014 onwards) would be formulated through continuous discussion on other issues.
- An engagement and communication plan with Curriculum Development Council (CDC), Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) and Public Examinations Board (PEB) as the backbone was drawn up to collect feedback and opinions extensively from all stakeholders, including principals and teachers from the school sector, the post-secondary sector, parents, students, employers, as well as key professional bodies, through various channels. These included consultations forums, surveys and studies, focus group interviews, school visits, seminars/workshops as well as liaison meetings.
- Four rounds of CDC-HKEAA Committee meetings on the 24 NSS subjects had been scheduled from June 2012 to January 2013 to discuss all related issues and make recommendations based on the feedback collected from schools and other stakeholders. The recommendations of the fine-tuned NSS curriculum and assessment would be submitted to the joint CDC-PEB Meeting for discussion and endorsement in February/March 2013. The fine-tuned curriculum could be implemented in the 2013/14 school year at Secondary 4 to have an effect on the 2016 HKDSE cohort at the soonest.
- The review in the basic education would focus on “learning to learn with sustainability” and professional enrichment, there would not be any structural

change.

### **Support Measures for Students in Preparing for the Result Release Day of the 2012 HKDSE Examination**

- Under the key message of ‘Starting support from school, leveraging all-round back-up’ (從學校出發・全方位支援), various support measures for stakeholders were in place for the release of HKDSE Examination results on 20 July (720). Apart from the briefing for students and parents organized by schools, updated information and key messages concerning 720 were made available from the pamphlet entitled ‘Compass@720’, the 720 designated webpage and a smart phone app ‘e-Navigator’. Other support measures included the enquiry and counselling services provided by HKEAA, EDB and NGOs as well as employment service centres set up by Employees Retraining Board.
- A press conference would be held by HKEAA on 19 July for updates on the progress of marking and grading, the presentation of results statistics and the arrangement for the release of HKDSE results.