

## **CDC News (February 2011)**

The 37<sup>th</sup> CDC Meeting was held on 10 June 2011 (Friday). Salient points of the discussion are as follows:

### **Subject Combination of Schools of Different Finance Mode**

- A brief report on the average number of NSS subject combinations in schools of different finance mode (Aided, Government, Direct Subsidy Scheme (DSS), etc.) was presented to members. It was noted that schools with better student in-take tended to offer more elective subjects when compared to schools with weaker student in-take. Based on the subject combinations taken by students, the average number of combinations taken in S4 and S5 of all schools were 41 and 47 respectively. The survey findings reflected that there were more subject choices for students under the New Academic Structure. It was agreed that useful data could be released for schools' reference.

### **Report on the Consultation on the Moral and National Education (MNE) Curriculum**

- Members were briefed on the proposed Moral and National Education curriculum. The proposed MNE curriculum aimed to strengthen the cultivation of students' positive values and attitudes and their identity in different domains of family, society, nation and the world. The objectives were to enhance students' moral development and national identity, promote their sense of belonging and commitment, and enable them to keep abreast of the needs and development of the society, nation and the world.
- The Moral and Civic Education curriculum framework of 2008 formed the basis for developing the curriculum content and the organization of various domains of the MNE subject. The learning objectives of nurturing students' positive values and attitudes through daily events to suit the developmental needs of students across primary and secondary levels were emphasized. The MNE subject was complementary to different Key Learning Areas (KLAs)/subjects in terms of values and attitudes, knowledge and skills for school-based adaptation.
- All members agreed to the principles, rationale and direction of the MNE curriculum. They recommended that the message of the equal importance of the five domains and the design of the MNE curriculum aiming at schools to teach MNE with a more systematic approach should be made clear in the consultation exercise. Members also suggested embracing all national issues to ensure completeness of the curriculum. Moral value was highly regarded in the

commercial sector and broadening students' horizons for whole-person development was deemed very important.

- Phase one consultation would be completed by the end of August 2011. The revised MNE curriculum guide would be circulated to CDC members for comment and endorsement. It was planned to be released in February 2012.

### **Report on the Progress of de-bundling Textbooks and Learning/Teaching Materials**

- A task force was set up to review the issues relating to the debundling policy, in particular the recommended textbook list and the adoption of a tendering system for the publication of textbooks and learning/teaching materials.
- Members opined that EDB should also take note of the textbook issue for SEN schools/students. It was responded that learning and teaching materials for SEN students were rather individualized and there were resources for SEN students on the EDB website for teachers to use and adapt.