

CDC Committee on Mathematics Education (1999-2000)

Minutes of the First Meeting

Date : 27 October 1999 (Wednesday)

Time : 2:00 p.m.

Place : Curriculum Resources Centre, G/F, 24 Tin
Kwong Road, To Kwa Wan, Kowloon.

Present : Mr. YIP Kam-yuen (Chairman)

Mr. KWAN Siu-kam (Vice-chairman)

Dr. MOK Ah-chee, Ida

Prof. CHENG Shiu-yuen

Dr. WONG Ngai-ying

Mr. KWOK Ka-keung

Mr. WAN Tak-wing

Ms. TSUI Kwai-king

Ms. WONG Pui-kau

Mr. LEE Siu-hok

Mr. HO Yue-shun

Mr. YU Kar-ming

Mr. TANG Chi-pang

Ms. CHAN Ching-yee, Josephine

Ms. YAN Pui-lung

Ms. LOK Shui-ping

Mr. HUNG Chun-wah

Ms. KAN Yin-ling, Brenda

Dr. LI Hin-ming (Secretary)

Absent with apology : Mr. FUNG Chi-yeung

Mr. TSANG Kin-wah

In attendance : Mr. LEUNG Chit-wan

Documents sent :

(No.1/1) Declaration of Interests by Members of Public Councils, Boards and Committees

(No.2/1) Holistic Review of School Curriculum (HORSC) Working Subgroup Report on Mathematics Education Key Learning Area (KLA)

Documents tabled :

(No.3/1) Lists of Composition of Membership, Telephone/ Fax Number and Office Correspondence for CDC Committee on Mathematics Education (1999-2000)

(No.4/1) A Pamphlet entitled “ The Operational Manual ” issued by Curriculum Development Council in September 1999

(No.5/1) A Summary of the Holistic Review of the Mathematics Education KLA

(No.6/1) Proposed Work-plan of the Committee for the School Year (1999-2000)

(No.7/1) A Letter Recommending “ A New Method of Drawing an Ellipse ”

(No.8/1) Progress Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Holistic Review of the Mathematics Curriculum

Reference Materials Distributed :

1. 1999 Policy Address : “ Quality Education ”
2. The teaching package : “ Using Calculators to Investigate the Mystery of Numbers ” (Chinese Version)

1. Opening Remarks

1. Mr. KWAN welcomed all members to the first meeting in the school year 1999-2000 and introduced members to each other.
2. Mr. KWAN briefed members on the tabled documents.
3. Mr. KWAN briefed members on the basic Normal Operational Procedure of the meeting :
 - Members were requested to check against the Membership List, Corresponding List, Telephone List and Fax List.
 - Members were requested to sign on the attendance sheet provided in each meeting for recording purpose.
 - Number of meetings would be held at least 3 times in each school year.
 - Language used in writing agenda and minutes (Chinese/ English) for the meeting should be agreed upon by the members. (Members agreed to use English Language in writing agenda and minutes.)
 - Duration of membership was at most 6 years (follow the 6 year rule).
 - Declaration of Interests should be included member himself/herself, member ' s spouse, relatives and close friends as well.
 - Chairman ' s approval should be obtained first for disclosing any information about the CDCC meeting.
 - Members should be reminded of the issue of confidentiality and note the restricted documents with care.
 - No consent was required for releasing or disclosing general information of the CDCC members to public on request and inform the members afterwards (such as: attendance records, years of services, professions etc.).
 - All business should be decided by a majority of votes.
 - Agenda, the gist or full contents of the discussion papers (sent and tabled) and record of minutes of the meeting would be uploaded on the CDC Homepage for dispatching information to public.
 - Other detailed information could be found in the Pamphlet entitled “ The Operational Manual ” .

2. Election of Chairman

Mr. YIP Kam-yuen, Principal of Yu Chun Keung Memorial College No.2 was elected to be the chairman of CDC Committee on Mathematics Education for the school year 1999-2000.

3. **To receive the document “ Declaration of Interests by Members of Public Councils, Boards and Committees ”**
 - i. Mr. KWAN briefed members on the document No.1/1, namely, “ Declaration of Interests by Members of Public Councils, Boards and Committees ” . Members were reminded of the issue of confidentiality pertaining to the business of the Committee and noted the contents of the document.

4. **To discuss the Holistic Review of School Curriculum (HORSC) Working Subgroup Report on Mathematics Education Key Learning Area (KLA)**
 - i. Mr. KWAN reported that Curriculum Development Council has been re-organized into a two-tier structure in September 1999 :
 - First tier - CDC and Standing Committees
 - Second tier - 8 Key Learning Area Committees and 5 Functional Committees

 - ii. Mr. KWAN explained to members the backgrounds of the two mathematics curriculum reviews being done, namely, the holistic review of the mathematics curriculum and the holistic review of the school curriculum (HORSC). The approach and direction of the HORSC Working Subgroup Report on Mathematics Education Key Learning Area were also elaborated. The report has been written in line with Education Commission ’ s proposed aims of education and the CDC restructure.

 - iii. Mr. KWAN stressed that there was no conflict between the approaches of the two reviews. The views of the members of the Ad hoc Committee on the Holistic Review of the Mathematics Curriculum and their arguments were adequately considered in preparing the report.

 - iv. Chairman requested members for comments and suggestion on the report. After a lengthy discussion, members agreed the followings.
 - Assessment should focus on the learning phase and wash-back effect should be avoided.

 - The curriculum should be designed with cross-level linkage taken into consideration.

- In the curriculum development process, a flow chart indicating the inter-relation of topics of different mathematics curricula at different levels was recommended to ensure continuity.
 - The design of the mathematics curriculum should take into consideration the different abilities of students.
 - The structure of the Mathematics Curriculum at the Senior Secondary Level and Sixth Form Level should be carefully considered due to the possible changes in the academic structure.
 - It was worthwhile to explore the possibility to measure the minimal competencies for mathematics by Key Stages or by Learning Dimensions for reporting the performance of students.
 - It should be stressed that mathematics in the early childhood education should be learnt through games and activities. Over-formalized approach should be avoided.
- v. Members proposed to combine the curriculum documents of primary and junior secondary levels to ensure continuity. Mr. KWAN expressed that the revised Secondary Mathematics Curriculum (1999) would be implemented in 2001 while the revision of the Primary Mathematics Curriculum was still underway. So it was not possible to incorporate the syllabus of the primary mathematics into that of the secondary mathematics at the present moment. However, he agreed to issue an appendix indicating the objectives, key topics, etc. of the revised mathematics curriculum when it was finalized to all secondary schools for information. On the other hand, he would consider the proposal when the primary mathematics syllabus was issued. Dr. WONG recommended to wait for a few more months to see if there was any change in the academic structure.

5. To discuss the Work-plan of the Committee for the School Year (1999-2000)

- i. It was reported that the teaching packages “ Using Calculators to Investigate the Mystery of Numbers ” (Chinese Version) were distributed to schools.
- ii. The proposed schedule of the work-plan for Revised P1-P6 Mathematics Syllabus was tabled (Doc. No.6/1) for information.
- iii. The proposed schedule of the work-plan for Revised S1-S5 Mathematics Syllabus was tabled (Doc. No.6/1) for information.
- iv. The proposed work-plan was briefly explained and discussed. Most of the development tasks were in progress as scheduled.

6. Any Other Business

- i. A Letter recommending “ A New Method of Drawing an Ellipse ”
 - a. A letter regarding a New Method of Drawing an Ellipse was received. Members were requested to give comment on the contents of the letter.
 - b. Members suggested the Secretary to refer the case to the Hong Kong Association for Mathematics Education.
- ii. Forum on Mathematics Education in the School Curriculum

Members were cordially invited to support and attend the Forum on Mathematics Education. Details of the Forum were as follows:

Title of the Forum: Holistic Review of the Mathematics Curriculum

Date and Time: Thursday, 16 December 1999 (Two identical sessions)

Session I 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Session II 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Venue: Jockey Club Auditorium, HKPU, Hung Hom, Kowloon.

Target Group(s): Primary and Secondary School Teachers

Speakers: Dr. WONG King-keung

Dr. LEUNG Koon-shing

Dr. WONG Ngai-ying

Prof. CHENG Shiu-yuen

Mr. LEE Siu-hok

(Post meeting note : Chairman agreed to attend the Forum and participate in the Q & A Session.)

- iii. To set up an Ad Hoc Committee on Primary Mathematics Curriculum
 - a. It was proposed to set up an Ad Hoc Committee to review the P1-P6 Primary Mathematics Curriculum.
 - b. Composition of the Ad Hoc Committee was suggested as follows:

CDI (Convenor) 1

AID 1

HKIEd 1

Teachers 3

- c. Mr. KWAN nominated four members for the Ad Hoc Committee. Members showed no objection. They were:

Mr. FUNG Chi-yeung, Member of KLA (Mathematics)

Mr. TANG Chi-pang, Member of KLA (Mathematics)

Mr. CHAU Wai-che, Teacher of Li Sing Primary School PM

Ms. CHEN Ming-wai, Teacher of Heep Yunn Primary School AM

- d. In addition, members were requested to recommend suitable persons to be members of the Ad Hoc Committee. It would be most grateful if the nomination could reach to Mr. KWAN on or before 5 November 1999 (Friday).

(Post meeting note : Prof. CHENG nominated Ms. WONG Kit-fong, Research Assistant, HKUST as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee.)

- iv. The next meeting would be held on 17 January 2000 (Monday).

(Post meeting note : The venue for the next meeting will be Curriculum Resources Centre, G/F, 24 Tin Kwong Road, To Kwa Wan, Kowloon.)

- v. Chairman thanked all members for their participation in the meeting.

7. There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

