

**Notes of Third Meeting of
Curriculum Development Council Committee on Gifted Education (2004 – 2005)**

Date: 28 April 2005
Time: 2:45 p.m. – 6:20 p.m.
Venue: Room 114, Fung Hon Chu Gifted Education Centre

Notes:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of last meeting and matters arising

1.1 The notes of the last meeting were passed without amendment.

Report on follow-up actions taken (by Vice Chairman)

1.2 Referring to item 1.4 of the minutes, Vice Chairman reported that the practice of National Academy for Gifted and Talented Youths (NAGTY) in Britain could be adapted to set up a local gifted centre

1.3 Referring to item 2.3 (vi) of the minutes, Vice Chairman reported that:

- i. The RGC would be implemented on Cluster Basis
- ii. A set-up and recurrent fund would be provided to each school
- iii. The main sources of the funding were Fung Hon Chu Education Trust Fund, Financial Committee of LegCo and CDI
- iv. There would be 5 RGCs and 25 participating schools at the end

1.4 Referring to item 3.5 of the minutes, Vice Chairman reported that not much useful information could be collected even effort had been put in searching of relevant information on expenses on GE by different Asian countries.

1.5 Referring to item 4.2 of the minutes, Vice Chairman suggested the GE Section would start with job shadowing with the private sector.

2. Report on the newest development of the programmes at all levels (by Vice Chairman and Secretary)

2.1 Vice Chairman reported that there were 3 new series of programmes in Humanities on schedule and 130 participants involved in level 3 programmes this year. Besides, there were new programmes being developed with HKUST and CityU.

2.2 Secretary reported the newest development of level 2 activities would be focused on the networking with HKEdCity in order to promote school based gifted education among parents and teachers.

3. Report on the progress on Hall of Fame (by Vice Chairman)

3.1 Vice Chairman reported that the information of the 28 selected students with outstanding performance were ready to release. A launching ceremony was expected for roving exhibitions and to be started at the same time at different venues.

3.2 Some doubts were raised among the committee members in involving in the above event:

- (i) the Committee should not have any bearing on it as they did not have any direct contribution to the nurturing of those high achieving students.

- (ii) it would be much valuable to put more efforts in the direct provision of service to the gifted.

3.3 The Committee had made some suggestions on the approaches of Hall of Fame:

- (i) the name of Hall of Fame was too grand for the teenagers and too much of inflating their image.
- (ii) It would be better to target at encouraging students who had high potential or most promising in specific domains.
- (iii) the Section may present the Hall of Fame in digital format (e.g. video) instead of displaying at Road Show.
- (iv) the Section should capitalize on the “Road to achievements” of these students, and make them as gifted students ambassadors.

4. To explore the format/ scale/ approach of external evaluation of the 3-tier implementation mode (by Secretary)

4.1 Members were invited to comment on the external evaluation of the 3-tier implementation mode.

4.2 Members’ advice:

- (i) the Section should define the expected achievement and budget of the external evaluation. Then the evaluation report might shed light on improvements, follow-up actions should be more important.
- (ii) the Section should make use of the evaluation result so that frontline teachers could benefit from it. Therefore the evaluation might focus on the professional growth of teachers.
- (iii) setting objective(s) was the key factor of carrying a successful evaluation. One of the main objectives should target at identifying whether the changes of practice and achievement among the students, teachers and schools were due to the effect of education reform or the effort from gifted education.
- (iv) users’ feedback, change of performance in subject areas and the impact on GE socially, personally and school wise were some of the approaches to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation mode
- (v) the Section was recommended to employ some overseas experts to draft the specifications for committee’s consideration or contract out the evaluation to tertiary institutes.
- (vi) a review/consultancy study of the work done by GE after the ECR4’s recommendation was more desirable than an evaluation of the implementation mode. What we need might be a consultancy to generate advice on how to improve, to fine tune or a detour of the direction/model.
- (vii) the evaluation should be scaled down as an external review of the provision rather than an external evaluation of the 3 tier mode.

5. Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled in late June 2005.

6. A.O.B.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.