

**Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of
the CDC Committee on Science Education (2000-01)**

Date: 23 April 2001 (Monday)

Time: 2:40 – 6:30 p.m.

Venue: Conference Room, Room G06, 24 Tin Kwong Road, Kowloon.

Present:

Mr TSE Pak-hoi (Chairman)
Mr CHAN Chi-tuen
Mr CHAN Man-tak
Mr CHENG Chi-leung
Dr CHEUNG Sin-pui, Derek
Mr CHONG Shiu-Kit
Dr CHOW King-lau
Mr CHUI Hing-wa
Dr FUNG SHI Yuk-hang
Mr HO Chung-nin
Mr HO Yau-sing
Dr LEE Hau-chi
Ms LEE Kwan-ping, Carole
Ms LEE Pui-har
Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung (Vice-chairman)
Dr MAK Chi-keung
Mr OR Choi-kuen
Mr PANG Chi-chuen
Mrs TANG TSUI Sau-mei
Mr YIP Chee-kuen
Mr WONG Kin-on (Secretary)

Absent with Apologies:

Ms LEUNG Lai-mei
Dr Ng Kwok-hung

In Attendance:

Mr CHAN Pui-tin
Mr CHEUNG Chow-ming
Mr FONG Wai-hung
Mr HO Kam-moon
Mr HO Wing-chuen
Mr LEE Charn-kau
Mr LAU Yuen-tan
Ms LUI Mong-yu, Grace
Dr PANG Wing-chung
Mr SO Chi-shing
Mr YU Hon-yui

Documents sent and tabled:

SC1/4/00 Minutes of the Third Meeting of the CDC Committee on Science Education (2000-01)
SC2/4/00 Proposed Curriculum for S4-5 Biology (2003)
SC3/4/00 Proposed Secondary 4-5 Chemistry Curriculum (2003)
SC4/4/00 Proposed Curriculum for S4-5 Physics (2003)
SC5/4/00 Ad Hoc Committee on Assessment for Learning in Science
-- Major Science Education Events (April - July 2001)

Minutes:

1. **Confirmation of minutes of the Third Meeting**
 - 1.1 The minutes were confirmed without amendments.

2. Discussion on matters arising from the last meeting

2.1 Mr LEUNG Shiu-keung gave a brief report on the progress of consultation. The CDC's report on Learning to Learn would be finalised in May 2001. Each KLA would have a part in the report to highlight what could be done in schools.

2.2 Mr CHAN Pui-tin briefed on the progress of development of A-level Biology curriculum. In view of the requirement for "one curriculum document", members of existing Ad Hoc Committee on A-level Biology Syllabus wished to pass the revision work to new blood. The meeting suggested to set up a new Ad Hoc Committee (at least 6 members) to work with HKEA (Joint Working Party model) jointly on the development of curriculum and assessment guide for A-level Biology. The draft should be ready for CDCC's endorsement in Oct 2001 and for consultation in Nov 2001.

3. To discuss on assessment for learning in science education

3.1 There was discussion on the purpose of assessment. It was generally agreed that assessment is for improving learning and teaching. Issues on fairness against award for creativity and originality, formative against summative nature of assessment were raised.

3.2 Various modes of assessment such as school-based assessment, practical assessment, and public examination were discussed. Some members showed concern on the weighting of various modes of assessment.

3.3 In the discussion, the issue of "assessment criteria" came to play. As there was ambiguity in the notion of "assessment criteria", some members requested for a further clarification on the terminology.

3.4 After much deliberation, the meeting agreed to let the Ad Hoc Committee on Assessment for Learning in Science to further explore the issues. Terms of reference and guiding principle of the Ad Hoc Committee were endorsed with amendments (Appendix). A few members showed interest to join the Ad Hoc Committee. The Secretary would send e-mails to invite more members to serve in the Ad Hoc Committee.

4. To endorse the curriculum framework for S4-5 Biology, Chemistry and Physics for consultation in June 2001

4.1 Mr SO Chi-shing, Mr FONG Wai-hung and Mr YU Hon-yui briefed on the background of the curriculum framework for S4-5 Biology, Chemistry and Physics respectively. Endorsement was sought for circulation of the draft curriculum framework to schools for consultation.

4.2 In discussing the draft curriculum framework for S4-5 Biology, Chemistry and Physics, the issue on STS was raised. Members opined that STS elements should better be issue-related, skill-based and not be loaded with too many facts. The following directions needed to be reflected in the curriculum document: coherence with S1-3 Science

curriculum, "core + extension" design to cater for Core-E requirement, enhancing scientific investigation, incorporating STS element and promoting informed decisions.

- 4.3 After deliberation, the meeting in principle endorsed the draft curriculum framework for consultation in June 2001, and requested the ad hoc committees to make minor amendments to the draft curriculum framework in light of the points raised in para 4.2. The meeting further entrusted the ad hoc committees to produce the Chinese versions and exemplars for the consultation.
- 4.4 The Secretary briefed on the arrangements for consultation and invited members to attend the consultation forums scheduled in early June 2001.
- 5. Any other business**
- 5.1 Mr Or Choi-kuen concerned about the support for teachers relating to the teaching of science in transition from CMI to EMI. It was pointed out that there was a joint project of CUHK and ED to support schools switching from CMI to EMI. Some members suggested that the support could come from collaborative work with the CMI Centre of HKU.
- 5.2 Mr Or Choi-kuen questioned whether there was funding to support teachers participating in education conferences such as the Annual Conferences of Australian Science Teachers Association (CONASTA) and Australasian Science Education Research Association (ASERA). For the proposed education conferences, the meeting suggested teachers to contact District Teacher Network (DTN) for funding.
- 5.3 The Secretary reminded members of the International Conference on Science Literacy and Science Education to be held on 16-19 July 2001 at Beijing, China. Members of the Committee as well as those of the ad hoc committees were encouraged to participate in the Conference. The DTN has agreed to sponsor teachers who would make presentation in the conference.
- 5.4 The Secretary invited members to attend a sharing session on Recent Developments in Science Education of UK organised by the officers of Science Section on 11 May 01 (Fri) from 3:00-5:00 p.m.
- 5.5 The Secretary briefed on the major science activities in April – July 2001.
- 5.6 There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Confirmed on _____.

(Mr TSE Pak-hoi)
Chairman

(Mr WONG Kin-on)
Secretary