

Third Meeting of the CDC Committee on Science Education (2005-2006) (19 June 2006)

Gist of Meeting

- The minutes of the second meeting (2005-2006) were confirmed without amendment.
- Mr YT LAU reported that the provisional final draft of Curriculum and Assessment Guides for the NSS science curricula (both English and Chinese versions) were uploaded onto “334” Web Bulletin in February, and CD-Roms were produced and distributed to tertiary institutes and schools.
- An informal discussion among members was suggested to be held in late August, members of One-Committee for NSS science curricula would also be invited.
- The schedule for the development of NSS Curriculum was briefly introduced by Mr YT LAU. Three issues of concern were raised. Firstly, the re-naming of the two modes of Science for easier referencing. “Integrated Science” and “Combined Science (Phy, Chem), (Chem, Bio) & (Bio, Phy)” were proposed to replace the original Science (Integrated) and Science (Combined). Secondly, the university admission requirements would be released at the end of June 2006. It was anticipated that most departments would accept “Combined Science” as an alternative to a single science subject. Finally, the preparation for the implementation of NSS curriculum was introduced, e.g. teacher development programme to be held from 2006-09.
- The draft curriculum and assessment framework (Chapter 4 and 6) of the NSS Science curricula, namely Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science, were presented by Ms OL CHUNG, Mr WH FONG, Mr CL LO and Ms MY LUI respectively. While “Chapter 5 Assessment” was presented by Ms SK CHOY from HKEAA.
- There were some discussions on the use of standards for grades A-D in the current HKALE as reference for Level 4-5 of HKDSE, and the appropriateness of using existing public examination system to make reference for the NSS system.
- Members also questioned about whether the reporting of results on SBA and public examination be separated. Ms SK CHOY replied that the format of reporting has not yet been determined.
- It was suggested documents about the requirements in SBA to be further followed up by the Committee.
- Some members suggested further improvements in the use of language in the documents.
- There were deliberations about the availability of laboratory technicians, equipment and funding to support the implementation of SBA in schools and how to transfer the successful experiences from TAS in AL Science subjects to

facilitate the implementation of SBA in NSS.