



The Association of English Medium Secondary Schools
香港英文中學聯會

c/o Heep Yunn School 1, Farm Road, Kowloon.

Chairperson's Annual Report 2014 - 2015

Medium of Instruction Policy

The year 2014 – 2015 was a critical and worrying academic year for most of our member schools. It was the second year in which the ability of the Secondary One student intake was taken into account in deciding whether schools could adopt the use of English as their medium of instruction in classroom learning in the coming 6 years.

The executive committee continued to reflect the concerns of our member schools over the impact of the declining Secondary one student population on the medium of instruction (MOI) policy of secondary schools in the new 6-year cycle. We continued to urge the Education Bureau (“EDB”) to review the ability of primary school students to learn in an environment using English as the MOI, the 3 basic criteria (i.e. "student ability", "teacher capability" and "support measures for schools") for adopting English as the MOI at secondary schools, and in particular the percentage of eligible students who can learn in an English medium secondary school.

In December 2014, the executive committee had a lunch meeting with Mrs. Cherry Tse, former Permanent Secretary for Education, during which we expressed our concerns on the MOI policy, School insurance matter, as well as the teacher-class ratio in the post New Senior Secondary curriculum implementation era. The same concerns were reflected also to Mr. Eddie Ng, Secretary of Education, and other officials of EDB at various roundtable meetings.

The Association welcomed the announcement from EDB in July on the flexible arrangement in terms of the MOI issue. Without any change in the original MOI policy, schools were allowed to opt for keeping their existing MOI planning, despite a temporary change in the number of eligible S1 students in the past two years.

The Executive Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank all the member schools for your support to us and we urge schools to keep us informed if any of the school plans submitted for keeping the prevailing MOI in schools was rejected by EDB.

School-Business Partnership Programme

The Business-School Partnership Programme was established under the partnership of The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and The Association of English Medium Secondary Schools in the year 2001, and aims at promoting the use of English outside of schools and enhancing students' career development to prepare for their future. This Programme has been run successfully for 15 years.



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This year, there were 23 companies and 24 schools joining the Programme. Each pair of business-school partners was engaged in a series of activities including CEO talks, interview workshops, company tours, job shadowing, summer internship as well as volunteer work. Site visits, such as a two-day tour to a garment factory in Foshan, a guided tour in the restricted area of the airport, a visit to Ocean Park's veterinary facilities, and a visit to a logistics warehouse, amongst others, were arranged for the participating students. Some companies organized training sessions to prime students for the workforce. Students described the Programme as meaningful and useful for them as it provides them with knowledge which cannot be taught through lessons and textbooks. Through these activities, our students can build up their confidence, understand their own strength and weakness, and gain transferable work skills from school to the real world, so as to prepare themselves for their future career path.

Lion's International Youth Exchange Scholarship

The Association of English Medium Secondary Schools continued to be a co-organizer with the Lions Club International District 303, Hong Kong and Macau, to organize the 15th Lions International Youth Exchange Scholarship Essay competition. This Project targets at senior secondary students from Forms 4 – 6 and aims at (a) to provide youths with international exposure and an opportunity to improve their communication skills in English; (b) to promote awareness on topical issues; (c) to build up self-confidence and global vision for world class citizens of the future; and (d) to encourage young people to think analytically and write creatively.

Students participating in this competition had to submit an essay in English of around 1000 words on "Living in Harmony with Environment". Out of more than 100 entries submitted by local students, around 50 entrants were selected to attend an interview in January 2015 to present their essays orally. The top eleven finalists, together with 5 non-local contestants from Mainland China, were to prepare PowerPoint presentations and take the stage at East Point City on 7th March 2015 to showcase their presentations. Of the final 10 top positions, 7 were secured by students from our member schools, including the second and the third runners-up.

Drama Fest

The annual Drama Fest is one of the key events hosted by the Association. With the help offered by Mr. William Yip, drama workshop was organized for teachers of our member schools in January 2015 to familiarize them with the basic skills in drama production. The preliminary sessions were held in April 2015. This year, 5 performance sessions were arranged for the 40 entries for modern drama, and another



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session was held especially for the 6 Shakespearean entries. The schools awarded the most outstanding performance awards were invited to showcase their production and share their joy again at the Outstanding Performances cum Prize Presentation Ceremony held at Tsuen Wan Town Hall on 12th May 2015. Once again, we must express our gratitude to Ms Ada Kwong and all the English teachers in her subcommittee for orchestrating and coordinating the programme, and the Principals of all the host schools for their generous and continuous support in making our Drama Fest a success.

Liaison with other Education Councils, HKEAA and EDB

Our Executive Committee members also represented the Association to attend various meetings with the HKEAA and EDB. These include the Principals Liaison Meeting, the Schools Sports Liaison Committee, as well as the Advisory Committee on Administration of Public Examinations, and liaise with other education councils to share the views and concerns of our member schools on different education issues and public examinations arrangements.

To conclude my report for 2014 – 2015, I have to take this opportunity to thank all the Principals and teachers of our member schools for their support and advice provided throughout the year. My wholehearted thanks also extend to members of the Executive Committee for their dedicated effort and hard work. The road ahead is still full of changes and challenges, especially on the teacher-student ratio, provision of laboratory technicians; the increase in demand from our stakeholders, and the insufficient provision of resources from EDB. May we continue to work hand in hand to provide the best environment for the growth and development of our younger generations.

Lee Chun Hung Dave
Chairperson