



Chairman's Report 2006-07

On behalf of the *Hong Kong Association of Heads of Secondary Schools*, I am pleased to report the association's progress and achievements for the period from December 2006 to November 2007.

1. Our Vision

The *Hong Kong Association of Heads of Secondary Schools* (HKAHSS) is a self-funded, educational, nonprofit organization with a professional membership of principals as full members and vice-principals as associate members. We envisage the enhancement of professionalism among members and we strive for the promotion of quality education in Hong Kong secondary schools. We aspire to collaborate through partnership with schools, the EDB, universities and public sectors as well for the advancement of the profession.

The HKAHSS, since its establishment in 1964, has existed chiefly for the fellowship of its members and as a forum for the sharing of ideas and approaches to the vital role we share – that of educating children to the best of our ability. Indeed, for many members, the HKAHSS is the professional association they value most. Our main focuses are:

- To study new ideas and developments in education;
- To promote the exchange of views on educational theories and practices;
- To organize conferences and lectures on educational matters;
- To attempt to create informed opinions on educational matters;
- To discuss with the education authorities of the Government and other educational bodies the Association's views;
- To liaise with similar associations

2. Executive Committee

Post	Name	School
Chairman	Mr. Yip Kam Yuen, William 葉錦元	Yu Chun Keung Memorial College No.2 余振強紀念第二中學
Vice-chairperson	Mr. Wong Wai Yu, Michael 黃謂儒	Rhenish Church Pang Hok Ko Memorial College 禮賢會彭學高紀念中學
	Mrs. Lee Shek Yuk Yu, Ruth 李石玉如	Ying Wa Girls' School 英華女學校
Hon. Secretary	Mr. Ng Sui Kou 伍瑞球	Ho Fung College (Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen) 嗇色園主辦可風中學
	Ms. Lee Suet Ying 李雪英	Ho Yu College and Primary School (Sponsored by Sik Sik Yuen) 嗇色園主辦可譽中學暨可譽小學



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Post	Name	School
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. Wong Chun Man, Vincent 黃循萬	Caritas Wu Cheng-chung Secondary School 明愛胡振中中學
Committee members	Dr. Yuen Pong Yiu 阮邦耀	Tin Ka Ping Secondary School 田家炳中學
	Mr. Lam Wing Biu 林榮標	Buddhist Ho Nam Kam College 佛教何南金中學
	Mr. Ho Ki To 何奇韜	STFA Tam Pak Yu College 順德聯誼總會譚伯羽中學
Co-opted members	Ms. Kwan Wai Fong, Louise 關蕙芳	Caritas Pelletier School 明愛培立學校
	Mr. Ho Sai Mun, Stanley 何世敏	LST Wong Chung Ming Secondary School 樂善堂王仲銘中學
	Mr. Choi Sung Ki 蔡崇機	Kowloon Technical School 九龍工業學校
	Mrs. Kwok Lau Lai Ying, Grace 郭劉麗影	MFBM Chan Lui Chung Tak Memorial College 妙法寺陳呂重德紀念中學
	Sister Wong May May 黃美美修女	Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School 德貞女子中學
	Mr. Lau Chiu Yin, Peter 劉超賢	St. Peter's Secondary School 聖伯多祿中學
Task Group members	Mrs. Tam Cheung Kit Ying, Grace 譚張潔凝	St. Margaret's Co-educational English Secondary and Primary School 聖瑪加利男女英文中小學
	Mr. Li Lok Yin, Vincent 李樂然	Queen's College 皇仁書院
	Mr. Yau Yat Heem, Paul 丘日謙	HKCCCU Logos Academy 香港華人基督教聯會真道書院
	Mr. Lee Chee Wah, Roger 李志華	Ying Wa College 英華書院
	Ms. Tse Kit Fong, Heidi 謝潔芳	Pui Ying Secondary School (till 31.8.2007) 培英中學 Bethel High School (since 1.9.2007) 伯特利中學

3. Task Groups

Task Groups were set up to monitor, address and resolve various issues. Action would be taken where appropriate for the Association and its members. The groups were classified by their nature into two main categories, namely Internal Affairs and Current Educational Issues.

3.1 Internal Affairs

- | <u>Task Groups</u> | <u>Conveners</u> |
|---|------------------|
| • Continuing Professional Development for Members | Sr. Wong May-may |
| • Continuing Professional Development for Associate Members | Mr. Vincent Li |



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Happy Hour Forum | Mrs. Grace Kwok |
| • Website Maintenance and development | Mr. William Yip |
| • Annual Conference, AGM, Newsletter | Ms. Lee Suet-ying |

3.2 Current Educational Issues

<u>Task Groups</u>	<u>Conveners</u>
• NSS and SBA	Mr. Stanley Ho
• Class restructuring and Class size	Dr. Yuen Pong-yiu
• Principals' and Teachers' Workload	Mr. Choi Sung-ki
• Integrated Education	Mr. Michael Wong
• Digital Environment for Education	Mr. William Yip

4. Membership

At the moment, we have a membership of over 391 full members and 116 associate members from Government, Subsidized, Grant, Direct-Subsidy and Private schools. As a professional organization, we take pride in representing the majority of secondary school principals. Subscription will normally be done in November, but we also accept new members at any time of the year. Membership has still been growing over the past few years.

5. Annual General Meeting

The AGM for 2005-06 was held on 7th December 2006 at Crystal Room of the YMCA International House, 23 Waterloo Road, Kowloon. Over 130 Principals and Vice-Principals attended this big annual event. We were pleased to have Dr. Peter Hill, the Secretary General of the HKEAA, to share with us his views on “*Reform in Assessment: An opportunity for School Leaders?*” Participants were keen to receive ideas and exchange views with Dr. Hill. His insights on various initiatives regarding assessments, both at the system and school levels, were very well received.

6. Meetings and Publications

- The Executive Committee held 10 general meetings during the year (dated 7/12/2006, 8/1/2007, 25/1/2007, 26/2/2007, 29/3/2007, 27/4/2007, 25/6/2007, 31/8/2007, 24/9/2007, 30/10/2007),
- The Executive Committee held a professional retreat on 11/8/2007 and a special meeting on 11/12/2007.
- The Executive Committee takes this opportunity to thank Sister Wong (Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School) and Mr. Michael Wong (Rhenish Church Pang Hok Ko Memorial College) for their courtesy in arranging the meeting venue.
- We issued 4 newsletters (dated 5/3/2007, 3/5/2007, 27/9/2007 and 9/11/2007).
- Our website <http://www.hkahss.edu.hk> has been well maintained.



7. Continuing Professional Development

A CPD program for members was held on 30.4.2007 and the theme was 從行政角度看「新高中學制」及「其他學習經歷」的準備。 Over 300 Principals and teachers attended this event at Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School, indicating a great concern from the front-line principals and teachers. Special thanks must go to the following speakers:-

1. Mr. Liu Ah Chuen, Principal of Christian Alliance SW Chan Memorial College
2. Mr. Ho Ki-to, Principal of STFA Tam Pak Yu College
3. Rev. Jenny Nam and Mrs. Margaret Chan, Principal and Vice-Principal of St. Stephen's Girls College.

8. Annual Conference 2007

- This year's Annual Conference was held on 8.6.2007 in Crystal Hall of the YMCA International House, Kowloon. The theme of the Conference was "*Moral Leadership – the Role of a Principal*". We were pleased to have two profound speakers in this area — Rev. Dr. Ng Chun Chi and Mr Cheung Wing Lam Linus, to deliver their keynote speeches and share with us their insights from different perspectives.
- Over 160 principals attended the Conference, a thorough discussion on this topic was carried out during the open forum and the feedback was well received by members. Buffet lunch was then followed.

9. Happy Hour Forum

- Happy Hour Forum has been a unique in-house platform for dialogue and sharing among members on current educational issues.
- With the commencement of the New Senior Secondary (NSS) curriculum in 2009, we face the new challenge – implementing Liberal Studies as the core subject. Happy Hour Forum was organized on 2.11.2007 and the theme was "How to administer the new core subject of Liberal Studies?" Over 150 Principals and Vice-Principals attended this event. We wish to thank the following Principals who share with us the good practices in this respect:-
 1. Sister Wong May-may, Principal of Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School
 2. Mr. Vincent Li, Principal of Queen's College
 3. Mr. Lau Ho-keung, Principal of Sha Tin Methodist College

10. Policies and Issues discussed during the year

10.1 School-based Assessment (SBA)

- We wrote a letter dated 1.3.2007 to Dr. Peter Hill, the Secretary General of HKEAA, to express our deep concern about the recent proposal on the strategic implementation of SBA. We are aware that the consultation has all along been largely fragmented and



subject-based in approach. We see the important need to examine the proposed overall SBA framework from a more holistic and cross-subject perspective.

- Representatives of the Executive Committee met Dr. Peter Hill and his colleagues on 15.3.2007. During the meeting, HKEAA made use of simulation materials to address the concerns mentioned in our earlier letter.
- We wrote another letter dated 27.6.2007 to Dr. Peter Hill to stress our views that the effective implementation of SBA should be brought about in the context of NSS curriculum. A holistic approach, which ensures cross-subject examination, putting students' interests first, is strongly recommended. We also advocated that the learning needs and personal growth of students should be taken into careful consideration, and that teacher training with a focus on the overall framework and detailed action plan should be arranged systematically and territory-wide.
- In reply, Dr. Hill fully agreed with us that the benefit and interest of students should be of paramount importance and that the HKEAA will make every effort to ensure that the public assessment for the HKDSE, including SBA, is fully aligned with curriculum intentions and has a positive impact on teaching and learning. In addition, the Authority will undertake certain development work (clearly spelt out in the 2-page reply letter dated 25.7.2007) to support the implementation of SBA

10.2 Inclusive Education and Students with Special Education Needs (SEN)

- Representatives of the Executive Committee met Mrs. Fanny Lam, Principal Assistant Secretary, EDB, on 19.9.2007 to discuss the issue of Inclusive Education. The EDB was preparing a series of training programs for principals and teachers. Other support measures were under consideration and would be announced in due course.
- We met Mrs. Fanny Lam and Mr. Francis Yu again on 9.10.2007 to further investigate the possibility of arranging different types of SEN under the SSPA system. While we welcome the training programs and support measures, we are more concerned about the effectiveness and quality of education that a 'main stream' school could provide.

10.3 Small-class Teaching & Reduction of Class-size

- We made suggestions to Mr. Michael Suen about the gradual reduction of student numbers at the Secondary Level, with the ultimate class size of 30 per class in 2011/2012.
- A Joint Statement was signed and sent to the Mr. Donald Tsang, the Chief Executive, and Mr. Michael Suen, the Secretary for Education, dated 2.11.2007.
- Signatory parties of this joint statement include:-
 1. Association of Hong Kong Chinese Middle Schools
 2. Hong Kong Association of Heads of Secondary Schools



3. Hong Kong Direct Subsidy Scheme Schools Council
4. Association of English-medium Secondary Schools
5. Hong Kong Subsidized Secondary Schools Council
6. Caput Schools Council
7. Grant Schools Council

10.4 NSS Class Structure and Staff Establishment

- A survey on NSS Class Structure and Staff Establishment was conducted in May 2007 through a 2-page questionnaire sent out to members.
- We received 213 replies from members. Views and comments on the following three areas were collected (1) 對教統局 三不批 的意見, (2) 對高中學制下改變班級的意見 and (3) 希望中學校長會能跟進的相關事項
- A letter dated 1.7.2007 which reflected the majority views from members was sent to Mr. Donald Tsang and copied to Mr. Michael Suen for their reference and necessary action. A reply letter dated 13.7.2007 from CE's office was then received.

11. Professional Dialogues with EDB

11.1 The Chairman attended a dinner gathering hosted by Mr. Raymond Wong, PSEM, on 5.2.2007. It was rather a social gathering in nature, nonetheless Mr. Wong shared a little with us his educational vision.

11.2 Meeting Mr. Michael Suen, Secretary for Education, on 7.9.2007

- Representatives of the Executive Committee met Mr. Michael Suen and his colleagues Mrs. Fanny Lam, Mrs. Michelle Wong and Ms. Pricilla To in the Central Government Office on 7.9.2007.
- The key issues we brought forward were:-
 1. Small-class teaching
 2. New Senior Secondary (NSS) Academic System
 3. Inclusive Education
 4. Principals' professional development

11.3 Meeting Mr. Steve Lee, Principal Assistant Secretary, on 10.10.2007.

- The key issues discussed include professional training needs for (1) newly appointed principals and (2) serving principals.

11.4 Meeting Mrs. Betty Ip, Mrs. Michelle Wong, Ms. Yip Ling-bik on 15.10.2007

- The key issues discussed include (1) holistic plan for small-class teaching, (2) our proposal on reduction of class size, (3) teachers strength in the double cohort year, (4) class structure and room facilities and (5) other support measures.



12. Partnership with EDB and other organizations

12.1 AHSS as supporting organizations in the following activities:-

- A.W. Watson Group HK Student Sports Award
- Innovation Festival 2007
- 第七屆《基本法》多面體—全港中學生辯論比賽
- Future Young Leaders Forum
- New Zealand Student Ambassador Selection Programme

12.2 Promote Principals' Professional Development Programme organized by EDB

- Forum on *Learning to Lead Change* by Professor Michael Fullan
- 第九期中學校長研修班

12.3 Committee on Respect Our Teachers Campaign (CROTC)

- The Chairmanship for the CROTC was ended on 31.3.2007. Representative from Subsidized Primary Schools Council would take up the Chairmanship taking effect from 1.4.2007 till 31.3.2008.
- AHSS would remain as an active member for the captioned committee.

13. Representation in various organization and professional bodies

Steering Committee on the Implementation of 3+3	- Mr. Michael Wong
Secondary School Places Allocation	- Sr. Wong May-may
Committee on Respect Our Teachers' Campaign	- Mr. Vincent Wong & Mr. William Yip
Future Young Leaders' Forum Advisory	- Mrs. Grace Tam & Mr. William Yip
HK Council of Social Service Planning Committee	- Mr. Michael WONG
Hong Kong Teachers' Centre Advisory Committee	- Mr. Ho Ki-to
Mingpao School Reporter Scheme	- Mr. William Yip
Fun Science	- Mr. Lam Wing-biu
粵語正音運動	- Sr. Wong May-may

14. The Road Ahead and Future Development of AHSS

We will maintain and further strengthen our position and identity as an independent and professional organization. Due to rapid changes in Hong Kong education environment and ecology, AHSS will involve more in the discussion of policy issues, keeping abreast of the new development both in school administration and leadership. We will also strengthen our partnership with the EDB and tertiary institutions on matters regarding Principals' professional development. We will improve our connection with principals locally and with other similar associations globally. We truly need your support so that AHSS can represent the views and opinions of principals and vice-principals for such a wide variety of issues and in many different forums.



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15. Vote of thanks

During the past few years, we are challenged by the ever-changing demands in quality education, both social and professional considerations. Threats and opportunities are around us, including NSS, SBA, SEN, class size and many others. Nonetheless, we are proud to carry out our commitment to professional development for members. We connect very well with the EDB, Universities and other similar associations. We will extend our professional support to both full and associate members in the coming year. We sincerely invite you all to join hands together and to provide quality leadership to schools. For me as Chairman, it is truly my privilege to work for the Association and it is my honour to have very genuine fellowship with members of the Executive Committee for their unfailing assistance and encouragement. It is also a blessing for all of us, the Executive Committee, to have your full support and participation throughout the year. In the year ahead, we would continue our efforts in making the Association a platform for professional sharing and a space for principals and academics.

YIP Kam-yuen William

Chairman

13th December, 2007