

The 2018 Curriculum Garden for the Teaching Community

Quality Senior High School and Pioneer School Course Expo

(Courtesy of You-Ning Wang at the Division of Academic and Vocational Senior High Education)



The "2018 Curriculum Garden for the Teaching Community"—the Quality Senior High School and Pioneer School Course Expo, organized by the K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, was held at Teaching Complex Building 2 at the Chang Jung Christian University (CJCU) on October 6, 2018. The event was planned by the National Taiwan Normal University and the National Sihu Senior High School, and jointly held by the Bureau of Education of the Tainan City Government, the Education Bureau of the Kaohsiung City Government, the Department of Education of the Pingtung County Government, the pioneer senior high schools in each district, and CJCU. A total of 200 and more senior high schools participated in this event with nearly 600 participants, demonstrating the front-line educators' active participation in the new curricular guidelines and achievements.

The "Quality Senior High School Enhancement Program" aims to promote the momentum of senior high schools. With the professional counseling and teacher enabling and growth

enhancing mechanisms, the teaching quality are strengthened, thereby enhancing the overall educational efficiency of a school and forging school characteristics. The short-term goal is to encourage students to enter the school in the proximity, explore their interests, effectively ease their pressure of pursuing further studies, and steadily implement the policy objectives of the 12-year National Basic Education, while the long-term goal is to improve the quality of the citizenship and the national competitiveness.

To respond to the new curricular guidelines, since the academic year of 2016, the Action Plan for Counseling Pioneer General Senior High Schools for the 12-year National Basic Education Curricular Guidelines has been combined with the " Quality Senior High School Enhancement Program" to serve as a professional support system for schools to implement their new curricular guidelines. Into the academic year of 2018, a total of 240 quality senior high schools and 74 pioneer general senior high schools country-wide, nearly 70% of the total, have received subsidies from the programs; the pioneer schools are the engines in their own districts to assist schools in implementing the curricular guidelines in each district and developing courses accordingly.

The new curricular guidelines will be implemented in the academic year of 2019. In the last bit of the journey, each school is stepping up efforts planning and implementing relevant measures step-by-step, including arrangements of courses and teaching resources, understanding laws and regulations and supporting measures, completing a table of credits and a three-year course plan, and launching pilot courses in line with the new curricular guidelines. It is believed that the new courses in line with the new curricular guidelines developed by each school will provide students with more diverse opportunities for adaptive learning, so as to explore themselves and develop the capabilities to prepare for the future. The central and local educational authorities are the most important supporting forces for schools and teachers in implementing the new curricular guidelines. At present, the six special municipalities have established course development centers and formed new strategic alliances to showcase the

collaboration between the central and local governments; relevant supporting measures for the new curricular guidelines have been completed gradually.

To inform the public of the progress of the new curricular guidelines, the "Public Lectures by Principals and Professional Feedback," "Teachers' Dynamic Lecturing," and "Static Poster Display" were organized at the Expo, at which nine principals from different districts of the country were to give lectures publicly, teachers gave dynamic lectures on 30 new courses in line with the new curricular guidelines from each district, and more than 200 schools showcased the static poster exhibition to promote the new curricular guidelines. In the process, the principals' public lectures not only showed the determination to pursue reforms as the head of teachers, but also demonstrated a shift from the traditional executive leadership to the role of creating quality course development with teachers.

By combining the highlights of the curriculum of the quality senior high schools and pioneer schools, the Expo presented the schools' organizational dynamism through five mascots and expressed support for the courses on quality development with a short film, so as to enable the public to have a better understanding of the transformation of the senior high school courses in line with the new curricular guidelines. For more information and the latest news, please visit the "Quality High School Enhancement Program and Pioneer School Course Expo" website (<https://c-fair.saprogram.info>). The streaming platform of the public lectures given by the principals is <https://m.facebook.com/PrincipalPublicTeaching/>; people from all walks of life who care about education are most welcome to visit the platform and support the implementation work of the new curricular guidelines by the senior high schools nationwide.