

Student Counseling Center of K-12 EA of MOE Unveiled

(Article by Perng Jhih-wei, Division of Student Affairs and Campus Security)

The Unveiling Ceremony of Student Counseling Center of K-12 Education Administration of Ministry of Education is to be held in National Chung Hsing High School on May 8, 2015 (Friday), hosted by K-12 Education Administration of Ministry of Education (abbreviated as K-12 EA of MOE). This Student Counseling Center of K-12 EA of MOE, a final pillar of the three-level prevention system, will work as a partner in school counseling in the future and assist the progress of student counseling affairs, will be formally established in this ceremony.

Starting from 1991, MOE successively promoted Six-Year School Counseling Program, Chao Yang Program (one of the educational programs), Program of Integrated System for Instruction, Discipline and Guidance, and Friendly Campus Reconstruction Program to fortify counseling experiences and skills for teachers and enhance Teacher-Counselors' knowledge and skills, thereby facilitating the implementation of school counseling. Nevertheless, our ever-changing society implies dramatic challenges, creating new youth problems associated with it. In view of this, MOE formulated the Act of Student Guidance and Counseling, which was put into force on November 12, 2014. In order to establish a resource platform of the three-level prevention system: prevention, intervention, and adaptation, K-12 EA initiated the setup of Student Counseling Center of K-12 EA. After the unveiling today, the center in the organizer school--National Chung Hsing High School—was officially established. General-Director of K-12 EA Wu Ching-shan, committee members, school representatives, distinguished guests and the other people, adding up to 200 people or so, attended the unveiling ceremony, witnessing a new milestone set up in school counseling.

The Student Counseling Center of K-12 EA performs the same functions as the mental health center in the earlier days. However, it is also expected to provide adequate guiding and counseling for general and vocational high school students and relevant consultations for teachers and parents, upon the implementation of the three-level prevention system: prevention, intervention, and adaptation. It is hoped that the students with problems of maladjustment, mal-behavior that happens recurrently, or traumatic experiences, can get adequate counseling, thereby effectively solving students' problems.

Director-General Wu Ching-shan said that the full realization of the three major visions given in the Twelve-Year National Fundamental Education Year--to enhance junior high and elementary school teaching quality, to fulfill each student's goal, and to strengthen national competitiveness—will require the establishment of Student Counseling Center of K-12 EA of MOE, which adopts a student-oriented WISER model built on the three-level prevention system. WISER model can strengthen inside and outside school system cooperation once the prevention system is put to work. Under this process, Student Counseling Center, guidance and counseling professionals, and teacher-counselors who work in schools together form a Golden Triangle. Through systematic cooperation within the golden triangle, it can serve as a boat rudder that keeps school children company and helps them step toward a happy future as well as a gardener that shoulders the responsibility of cultivating the backbone of our country in the future.

Finally, Director-General Wu Ching-shan restated that fulfilling each student's goal and transforming them into a colossal amount of social capital would take a concerted effort. The establishment of Student Counseling Center helps to turn the school counseling into a new chapter. K-12 EA will continue to shoulder its long term duty--with the expectation to create a new epoch of counseling as well as friendly and quality campus.