

2018 National Education Department Commissioners' Meeting: Education, Wisdom, and Sustainability

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The Ministry of Education held the 2018 National Education Department Commissioners' Meeting in Changhua County on July 24 and 25, 2018. By building on the practical and innovative spirit in 2017, this meeting revolved around the idea of "education, wisdom, and perseverance" and gathered the central and local governments, schools, and teachers to work together to promote and implement the curriculum guidelines of the 12-year National Basic Education through dialoguing, listening, communicating, and sharing regarding the experience of the preparation and transformation. Hopefully, a new blueprint for the new curriculum guidelines based on autonomy, interaction, and reciprocity will be created in the spirit of community co-preparation.

The 12-year National Basic Education Curriculum Guidelines is expected to be formally launched in the academic year of 2019. The education bureaus and departments at the central and local levels as well as schools at all levels have completed the preparations for all the supporting measures for promoting and implementing the 12-year National Basic Education, all the while having accumulated a wealth of experience regarding transformation to the new curriculum guidelines. At this meeting, entitled “Promotion and Implementation of the 12-year National Basic Education Curriculum Guidelines,” elementary, junior, and senior high schools were invited to share their experiences regarding systematic planning, flexible learning, teacher co-preparation communities in the aspects of course development and teacher professional autonomy. The course development aims to outline the vision for each course, plan and design flexible learning courses, and establish student-centered courses. Autonomous teacher professional groups will forge collision of diverse ideas and brainstorming among teachers to enhance professional teaching competence and expand teaching horizons through cooperation, to meet the future challenges brought by the new curriculum guidelines.

In addition to the central issues, on the first day of the meeting, the Head of the Education Department of the Changhua County Government was invited to share the characteristics of local education. Then, a special report was conducted on the topic of “The 12-year National Basic Education Review and Supporting Measures” on the second day of the meeting. First, the Ministry of Education explained the review and supporting measures for the curriculum guidelines of the 12-year National Basic Education, including the status of the review of the new curriculum guidelines, review and planning of textbooks, supporting measures for schools at all levels, and examination and enrollment that will be adjusted accordingly, so that the heads of all education bureaus and departments would have a better grasp of the preparation and planning stage of the curriculum guidelines. Additionally, the Education Bureau of the

Taichung City Government and the Miaoli County Government were invited to share the experience of how the local governments cooperated with schools, which has highlighted the pioneers' achievements in implementing the new curriculum guidelines.

At this meeting, the Ministry of Education and the national education bureaus and departments shared the experience of promoting and implementing the 12-year National Basic Education, engaged in communication and dialogue on education policies to reach a consensus on the education blueprint, and helped to develop the sharing and reciprocal spirit among the central and local governments, schools, and front-line teachers. Hopefully, we will develop the next-stage learner-centered education policies, promote the 12-year National Basic Education Curriculum Guidelines at a steady pace, and ignite teachers' enthusiasm to teach, and students' willingness to learn, in the spirit of "wisdom-based cooperation" and sustainable development, so as to take on challenges of the new generation and open a new chapter for education collectively.