

## **Committee Members of 2nd Youth Advisory Council, K-12 Education**

### **Administration Have Been Selected, Consistent**

#### **Fostering of Students' Rights to Expression and Participation**

(Courtesy of Chen, Rong-Jing at the Division of Student Affairs and Campus Security)

In order to motivate young people to participate in the public affairs of education, the K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, set up a Youth Advisory Council in 2019 and selected the first-term council members from junior high school, senior high school and vocational school, as well as college and university, including non-school-based experimental education institution, with each type of academic institution properly represented in this council. The selection of 13 members for the second term of the council has been completed this year. Four regular meetings will be held in succession. Through the diverse opinions expressed by the younger generation and feasibility studies, a better educational environment will be created.

The Youth Advisory Council solicits the advice of the younger generation on education and public affairs, making education more student-centered. After the term of the first-term council member expired, 13 members of the second-term council were selected after three stages of selection process, and the register of members was announced on March 31, 2020. In addition to representatives from senior high school, vocational school, as well as college and university, there are also one representative from junior high school and one from a non-school-based experimental education institution, demonstrating the diverse composition of the council.

After the releasing of the register, the council members will discuss proposals on the issues of concern and further discuss them in regular meetings held during their term of office. Where a proposal is resolved, it will be sent to relevant departments for further evaluation and resolution, as a way to implement education policies and plans that are in accord with children's rights and interests.

Peng, Fu-Yuan, Director-General of K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, said that with the continuous opening and progress of the democratic society, diversity of student learning has been increasingly valued, and the importance of student affairs in 12-year compulsory education has gradually increased. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has included students' rights to expression and participation. He recognized the active participation of the first-term Youth Advisory Council in education and public affairs. He also has high expectation of the second-term Council members, believing that they will put into practice such spirit so as to spark more diverse opinions and creativity while enabling students to continue to advance their concepts of citizenship and democracy as well as the rule of law.