



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局  
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To Parents and Students of All Government Secondary Schools,

Dear Parents and Students,

We are always committed to creating a school environment filled with love and care, so that our students will nurture sincere friendship with mutual support, accommodation and understanding in the course of learning and growing up together. We also work towards enabling them to develop their potentials, build up confidence and form positive values under the guidance and encouragement of principals and teachers.

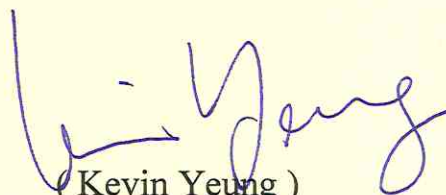
However, the recent social disputes have brought emotional disturbances on many of our students, making it difficult for them to focus on their learning. The radical behaviour of some students has brought great pressure and anxiety upon others and sometimes even conflict within the student community. Teachers and parents' hearts ache for those who got themselves arrested or injured in the course of participating in political activities outside the school. I appeal to students to take a step back, calm down and think for a while and appreciate the love and care of teachers and parents, and not hurt family bonding, friendship or teacher-student relationship because of participation in these activities. I also appeal to parents to join hands with principals and teachers in providing appropriate emotional support to students, and providing proper guidance for their healthy development.

The Education Bureau, being the school sponsoring body of government schools, has been liaising with schools on how to cope with the impact of the social events on students and their learning. Principals and teachers have been upholding professionalism in maintaining normal operation of schools and protecting students from disturbances. I hope parents and students can join hands with us in maintaining a harmonious school environment so that students can focus on learning. Schools are places for students to learn. They should not be used as platforms for expressing political demands. I would like to reiterate to all parents and students that students should not organise or participate in activities aimed at expressing political stance (including class boycott, singing, chanting slogans, forming human chains and other related activities) or distribute political propaganda items in schools. All activities held in schools must have prior approval of the school management. School uniforms represent the school as well as all of the schools' teachers and students. Misbehaving in school uniform would tarnish the reputation of one's school. It is inappropriate for students to be in school uniform when they participate in political activities outside school as by so doing they would give others the mistaken impression that they represent the stance of all their teachers and fellow students. Schools will continue to handle matters relating to breach of school regulations according to the prevailing school-based guidance and disciplinary mechanism.

Furthermore, Government schools have always been committed to moral education. In particular, I would like to remind students to respect oneself and others, to refrain from using foul language and to distinguish right from wrong so that they will be law-abiding and responsible citizens. Under no circumstances should students disrupt social order. Recently, some students intentionally obstructed train operations, blocked road traffic by their physical selves or with other objects or behaved in other disruptive ways. Not only are these actions extremely dangerous, they are in serious breach of regulations or even the law. They also pose a threat to everyone (including the perpetrators themselves) and are totally unacceptable. I call on students to cherish themselves and others. I appeal to parents to dissuade your children from participating in any dangerous or unlawful activities the aftermath of which would haunt their entire life.

I sincerely wish to join hands with all students, parents, principals and teachers to meet the challenges ahead and protect campuses, so that students can study in a safe and orderly environment and enjoy a pleasurable, harmonious and caring school life.

Yours sincerely,



(Kevin Yeung)  
Secretary for Education