



# NATIONAL YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

## Visit to Singapore by School Leaders of the Quality Schools in Hong Kong (QSHK) from 27 to 31 January 2019

A delegation of school principals, vice-principals, heads of department from the Quality Schools in Hong Kong and the Chinese University of Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research visited Singapore from 27 to 31 January 2019. The visitation programme was jointly organized by the Yuen Long Merchants Association Secondary School, Hong Kong and the National Youth Achievement Award Council of Singapore.



Students presenting their projects at Springfield Secondary School.

The objective of the visit is to provide school leaders in Hong Kong an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of Singapore's school system and how Singapore provides students with a conducive environment for learning, nurturing and developing leadership, character building in partnership with the parent support groups in order to achieve our desired outcome for a holistic education and youth leadership development in Singapore.



Hong Kong's school leaders observing the STEM programme at Chung Cheng High School (Main).



Mrs Linda Chan, Principal, The School of Science and Technology briefing on her school projects.

During their visit, the delegation visited Springfield Secondary School and Chung Cheng High School (Main) to learn and observe best practices in students' all-rounded development. The delegation also visited the ESSEC Business School, Asia-Pacific to understand their Global BBA Programme where students are required to complete a one-month humanitarian (social service) project. The delegation was very impressed by the quality of Singapore's school leaders and teachers who have great passion in their work and a strong responsibility in preparing their students for the future.

*"I would like to express our gratitude to the NYAA Singapore's support towards the visit of school leaders from Hong Kong to Singapore. We have gained a lot from our visit to the NYAA Council to have an in-depth understanding on the development of students through the NYAA Leadership Programme."*

**Dr Tong Choi Wai**  
Project Director  
Quality School Improvement Project  
Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Hong Kong Institute of Educational Research



Visiting the Aerospace Hub at ITE College Central.

The delegation also visited the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) College Central to learn how ITE prepares their students for skills needed for their future career. Besides providing their students with technology and skills training for the job market, ITE also teaches students the importance of social responsibility. The School of Science and Technology (SST), a specialized independent school, is where students gain a strong foundation in STEM. The delegation was really impressed with the strong government support and the quality of technical education offered by the ITE through their interaction with senior management of ITE College Central. It was an eye-opening experience for the Hong Kong school leaders.



Visiting ITE College Central hosted by Dr Ang Kiam Wee, Principal of ITE College Central.

One of the highlights of the visit was to visit the Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST), Ministry of Education. Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching, Deputy Director-General of Education (Professional Development) and Executive Director, Academy of Singapore Teachers, Ministry of Education provided the visiting school leaders an overall perspective on the in-service training programmes and to elaborate on the philosophy of Teacher Leadership and Teacher Ownership.



Presentation on Singapore school system by Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching, Deputy Director-General of Education and Executive Director, Academy of Singapore Teachers.

*“We have also learned much from the Hong Kong education system. The interaction with the educators from Hong Kong showed that while we are from different countries, our mission is the same. We put our heart into the mission because the mission is always in our heart.”*

**Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching**  
Deputy Director-General of Education & Executive Director,  
Academy of Singapore Teachers  
Ministry of Education

AST has established a teacher-led culture among the educators. The systematic implementation of networked learning communities has led to a higher level of professional discourse among the teachers. The delegates were also impressed with the three career tracks, namely the teaching track, the leadership track and the specialist track. This has enabled the educators to do what they are best at and enjoy doing it.



The Hong Kong school leaders delegation with Mrs Chua-Lim Yen Ching, Deputy Director-General of Education and Executive Director, Academy of Singapore Teachers.



Presentation by Professor Reetika Gupta, Academic Director, Global BBA Programme, Asia Pacific of ESSEC Business School.

*“The visit to Singapore was very fruitful and the presentations and sharing by various institutions were very inspiring and prompted us to rethink our role in nurturing our students in Hong Kong.”*

**Mr Yau Chi Leung**  
Principal  
Yuen Long Merchants Association  
Secondary School

The final visit for the delegation was a presentation at the National Youth Achievement Award Council where the delegation learned of the integrated approach in the development of students through a very close and strong partnership between the schools, the institutes of higher learning and the NYAA Council. Through the close partnership, they were able to groom and nurture many young community leaders for Singapore at both the national and international level. The leadership and contributions of these young people who made an impact at the national and international level have made Singapore, their institutions and the NYAA proud.



Dialogue session on Leadership Development with Mr James Soh, Executive Director, National Youth Achievement Award at the NYAA Council.

The visit to Singapore by the school leaders from Hong Kong was a success. The delegation was impressed on the quality of school leaders and teachers and they could learn more about Singapore system, especially student leadership development, through partnerships with external organizations such as the National Youth Achievement Award Council through more exchanges in the future.



Visit to the National Youth Achievement Award Secretariat.



Lunar New Year's celebration with a Lo Hei luncheon hosted by the NYAA Council.

The visit inspired the Hong Kong school leaders to rethink their leadership role in nurturing and preparing their students for the challenges ahead. The delegation thanked the Singapore Academy of Teachers, Ministry of Education, National Youth Achievement Award Council and the institutions they have visited for their warm hospitality and their candid sharing which was very helpful as they review and strengthen their teaching skills.



Visit to the ArtScience Museum.

Besides the very tight visitation programme, the delegation managed to squeeze some time to visit some of Singapore's iconic places of interest.

***"I was very touched by the work done by Singapore on the holistic development of students, it is really very meaningful and touching. We hope schools in Hong Kong and Singapore can establish more exchanges in the future."***

***Ms Wong Lee Lee  
Principal, Bishop Hall Jubilee School  
Hong Kong***



Enjoying the greenery at Gardens by the Bay.

***"We are all impressed by the efforts of the Singapore government in supporting education, and NYAA's passion in nurturing young people into international leaders who commit themselves to serving the nation and the world."***

***Ms Elisa Wong  
Vice Principal  
Shun Lee Catholic Secondary School***