

九龍華仁書院

中國香港特別行政區
九龍窩打老道 56 號
電話 Telephone: (852) 2384 1038



WAH YAN COLLEGE, KOWLOON

56 Waterloo Road, Kowloon,
Hong Kong S. A. R., CHINA
傳真 Facsimile: (852) 2770 5095

A Jesuit Secondary School

4 March 2011

Mr. Chow Kwun Tung Barry
Chairman
Students' Council
(Class 5J)

Dear Barry,

Re: Improvement of Small Class Teaching

Thank you for your (unsigned) letter dated 3 March 2011 about the improvement of Small Class Teaching (SCT) in our School, and for coming to talk to me and the Students' Association's (S.A.) President Mr. Chen Ming Hei Jacky during lunchtime today.

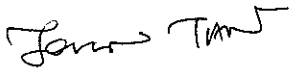
You mentioned in your letter the need for the S.A. to establish channels of communication with us on this issue. We first discussed the relevant proposal with the President and Vice Presidents of the S.A. on 5 November 2010, and presented the proposal to all students on 8 November 2010, asking them to channel any relevant views to me directly or through the S.A.. We have not received any response channeled in either way for almost four months, until some Form 6 students told us last Friday (25 Feb 2011, after the School Management Committee had made a decision) that they did not want the reduction in student intake featured in the adopted proposal. Ms. Eva Chau and I immediately helped them to prepare for a forum that was to take place during lunch time on the same day, and prepared boards for students to put up their written opinions afterwards. We arrived at the Hall at 12:30pm, but the students eventually decided to cancel the forum at 1:15pm due to what they saw as a low turnout.

As discussed with you and Jacky earlier today, I shall explain the features and rationale of the adopted proposal, one that carries most of the main features in the original proposal, in the upcoming assembly on 7 March 2011 as originally scheduled. Three practical issues related to the improvement of SCT need to be decided soon, and they are (1) the additional electives available to F.4 students next year, (2) the revised maximum group size of electives for F.4 next year, and (3) the choice of homerooms of the five additional classes next year. I shall explain these issues next Monday, and we welcome students to express their views to us through the S.A. (which will organize

and summarise these views for us) before the two practical deadlines as mentioned to you today. We share your view of the importance of collaboration and communication between the S.A. and us, so if the S.A. decides to organise an activity to facilitate their collection of views and needs our participation, we shall again try our best to contribute. As you say, it is important for students to understand the facts before making a judgement, and we as educators will try our best to satisfy such needs, but students need to voice out their additional needs or views promptly if they find the basic information given to them is not adequate for them to make judgement.

Thank you for your care for the School.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John K. Tan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

John K. Tan (Dr.)
Principal

c.c. Mr. Chen Ming Hei Jacky, President of the S.A.