

EDB holds “Set Sail for Hong Kong – International Assessments” Ceremony (with photos)

The Education Bureau (EDB) held the "Set Sail for Hong Kong – International Assessments" Ceremony today (February 27) to encourage the education sector and students to actively participate in international assessments, showcasing Hong Kong's educational excellence and the exceptional capabilities of its students. About 450 principals, teachers, students and parents attended.

Officiating at the ceremony, the Secretary for Education, Dr Choi Yuk-lin, expressed her gratitude to all stakeholders for their efforts in nurturing students. She encouraged schools and students to actively participate in international assessments, which could allow schools to gain a deep understanding of factors affecting students' study with a view to formulating more effective education strategies.

Dr Choi also encouraged students who would be representing Hong Kong in the international assessments. She noted that their participation was not only meant to test their abilities; it was also set out to be an invaluable learning journey. She said that she hoped students will give full play to their strength in embracing various experiential learning opportunities to bring glory to Hong Kong.

At the ceremony, student representatives from 18 districts led a procession into the venue, carrying the designs of the winning entry of the Mascot Design Competition for Hong Kong's Participation in International Assessments. The procession was followed by the presentation of awards for the competition. The winning entries incorporated a variety of elements, with designs that reflected the significance of Hong Kong's participation in international assessments, showcasing students' creativity and talents. The competition received enthusiastic responses, with over 800 students from more than 90 secondary schools participating.

In addition, student representatives shared their learning experiences from past participation in international assessments. They said that the assessments gave them opportunities to apply knowledge, think and solve real-life problems. These experiences had not only broadened their horizons but also motivated them to take a more proactive approach to learning and apply what they have learnt in daily life. They encouraged future student participants in international assessments to cherish these learning experiences.

For more than two decades, Hong Kong has been participating in various international assessments, such as the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study and

Progress in International Reading Literacy Study. For this event, the EDB also invited the PISA 2025 Project Team from the University of Hong Kong to introduce various experiential learning activities related to international assessments. These included educational activities for students and professional development programmes for teachers, aimed at deepening the understanding of international assessments among schools, teachers and students, as well as enriching students' learning experiences.

The Main Study of PISA 2025 will be conducted from late May to early July this year, with approximately 230 schools and 8 000 15-year-old Hong Kong students participating.

