

社評

臻美事件要先保學生再追責任

教育局局長孫明揚昨日證實，一個四人專責小組已奉派進駐基督教臻美黃乾亨小學暨初中學校，就該校的行政及財務問題展開調查，以及部署辦學權的移交。而迄今為止（6月3日），該校校監梁淑貞仍未露面交代帳目詳情。

與此同時，三百多名臻美學生家長昨晚舉行集會，要求學校繼續開辦下去。目前該校共有學生五百多人。

此次臻美學校出現的辦學風波，可說相當罕見，亦反映了現行資助制度在監管、運作上存在的一些問題，值得政府及辦學團體正視。

事件中首先令人驚訝的，是當事人梁淑貞既是辦學團體主席，同時又擔任學校的校監，一度還兼任校長，而她本人並無出任校長所必須的學歷和資格。如此一身多職、角色衝突，「自己管自己」，又如何可以確保問題不會發生？

同樣，臻美是一所直資學校（Direct Subsidy Scheme Schools），每年由特區政府提供數達二千萬元的資助，按照「學校條例」，校方必須每年向教育局提交收支賬目及財務報告，接受查核。但自二〇〇〇年學校開辦以來，已曾多次遲交報告，直到此次出事前，過去兩年的財務報告還沒有向教育局提交。

更有甚者，按照辦學條例，直資學校須設立校董會（board of directors）負起監管之責，但臻美校董會六名成員中，除梁淑貞本人外，另一人是其丈夫，另兩人是其姐夫，「皇親國戚」一家親，大權「一把抓」。

在此情形下，更出現了「自己承包自己」的怪現象，臻美學校的圖書館、社工及資訊科技等服務，全部外判予一家公司承包，學校每月支付十多萬元，而這家公司竟赫然又是由梁淑貞所開辦。

種種事實已清楚顯示，臻美在經營管理以及監督上存在極大漏洞，校長長期由一人把持，任人唯親、自行包攬、帳目不明，問題已昭然若揭。教育當然是一項神聖事業，臻美機構亦打出宗教團體的牌子，但不能排除有人「掛羊頭賣狗肉」，以辦學為名，以宗教為掩護，實質是魚目混珠、企圖從中漁利。而且，事件曝光後，已經有不少家長投訴，有人會以發展校務為名向他們進行募捐甚至借錢，涉款達到一百五十多萬元。

而更值得關注的是，臻美事件的出現，明顯是有人在利用政府倡行「多元辦學」之機，大鑽法例上的空子。臻美學校是在世紀初開辦的，當



教育局已啟動接管「臻美」的程序，圖為臻美家長投票決議，要求新辦學團體以12年一條龍模式營辦

時特區政府正銳意改革教育，提出了「拆牆鬆綁」、「多元辦學」、「拔尖保底」等一系列措施，一批新興辦學團體遂應運而生，紛紛申請辦學權，向政府要錢要地要校舍。而此一辦學上「百花齊放」的局面，在總體效果上應該說是好的和成功的，但不能排除「害群之馬」的出現。而教育當局在「多元辦學」的同時，在監管上仍沿用已制訂多年的「學校條例」，一切要靠辦學團體及校方主動申報，如此也不免予別有用心者以可乘之機。

眼前，教育局已接管臻美，準備將該校的辦學權交與另一團體，在九月的新學年繼續辦下去。此一決策是正確的，臻美辦學人其身不正，但學生、教職員工是無辜的，特別是五百多名學生，教育局必須確保他們的就學權利，協助他們在原校繼續學業或轉校。至於辦學者的個人責任，也必須被依法追究，以杜絕不正之風。

2009/06/03 大公报社評

中文基本功

征緬救英軍應大書特書

五月十日晚上八時至八時卅分，香港電台《中華五千年》講述抗日戰爭時期中國遠征軍第一次進入緬甸同日軍作戰。主持人介紹了打頭陣的第二百師師長戴安瀾的生平，講了他率軍入緬經過，直至為國捐軀。

這次征緬，由一九四二年三月戴師入緬，到同年八月遠征軍全部撤出，歷時將近半年；戰果最輝煌的一役，是新編第三十八師（師長孫立人）第一一三團（團長劉汝明），將包圍英軍第一軍團於仁安羌的日軍擊潰，使彈盡糧絕的英軍七千多人全部救出，並將日軍繳獲的輜重車一百多輛，馬一千多匹，全數交還英軍。時間在一九四二年四月十七日，那是戴安瀾入緬後，犧牲前。可惜，這一晚主持人講征緬竟隻字不提！

解救七千英軍一役，是應該在五月十日講中國軍隊第一次征緬時講述的，但沒有講；接着是五月十七日講

蔣夫人訪美，五月廿四日講陪都重慶，五月三十一日講盛世才下台，顯然，是漏掉了！

其實，仁安羌一役「點只解救七千英軍咁簡單」！當時落入日軍手中的一些美國教士、新聞記者也同時被救出，消息很快傳遍世界。這是中國遠征軍最輝煌的戰績，應該大書特書！

無疑，此役着重講戴安瀾也未嘗不可以。戴師長固守一據點，力抗優勢之敵人圍攻，堅持了十三天，仍能安然撤出，也是征緬陣地防守時間最久的一次，也是敵前撤退成功的戰例；但比起孫立人所救出七千英軍，則屬於次要了。

順便一提，英軍仁安羌一役，不敢戀戰，竟然不通知中國軍隊，自己全數逃出緬甸，中國軍隊為免陷於孤軍作戰險境，被迫倉卒撤離，死傷甚眾！

容若

五星級英文



咬字發音是關鍵

黑楊 (yeung@harkyeung.com)

有些家長堅持送子女到有外籍老師的英文學校，認為這樣可以使孩子沒有或減少講英文時有中文口音的機會。對英文有了解或在英語社會生活過的人或者都會知道，在英語人的世界，有很多口音，不是每個人都字正腔圓。

有位在美國取得博士學位的朋友對我說，一定要找一位外籍英語老師教孩子會話。我說：「你跟孩子在家用英語談話不就成了嗎？省錢事小，省時間事大，也可增進母子感情。」她的答案是：「我不想孩子將來說英文有accent。」

但到底什麼是accent？一件在近期發生的世界趣事大概可使一些家長明白口音究竟是怎樣的一回事。在YouTube得到6800萬hit的英國talent歌手Susan Boyle一鳴驚人，已是眾所周知的事。要分析為什麼她能製造如此大的感染力，就不容

易了。要作這方面的分析，絕大部分人都會從她的歌聲和歌唱技巧入手，但我則希望凸顯她咬字的能力。

Susan Boyle上台時，先跟評判有些對話。她住在蘇格蘭，說話時明顯有英國地區口音。這種口音有點像敲擊樂，幾個重音之外，就是幾乎聽不到的輕音。例如評判問她所住的地方是否a big town，她答，"It's a collection of ...of small villages." 如果上YouTube聽，可清楚聽到她的重音比標準重音較重和較急促，在collection和villages兩字尤其明顯。觀眾已開始笑她，原因之一大概是她有鄉下音，有點大鄉里上台的姿態。

然而她唱第一句時，不但絕對字正腔圓，而且比標準口音更清晰玲瓏和悅耳。所以她不僅一曲成名，第一句已經使全場觀眾「另耳相聽」，大拍手掌。

(發音與字正腔圓·上)

社經「數」描

內地網民直迫3億 躋身互聯網強國

中國互聯網信息中心在2007年發表的中國互聯網發展狀況報告指出，內地網民在2007年6月底總數達到1.62億，並推算出2009年底內地網民人數將會翻一番，達到3億。

全球互聯網普及率達20%，內地的普及率在2007年中只是12.3%，但以增長率預計，2009年底的普及率將達20%以上，在互聯網的世界可列入強國之列。

2007年內地網民普及率以18至24歲的組別較高，為33.5%，學生網民超過50%，非學生網民則只有23.8%；非學生網民普及率最高是25至30歲，為28.7%。預計2009年底，網民在

年齡分類的普及率最高將是27歲前後的3年，保守估計整體普及率在計算增長後平均將達50%。換句話說，內地10個24至30歲的人中，有5個是網民，相信5年後內地網民的整體普及率理應達40%。

香港的寬頻互聯網接駁客戶在今年3月超過196萬戶，住戶寬頻普及率幾達79%，香港整體的網民普及率應接近80%。

互聯網無遠弗屆，威力已不限於搜尋資訊，而在於分享、溝通、娛樂，長遠而言，能掌握互聯網，便能掌握世界。

專業教育培訓顧問 呂康

Editorial

Pegasus school students must be protected first

Secretary for Education Michael Suen Ming-yeung yesterday confirmed that a four-member team had been sent to Pegasus Philip Wong Kin Hang Christian Primary - Junior Secondary School to look into its administrative and financial problems and oversee the sponsorship transition of the facility. By yesterday, school supervisor Carman Leung Shuk-ching had yet to show up and submit her financial report.

In a related development, parents of the 300-plus Pegasus students, at a gathering last night, demanded that the school continue its operations. At present the school has more than 500 students.

What is astonishing about this incident is that not only is Carman Leung, the person concerned, concurrently board chairperson of the sponsoring body and school supervisor, but at one time also worked as the principal of the school even though she lacks the education background and qualification for the post. How is it possible to prevent problems from occurring, with one person taking on all these jobs that have role conflicts?

The Pegasus school is one of the Direct Subsidy Scheme schools, which the SAR Government subsidises with some \$20 million each year. According to the Education Ordinance, the school management must annually submit its accounts and financial reports to the Education Bureau for scrutiny. But since 2000 when the school opened, the management has delayed submitting reports several times. Until the current incident was exposed, the school had failed to submit its financial reports to the Education Bureau for the last two years.

Moreover, according to the Education Ordinance a Direct Subsidy Scheme school must set up a board of directors to exercise supervision. However, of the six board members of the Pegasus school, besides Carmen Leung herself, one is her husband and two others are her brothers-in-law. Family members and relatives work together to tightly hold power.

Under these circumstances, strange things such as "one contracting out projects to oneself" have happened in the school. Services in school library, social works and IT technology have all been contracted out to a company, with the school paying more than \$100,000 per month. And this company is set up by Carmen Leung herself.

Various facts clearly show that there are big loopholes in the Pegasus school's operation, management and supervision. School administration has been monopolized by a single person for a long time, to the extent that she could assign jobs based on nepotism and favouritism, contract out businesses to herself and mess up the ledgers. The problems are all too clear.

Education is certainly a sacred undertaking. The Pegasus institution also carries the signboard of a religion organization. But it cannot be ruled out that some individuals, who "cry up wine and sell vinegar," would attempt to seek personal benefits on the pretext of running a school and under the cover of religion, trying to pass fish eyes for pearls. After the incident was exposed,

quite a few parents of students have complained that a certain person had asked them to make donations to the school or even borrowed money from them. The sum involved in this regard amounted to about \$1.5 million.

What deserves greater attention is that this Pegasus school incident could occur obviously because some individuals have wantonly made use of legal loopholes, taking the opportunity of the government's encouragement to "run schools through multiple channels". This Pegasus school was set up at the beginning of this century, when the SAR Government was devoting efforts to education reforms, introducing a series of measures such as "easing restrictions", "running schools through multiple channels" and "catering for learner differences". Then a lot of new sponsoring bodies came into being and applied for permission to run schools, asking for funds, land lots and school buildings from the government. On the whole, it should be affirmed that the general result of this "one hundred flowers blossoming" situation in running schools is good and successful. But it cannot be ruled out that there would be some black sheep. On the other hand, while encouraging "running school through multiple channels," the education authority has still followed the Education Ordinance, that was enacted many years ago, in carrying out supervision - everything relying on reports by sponsoring bodies and school managements on their own initiative. This inevitably gives an opportunity that can be exploited by individuals with ulterior motives.

Now the Education Bureau has taken over the Pegasus school, preparing to hand its sponsorship to another sponsoring body so that the school can continue operating when the new school year begins in September. This decision is correct. The sponsor of the Pegasus school is dishonest, but students, teachers and staff are innocent. In regard to the 500-plus students, in particular, the Education Bureau must safeguard their right to an education, helping them continue with their studies at the school or transfer to other schools. In order to put an end to malpractices in the management of schools, the sponsor's personal responsibilities must be investigated and dealt with by law.

03 June 2009

Phrasal Verb :  
Mess up - To make a mistake or do something badly ; to make something dirty or untidy.  
Examples :  
1. I'm not going to let him mess up my life.  
2. The wind messes up his hair.  
3. She says she completely messed up the job interview.  
4. You messed up. Don't let it happen again.  
5. They had managed to mess up the office.

通識記憶體

臻美成首間教育局接管學校

直資學校「基督教臻美黃乾亨小學暨初中學校」創校8年，其辦學團體「基督教臻美社會服務機構」於5月23日，在事先未通知當局及師生下，單方面宣布即日起撒手不幹，並發表名為「一切為了教育」的聲明，要將辦學權交予教育局。該校成為香港歷來首間被教育局接管的學校，逾500多名學生受影響。

臻美學校是香港唯一屬於9年制的小學連初中學校。身兼校監和辦學團體主席的梁淑貞被家長指控「七宗罪」，包括校監自創「捆綁式服務」、「校監身兼7職，無校長資格認證，任人唯親」、「創校8年依然無正式註冊牌照」、「2年未交財政報告」、「未能開辦新高中」等。梁淑

貞卻反駁，是教育局長期不配合學校，不斷打壓，唯有交出學校以保學生利益。這位未具校長專業資格的臻美創校校長（署理），一度享有「教改勇士」稱號。

2001年創校的基督教臻美黃乾亨小學（2002年9月開始辦初中），是前灣仔區議會主席黃英琦以其父黃乾亨名字命名，作為父親70歲大壽禮物。教統局前常任秘書長羅范椒芬於2002年請調到該校擔任一天教學助理，令臻美風頭一時無兩，家長爭相替子女報名。該校小學學費中文班每月1800元，英文班3000元。臻美宣布放棄辦學權後，迅即吸引25個團體爭取接管權，教育局將於7月中公布遴選結果。