

PCF Celebrates

20th

Anniversary
1986 - 2006

PCF News

PAP COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IN-HOUSE NEWSLETTER

人民行动党社区基金简讯

July 2006 MICA (P): 053/02/2006



மென்மையான
அறிவுவளம்

YAYASAN
RAKYAT PAP

Inspire

Nurture

Care



PCF Turning 20 Years

2006 is a significant year for PCF as we turn 20 years old. A series of celebrations marked it.

● The official launch of PCF's 20th Anniversary Celebrations cum Certificate Presentation was held on Sat, 18 March 2006 at Singapore Polytechnic.

Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee, Chairman, PCF Executive Committee graced the event where the 20th Anniversary logo was revealed. Assoc Prof Ho gave out quality centre certificates to a total of 106 centres and appointment letters to about 140 Kindergarten Principals. Congratulations to all Administrators, Principals and

teachers. Keep up the good work and as Chairman encouraged in his speech, 'keep training'.

"In a short while, about 140 Kindergarten Principals will be receiving their official appointments. Then, 106 PCF kindergartens will receive certificates as testimony of having achieved Quality Status. Of these 106, 70 centres are from 20 Branches whose centres have all been assessed and have achieved Quality Status. Among us are also 16 PCF Childcare Supervisors who have already been recognised officially by MCYS as they too have completed their DPE-Leadership. Congratulations! We are very proud of all of you.

Training does not and should not stop with the profes-

sional requirements. There are other skills that we can develop and hone, such as in problem solving, communications, managing relationships, and how to bring out the potential and effectiveness in your staff. We are recommending the Employability Skills System (ESS) which is initiated by the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA). There are a few relevant modules and these come with WDA funding. Each ESS training is 2 days and costs about \$70 per person. These courses are useful as they will raise the overall skills of our PCF staff. All Branches will be required to choose 1 or more modules for their PCF staff. Currently, I understand the ESS is undergoing some changes. When the revised ESS is ready, HQ will send you the information. Look through them and make your choices based on the needs of your staff. I reiterate that PCF is committed to training."

For a complete version of Chairman's speech, log into www.pcf.org.sg

For ESS, please see "Training Programme" in this newsletter.



PCF's centre in the 21st century.



PCF's centre in the early 60's.

Group photo of PCF Childcare Supervisors who have obtained Diploma in Pre-school Leadership.



Next, was the 20th Anniversary Dinner on 19 May 2006. Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong was the Guest-of-Honour. A total of 1800 people (former Branch Chairmen, Branch Chairmen, Branch Personnel, Administrators, Principals and Teachers) attended the dinner celebration at Suntec City Convention Hall.

During the dinner, SM Goh presented to 15 PCF staff, the PCF Achievement Award. This award recognises PCF staff (administrators, principals, supervisors, teachers, admin staff) who have demonstrated outstanding contribution towards the enhancement of student learning and well-being in PCF-run centres and services. They are:

1. Anne Nirmala Fernandis (Braddell Heights Branch)
2. Maimon Bte Sopan (Keat Hong Branch)
3. Ng Geok Hong Jasmine (Yew Tee Branch)
4. Ng Lay Hua (Pasir Ris West Branch)
5. Ng Lay Tin (Whampoa Branch)
6. Ng Soh Hoon Serene (Tampines Central Branch)
7. Mrs Tai Nee Tsai Li Hwei (Chua Chu Kang Branch)
8. Tan Kwee Choo (Tampines Changkat Branch)
9. Tan Poh Hua (Nee Soon South Branch)



10. Tan Yee Nee Agnes (Punggol Central Branch)

11. Tan Yoke Joon (Changi-Simei Branch)

12. Tay Eng Hiang (Taman Jurong Branch)

13. Toh Sor Yi (Zhenghua Branch)

14. Tok Sok Ting (Nee Soon Central Branch)

15. Zarinah Bte Ismail (Bedok Branch)

Congratulations to the recipients of the first PCF Achievement Award!

Special Guest, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Minister for Education, gave a heartwarming speech on "PCF INC - Inspire, Nurture, Care".

He highlighted the 20 years of achievements made by the foundation and gave credit to all leaders who led the vision and the leadership in developing the PCF services. He said that in recent years PCF had made progress in two big areas: in raising the professional quality of the staff and in ensuring self-improvement through benchmarking.

He also said that "competent and caring teachers hold the key to nurturing our children. Teachers who love children, and who are skilled in using a variety of techniques to engage children's attention, get them thinking for themselves, and to stimulate their development. Good teachers make all the difference.

But just attaining the necessary qualifications is not good enough. We have to keep upgrading and sharpening the professional skills of our teachers. We owe this to our pupils. Quality only happens when everyone cares enough to keep improving".





He also spoke of strengthening links between kindergarten and schools and the different programmes that help children from less advantaged homes.

“Our PCF centres play a critical role in giving a strong start to every child. They are the early levelers in the Singapore system. By giving every child a strong start, we will nurture children who can grow up to be young men and women who express themselves with confidence, and excel in the arts, in the sciences and in sports and other areas. We will nurture Singaporeans who show friendship and respect for others regardless of their backgrounds. In giving the best start to our young, we are helping to build the future Singapore”.

PCF Management

Council of Management

Mr Goh Chok Tong	1986-1990
Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam	1990-1999
Mr Teo Chee Hean	1999-current

Executive Committee

Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam	1986-1990
Dr Tay Eng Soon	1990-1993
Mr Teo Chee Hean	1993-1997
Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee	1997-current

Kindergarten Committee

Dr Arthur Beng Kian Lam	1986-1996
Assoc Prof Ho Peng Kee	1996-1997

HQ

Executive Director

Mr Lau Ping Sum	2001-current
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Chief Executive

Mrs Laura Khoo	1999-2004
Ms Ruth Low	2005-current



PCF 20th Anniversary Logo

The special 20th anniversary logo is a vibrant symbol of PCF and its services, especially in early childhood education.

It shows a plant in a flower box.

The logo projects a caring approach in nurturing the young child through a good education, one that is interactive and at the same time, it fosters and encourages social integration.

Starting from the base of the logo are 2 boxes. Each is a square box and each depicts our four races in Singapore and the concept of equality among the races.

The red box has a white heart. It symbolizes pure intentions and warmth, PCF's care for and contribution to the community. For e.g., the many welfare activities organised by our PCF Branches.

The book is all about PCF providing education and care to our young. The colourful book within the pink box reflects the youthful, warm and lively environment of a PCF centre.

Rising out of these boxes is an artistic representation of a plant using the number 20 – the plant's leaves and the bud of the flower is likened to cultivating a child's knowledge until it blooms one day in future.

The PCF logo and the words 'Anniversary 1986 - 2006' are the foundation of the flower box, the very basis on which we are celebrating 20 years of PCF's existence.

The logo thus encapsulates the theme - 'Inspire, Nurture and Care'. In short, 'PCF INC.'

We hope you will remember this and treasure it. It reminds us to continue to do our best in our services, to inspire, to nurture and to care for the children in our centres.



Training Programme

The Singapore Employability Skills System (ESS) comprises a set of generic employability skills to raise a worker's effectiveness and improve his work abilities. These foundational skills, portable across all industries, enable workers of all levels to face more challenges and changing work environments. As such, these skills complement other specific industry and occupational skills which are specialised or technical by nature.

The ESS was introduced by the Singapore Workforce Development Agency in November 2004 and piloted from November 2004 to 31 March 2005. The comprehensive phase was rolled out on 1 April 2005 with 4,100 people benefiting from the programme. An expanded version of the system including an additional training module and computer adaptive testing technology was launched on 1 April 2006.

The 10 employability skills are:

- Workplace Literacy & Numeracy
- Lifelong Learning
- Information & Communications Technology
- Global Mindset
- Problem Solving & Decision making
- Self-management
- Initiative & Enterprise
- Workplace-related Life Skills
- Communication & Relationship Management
- Health and Workplace Safety

The ten employability skills and their corresponding competency standards have been arranged in three series of training modules: **The Workplace Literacy Series, The Workplace Numeracy Series and The Workplace Skills Series.**

The modules and their corresponding relationship to the ten Employability Skills are set out as follows:

Workplace Literacy & Numeracy	WORKPLACE LITERACY SERIES		WORKPLACE LITERACY SERIES
	Beginner		
	Intermediate		Intermediate
	Advanced		Advanced
Information Communication Technologies	WORKPLACE LITERACY SERIES		
	Workplace ICT Appln (Ops)	Workplace ICT Appln (Sup)	Workplace ICT Appln (Mgr)
Self-Management Workplace-Related Life skills	Personal Effectiveness (ops)	Lifelong Learning Global Mindset (Sup)	Lifelong Learning Global Mindset (Mgr)
Initiative & Enterprise	Initiative & Enterprise (Ops)	Initiative & Enterprise (Sup)	Initiative & Enterprise (Mgr)
Communication & Relationship Management	Communication & Relationship Management (Ops)	Communication & Relationship Management (Sup)	Communication & Relationship Management (Mgr)
Problem Solving & Decision Making Problem	Problem Solving & Decision Making (Ops)	Problem Solving & Decision Making (Sup)	Problem Solving & Decision Making (Mgr)
Workplace Safety & Health	Workplace Safety & Health (Ops)	Workplace Safety & Health (Sup)	Workplace Safety & Health (Mgr)
Lifelong Learning Global Mindset	Lifelong Learning Global Mindset (Ops)	Lifelong Learning Global Mindset (Sup)	Lifelong Learning Global Mindset (Mgr)

Source : Information extracted from WDA website and information paper

Schedule for ESS

Modules	Date	Duration	Course Fee (before SDF)
Problem Solving & Decision Making (Sup)	4 & 5 Sep 2006	16 hours	\$ 320
Communication and Relationship Management (Ops)	7 & 8 Sep 2006	16 hours	\$ 320
Personal Effectiveness (Sup)	20 & 21 Nov 2006	16 hours	\$ 320
Personal Effectiveness (Ops)	27 & 28 Nov 2006	24 hours	\$ 480
Learning & Personal Development (Sup)	4 & 5 Dec 2006	16 hours	\$ 320
Personal Effectiveness (Ops)	7 & 8 Dec 2006	24 hours	\$ 480

SDF Funding Rate

Staff below 40 years old – 90% of course fee capped at \$11 per hour, whichever is lower

Staff above 40 years old – 90% of course fee capped at \$16 per hour, whichever is lower

Application Procedure : Branch to submit the Enrichment Course Application Form to ECI.

