



28 May 2014

The Editor  
Forum Page  
The Straits Times

Dear Editor

### **ROBUST PROCESSES IN SETTING EXAMINATION QUESTIONS AND MARKING PAPERS**

1. We refer to Mr Ho Kong Loon's letter "PSLE minefields to avoid", published on 26 May.
2. We would like to assure him that the Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board (SEAB) has in place robust processes to ensure that the Primary School Leaving Examination (PSLE) is aligned with the curriculum and that the standards are maintained across years.
3. The panel responsible for developing the PSLE papers comprises experienced school teachers, curriculum specialists from the Ministry of Education and assessment specialists from the SEAB. In setting the papers, the panel adheres to a test blueprint that ensures that the examination is aligned with the syllabus objectives and learning outcomes. There is a pre-determined proportion of easy, average and more challenging questions to maintain the standard of the paper from year to year and this caters to students of different abilities.
4. Key personnel, including supervisors involved in marking, are carefully selected based on their content knowledge, teaching experience, as well as marking experience. Controls and checks are part of the rigorous process to ensure that markers strictly adhere to a standard marking scheme, and are accurate and consistent in marking.
5. Please publish the above reply in full.

Thank you.

Tan Lay Choo  
Chief Executive  
Singapore Examinations and Assessment Board

