

COMRADE OF LABOUR

Tang Chun Chieh

President

Singapore Chinese Teachers' Union

Nominated by the Singapore Chinese Teachers' Union

Tang Chun Chieh, also known as Christopher, joined the Ministry of Education (MOE) as a career Chinese Language Teacher in 2003. He became a union leader in 2015 and has served in various capacities within Singapore Chinese Teachers' Union's (SCTU) executive committee.

As a key office bearer, he participated actively in union-management quarterly dialogues and bi-annual tea sessions with MOE's Human Resource Division.

As a leader of the union, Brother Christopher makes the effort to understand ground concerns and articulates them at suitable platforms. As a result, he provides invaluable ground sensing and feedback and is recognised amongst his peers as a caring leader.

His contributions have helped yield an upward 5 to 10 per cent salary adjustment for educators in 2022. The last salary revision for MOE was in 2015.

As president, he sacrifices his personal and family time to play an active role in furthering the interest of Chinese language teachers who are union members.

He steps up to give guidance to the executive committee for flagship events such as the Lunar New Year gathering with members and family; Teachers' Day Celebrations; Book Prize for members' children; online recruitment of new members; professional development talks and workshops.

Brother Christopher always goes the extra mile to organise engagement sessions for Beginning Teachers and provide guidance to these young educators in the areas of career planning, creation of teaching resources and classroom management. He also established a partnership with Singapore Centre for Chinese Language to organise dialogue sessions for young educators with Master Teachers.

He volunteered to be trained as a workplace mental wellness-ambassador to better support and show care for members. He advocates for agile learning to make classroom teaching both fun and innovative.

The union continues to partner with leading technology firms like Apple to organise learning journeys using technological tools to improve the effectiveness of classroom teaching. These initiatives have appealed to SCTU members.

At the national level, he has been instrumental in collaborating with MOE to launch a series of webinars to better explain the updates and changes to HR policies to members.

He also led SCTU in partnering with the Singapore Foochow Association and the Singapore Association of Writers to co-organise the National Essay Writing Competition for primary school students to promote the love for creative writing.

At the international platform, he also led SCTU in collaborating with overseas partners such as the National Kaohsiung Normal University and The Education University of Hong Kong to co-organise the 9th and 10th International Forum on Chinese Language Teaching in 2019 and 2021, respectively.

He also represents the union in the Committee for Promoting Chinese Language Learning and People's Association Partnership Team. Besides that, he is also appointed as the Workplace Community Leader by the Ministry of Manpower.