

FROM THE MINISTER/ÓN AIRE



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30 August 2007

Dear Friend/A chara,

I hope you had an enjoyable summer break and are coming back to your teaching with the energy and enthusiasm you will no doubt need for the year ahead.

As you will be aware, the Review of Public Administration (RPA) is a key element of the reform agenda within education which will have wide ranging benefits for schools. I am committed to ensuring that boards of governors, principals, teachers and other school based staff are kept fully informed of developments with regard to the RPA and the purpose of this letter is to advise you of the latest developments.

On 19 July, the Executive accepted my proposal to proceed with the implementation of the RPA in education, leading to the creation of the Education and Skills Authority by April 2009, at the latest. My subsequent statement to the Chairpersons of the affected organisation sets out the details of the implementation programme and this can be accessed on the DE website at [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

My aim is to provide the best support to those delivering education at the front line. The creation of a single Education and Skills Authority (ESA) will provide a greater degree of support for and focus on school improvement, streamline administration which will release more resources for front line services, and provide a more coherent and consistent approach to the delivery of education support services.

We are going through major dynamic changes in education at present and it is vital that these changes are planned and managed effectively to ensure that services continue to be delivered to a high standard. The creation of ESA by April 2009 at the latest will provide sufficient time to implement these changes in a planned and

managed way. Teachers, principals and support staff have a major role to play in this implementation.

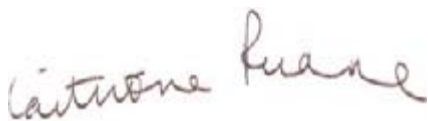
Tá athruithe móra ag tarlú faoi láthair i gcúrsai oideachais agus tá géarghá ann go ndéanfar pleanáil agus bainistiú éifeachtach ar na hathruithe seo le cinntiú go gcuirfear soláthar seirbhísí ar fáil atá ar ardchaighdeán. Bunófar an tÚdarás um Oideachas agus Scileanna faoi mhí Aibreán 2009 ar a dheireanai agus tugann sé seo go leor ama chun na hathruithe seo a chur i bhfeidhm ar dhóigh a bhfuil pleanáil agus bainistiú déanta orthu. Ba cheart go mbeadh ról an-mhór ag múinteoirí, ag príomhoidí agus ag foirne tacaíochta sa chur i bhfeidhm seo.

I am determined to ensure that boards of governors, principals and teachers see the benefits of the changes, so that they can help all children to reach their potential. Our focus must be on improving the experience and outcomes for every young person who passes through our education system. I believe this will ultimately benefit all of our local communities and our economy as a whole.

I would like to applaud your continuing dedication and commitment to the education of our young people. I know that you share my aim to ensure that every child fulfils their potential and they become confident, articulate young people so that they can play a full part as citizens in building a prosperous society based on equality.

Molaim go hard bhur ndíograis agus tdiomantas maidir le hoideachas ár n-óige. Tá a fhios agam go bhfuil an aidhm chéanna agaibhse le cinntiú go bhforbraítear cumas gach páiste chun gur féidir leo bheith ina ndaoine óga muiníneacha, deaslabhartha agus cruthaitheacha agus chun gur féidir leo páirt iomlán a ghlacadh mar shaoránaigh chun sochaí rathúil atá bunaithe ar chomhionannas a thógáil.

Yours sincerely/is mise le meas



**CAITRÍONA RUANE MLA**