



OSulJ0302bh

2nd March, 2015

Ms Jan O'Sullivan T.D.
Minister for Education & Skills
Department of Education & Skills
Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

Re: Junior Cycle

Dear Minister,

As you are aware, meetings of the TUI Executive Committee and the ASTI Standing Committee took place on Friday 27th February at which Dr. Travers' document was given due consideration.

The Unions accept that the document, while not representing a comprehensive resolution, represents a basis for intensive negotiation and believe that this negotiation should proceed without delay.

We also note the exchange of letters (of 24th and 26th February, respectively) between the unions and the Department in which the Department acknowledges that Dr. Travers states that "further discussions will be necessary about a range of issues". There is clear recognition by all sides that the document prepared by Dr. Travers does not constitute a complete resolution. In fact, this is explicitly recognised within the document.

In the absence of further intensive discussions regarding resources, assessment and other identified issues, the document will remain incomplete. An incomplete document cannot be put to a ballot of our members.

In the interests of moving matters forward, it would be of benefit if the Department were to indicate that it would suspend further implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle (meetings, planning, CPD, etc.) were the unions to suspend industrial action. We put this to you in good faith as, at this critical juncture, it would be appropriate for both parties to create a clear opportunity for discussion by means of a mutual suspension of actions.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Irwin
ASTI President

Gerry Quinn
TUI President

John MacGabhann
TUI General Secretary

Pat King
ASTI General Secretary