



To: ASTI School Stewards /TUI Workplace Representatives

20th April 2015

Junior Cycle – Lunchtime Protest : Thursday, 7th May

Dear Colleagues,

ASTI and TUI are organizing a Lunchtime Protest on Thursday 7th May outside every second level school in the country. This protest by 27,000 ASTI and TUI members is intended to highlight teachers' objections to the continued implementation of the Junior Cycle Framework proposals without agreement with teachers.

This campaign is being driven by teachers in order to protect the standards and quality of the Irish education system and the key role played by the student/teacher relationship in ensuring this.

Dr. Pauric Travers' document 'Junior Cycle: A Way Forward' stated that *there is an urgent need to address the alienation of our teachers*. In that context it is unacceptable that the Department and the Minister are proceeding with further implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle.

ASTI and TUI have identified the following outstanding issues which are of key importance:

- Parity of treatment of subjects in relation to external assessment of oral tests, projects, practicals, etc.
- Confirmation of CSPE as a State certified exam
- Deferral of second-year English component
- Issues relating to capacity, including time, workload and other appropriate resources

ASTI and TUI members continue to support the position of their unions by not attending CPD seminars and by not participating in Junior Cycle on-line training.

It is essential that at this crucial time all ASTI and TUI members participate in the Lunchtime Protest on 7th May as a public statement of our commitment to ensuring a quality education system for our students.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Irwin
ASTI President

Gerry Quinn
TUI President

John MacGabhann
TUI General Secretary

Pat King
ASTI General Secretary