

Press Release

06th November 2009

Press Release from the Joint Managerial Body re JMB Education Conference to be held in Marino Institute of Education on Monday 9th November 2009.

Secondary Schools Share Creative Ways to Overcome Special Needs Cuts.

The Joint Managerial Body, representing the management of almost four hundred Voluntary Secondary schools, is organising an Education Conference to share ideas on providing for children with special educational needs in their schools.

The Conference aims to support school managers and special needs teachers with creative ways around the serious limitations they face due to education cutbacks this year. The stalling of the EPSEN Act, cuts in English language support teachers, reductions in Special Needs Assistants and a continual shortage of educational psychologists providing assessments have placed great pressures on schools as they struggle to cope with these and a range of other cuts.

‘There are occasions when we need to listen to experts but, at times like this, we need each other most of all’ said Ferdia Kelly, JMB General Secretary, ‘Teachers teaching teachers represents our best option right now as secondary schools continue to seek practical solutions to on-the-ground situations caused by such serious cutbacks’.

The Conference, to be held on Monday November 9th at Marino Institute of Education, will offer participants a range of peer-delivered workshops as well as an opportunity to question policy makers and support service providers. Areas such as Autistic Spectrum disorders, teaching social skills, individualised student planning and using ICT programmes to assist creativity will form the subject of some of the workshops.

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