

Monday, 27 June 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **IVEA welcomes transparency in school patronage arrangements**

Statement by Michael Moriarty, General Secretary IVEA

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**In welcoming Minister Ruairi Quinn's new arrangements for the recognition of patronage of new schools, IVEA General Secretary Michael Moriarty states;**

*“The school patronage issue has proven to be somewhat contentious in recent times and the publication of criteria and requirements to be considered in any decision on the patronage of new schools will enhance the transparency and confidence in the decision making process. In effect, the patronage rules provide for an open and fair competition which will further build confidence amongst communities and prospective patrons alike.”*

**ENDS**

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The Irish Vocational Education Association (IVEA) is the representative body for the 33 Vocational Educational Committees (VECs) in Ireland, and works to protect, promote and enhance the interests of vocational education and training within the wider education sector and the country at large.

VECs deliver a wide range of educational services, from managing community national schools, second-level schools and colleges, Post Leaving Certificate colleges

(PLCs) and education centres to providing training programmes for Travellers, adult literacy courses, prisoner education services, Youthreach programmes, Vocational Training Opportunities Schemes, and community education programmes.

VEC PLCs have developed a range of programmes and courses in response to the needs of industry and commerce which are certified by FETAC at levels 3 to 6, and by the professional bodies which set standards for entry into the professions.