How to Best Shape Teacher Policies?

Policy lessons from international comparisons

25-26 June 2014, Tokyo, Japan

Ministers of Education have been invited by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in Japan and the OECD to an informal ministerial meeting to discuss developing effective teacher policies. During this meeting, Ministers will have an opportunity to exchange views on how to best shape teacher policy so as to have the strongest themes on the learning environment. Specific themes for discussion might include:

- With the changes in the types of skills needed by young people to solve the problems of tomorrow, how do we prepare teachers to develop 21st century learners?
- Given the efforts in many countries to reform education systems, how can countries create school and classroom environments that foster more effective teaching and learning?
- In the current difficult fiscal climate, how can we ensure the most efficient and equitable distribution of resources -- both in terms of high quality school staff and material resources -- both within our schools and across our education systems?

Ministers will also receive comparative and country-based briefings on the data from the latest round of the OECD Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS 2013), which will be released for the first time at the meeting. TALIS is an innovative large-scale study examining how well teachers are prepared, the quality of classroom climate, the effectiveness of teacher appraisal and approaches to school leadership. The lack of robust evidence in this area has been a major impediment to the design and implementation of effective teacher policies in the past and we therefore hope that this meeting will move the discussion an important step forward.

The invitation to this meeting has been extended to Ministers of Education in all OECD member countries, all countries participating in TALIS 2013, OECD accession countries, OECD Key Partner countries, and APEC member economies. We look forward to your participation and the opportunity to discuss with you how to develop policies that influence teaching and learning in all of your countries.