



Australian Education Union - Federal Office

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AEU CONGRATULATES NEW EDUCATION MINISTER

The Australian Education Union today welcomed the appointment of Deputy Prime Minister elect, Julia Gillard to the joint portfolios of education, workplace relations and employment.

AEU Acting Federal President Angelo Gavrielatos said, "The 170,000 members of the Australian Education Union congratulate Ms Gillard on her appointment to the education, and workplace relations and employment portfolios."

"We also welcome the appointment of Maxine McKew to the position of Parliamentary Secretary to Kevin Rudd with responsibility for early childhood education and childcare.

"Ms McKew's appointment to this position recognises the vital importance early learning plays in future education outcomes for Australian children.

"In his campaign launch speech, Prime Minister elect, Kevin Rudd, stressed that 'education is the engine room of equity, the engine room of opportunity and the engine room of the economy.'

"This recognition of the centrality of education in community building, capacity building and nation building represents significant opportunities for the nation's public school students and teachers.

"The AEU looks forward to meeting with Ms Gillard and Ms McKew as soon as possible to discuss a range of issues in the interest of public education," concluded Mr. Gavrielatos.

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