



TO OUR READERS

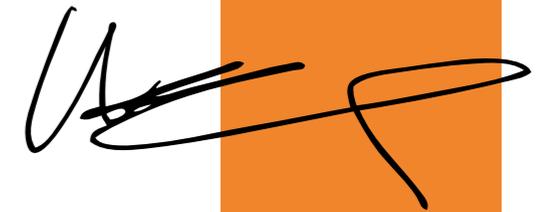
WORKING TO CREATE A NEW VISION FOR EDUCATION

Education is a lifelong endeavor, and we are dedicated to the development of the education system in Taiwan so as to leave behind a positive legacy for future generations. With new legislation in place for the integration of early childhood education and care, free schooling for children aged 5 and under, the imminent rollout of the 12-year Basic Education System, the export of higher education to promote Taiwan as a higher education hub, and forthcoming legislation amendments regarding the influx of mainland Chinese students opening a new chapter in cross-strait education communications, we see many new and rewarding changes taking place in the education system in Taiwan.

Building upon existing policy, the Ministry of Education is set to promote eight policies designed to further strengthen the education base and put educational ideals into practice. These eight policies include: priority integration of early childhood education and care, implementation of 12-year Basic Education, promotion of moral education and instructor role models, comprehensive support for underprivileged students, development of Taiwan as a hub for East Asian higher education, construction of a society of lifelong learning, promotion of exercise and better health, and nurturing of talent to strengthen international competitiveness.

The 21st century is the era of the knowledge economy, where the power of knowledge determines the supremacy of a country. To increase our overall strength, we must nurture talent that can compete with the rest of the world. In Taiwan, higher education is not only widespread, it has also achieved international standards. The global rankings of Taiwanese colleges and universities are impressive, as seen in the World University Rankings of UK-based Quacquarelli Symonds, the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, or the Shanghai-based Academic Ranking of World Universities. In the area of research, in 2011 Taiwanese universities were rated in the top 1% in 17 of ESI's 21 categories for scientific papers. Collaboration between education and industry has seen a steady rise in the areas of IP management, technology promotion, and collaborative research. In the future, the MOE hopes to develop Taiwan as East Asia's hub for higher education, budgeting NT\$1.3 billion annually and aiming to "foster a friendly environment for overseas students", and "strengthen Taiwan's links with Southeast Asia".

team-driven, innovative, communicative and practical attitude to achieve government policy objectives related to education, and to draw on the experiences of the past to create a new vision for education and achieve our vision of education. We want to create a quality education environment and nurture talent with the ability to compete at the international level.



*Dr. Wei-ling Chiang
Minister of Education
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After years of careful planning and preparation, legislation for the MOE and its subsidiary structure was passed in 2012. This act is important for its impact on the restructuring and re-envisioning of the organizational structure of our core education system. In the face of rapid changes in our society and swift turnabouts in global dynamics as well as the expectations our public holds towards educational development, the new structure will be more efficient in fostering collaboration between branches, creating a more flexible, accurate and efficient central education administrative organization that can adapt to changes and challenges, in the hope that improvements in education will lead the way to improvements in the nation.

Education is the foundation of national growth, and the quality of education determines the competitiveness of a nation. The MOE hopes to promote educational policies that reflect a

