

Radio Kerry Interview – Kerry Today with John Greene - 17 Apr 2009

FF candidate defends funding record for Kerry schools – Radio Kerry Website

“A Fianna Fáil election candidate for the Dingle area is defending the Government's record of funding for Kerry schools. This is despite an absence of any Kerry school on the Government's new school building and refurbishment projects for 2009. Education Minister Batt O'Keeffe received a frosty reception when he attended the ASTI conference in Killarney earlier this week. Breandán Fitzgerald claims that in recent years over thirty eight million euro has been invested in Kerry schools. He added to suggest that Kerry schools have been ignored in the school building programme is inaccurate.”

Extra Information from Breandán Fitzgerald

I just felt that it should be pointed out that in recent years schools in Kerry have benefited from the Government's School Building Programme and as an extension of that both students and teachers have benefited enormously as well.

In fact I did some more researching and I found out that more than €69 million has been provided in capital funding for school building and modernisation projects in Kerry between 2002 and today. Capital funding for Primary Schools in Co. Kerry amounts to over €35.8 million (€35,863,039) and Capital funding for Post-Primary Schools in Co. Kerry amounts to over €33.7 million (€33,763,966)

In my own area of Kerry, that is in West Kerry for people that might not know me, we have two new secondary schools – Pobal Scoil Corca Dhuibhne in Dingle and Meánscoil an Leith Triúigh in Castlegregory which have been built and opened in the last few years.

At primary level we have new primary schools in Aughacasla and Lispole and major investment in other primary schools in the area such as - Scoil Naomh Eirc Feothanach, Glens NS Dingle, Scoil Náisiúnta an Chlocháin, Derrquay NS, and Fybagh NS Castlemaine.

Is it enough – No, but lets be fair when we're putting the case to people. Personally I won't be happy until I can come on the Kerry Today show and list several more communities that have benefit from the School building programme. I will continue working to ensure that I can.