

PAGE hands over memorandum to PM on language option
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PUTRAJAYA: The Parent Action Group for Education Malaysia (PAGE) handed a memorandum to [Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak](#), requesting that there be an option for the Teaching of Science and Mathematics in English (PPSMI).

"Parents and students who want PPSMI should have a choice," PAGE [chairman Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim](#) told reporters after handing over the memorandum at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

She said the memorandum was in response to [Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin](#)'s statements over the weekend.

"Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin reiterated the Government's decision to replace PPSMI with the Upholding Bahasa Malaysia and Strengthening English (MBM-MBI) policy with no option to choose PPSMI," Noor Azimah added.

Muhyiddin, who is also Education Minister, announced in 2009 that the PPSMI would be abolished and the MBM-MBI would be implemented.

With the reversal, all Year One pupils, with the exception of those in vernacular schools, have to use Bahasa Malaysia for Science and Mathematics from this year.

PAGE hopes the Prime Minister will allow a PPSMI option for those who want it, said Noor Azimah.

"The Prime Minister says he is listening to the *rakyat*. If so, then please listen to the pleas of parents and students who support PPSMI," she said.

Noor Azimah stressed that the children should not be made scapegoats.

"Our children's future is at stake. Please don't use education as a means to gain political leverage," she added.

Noor Azimah said that PAGE was apolitical but was not afraid to let its voice be heard at the ballot box.

She added that the memorandum also contained figures that support the continued use of the PPSMI.

"The statistics compiled by Jarin-gan Melayu Malaysia (JMM) from a sample of rural parents and children show that support for the PPSMI is high," she said.

Around a dozen PAGE members accompanied Noor Azimah to hand over the memorandum.

Source:

<http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2011/11/1/nation/9813211&sec=nation>