



Queensland Independent Education Union

Friday 19th September 2003 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Enterprise Bargaining Negotiations in Catholic School Sector Set to Continue as Employees Clarify Issues with Employers

The Queensland Independent Education Union (QIEU) says the first step has been taken in resolving the outstanding issues from the Catholic sector enterprise bargaining negotiations which lead to the rejection by employees of a proposed agreement from employing authorities last week.

QIEU General Secretary Mr Terry Burke said employee representatives met with employer representatives yesterday, to clarify the issues and matters which had not been resolved before the enterprise bargaining document was put to ballot by the employing authorities.

“The issues discussed at the meeting are the issues on which employees rejected the agreement at the ballot,” Mr Burke said.

“Employing authorities did not provide their employees with effective consultation before the ballot and as a result employees rejected the document because their concerns about these issues had not been addressed,” Mr Burke.

Mr Burke said the meeting dealt with a number of significant issues which required further negotiation.

“Among the issues which require resolution are the correction of errored text and calculations in the document, the addition of provisions which address employees’ access to existing sick leave accruals and the addition of provisions which address the implementation of enhanced superannuation arrangements,” Mr Burke said.

“Employee representatives also asked the employing authorities to consider an interim wage increase for their employees as a sign of good faith in the resumed negotiations.”

“Catholic employing authorities have a commitment to dollar for dollar parity with the public sector and an interim wage increase would be consistent with that position,” Mr Burke said.

“Employing authorities have now stated that they will consider their position and have confirmed they will reconvene negotiations with employee representatives in the second week of the next school term.”

“Employee representatives remain committed to a swift resolution of the outstanding issues but remain adamant of the need for consultation with employees before any further ballot,” Mr Burke said.

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Media Release