

Queensland Independent Education Union

“Non-government education works because we do”

Monday 2nd December

Catholic education employer and employee reach agreement on reinstatement case

Sacked Cairns Catholic school employee, Linda Tomic has reached an agreement with the Catholic Diocesan Education Service (DES) after her reinstatement case was the subject of a conference in the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) in November.

With the assistance of the QIRC, both parties reached a confidential outcome which was acceptable to Ms Tomic.

The Cairns Catholic community protested against the dismissal of the St Joseph's Primary School teacher, by sending emails and faxes to the employer, attending chapter meetings and holding a candlelight vigil prior to the QIRC conference.

Mr Terry Burke, General Secretary of the Queensland Independent Education Union (QIEU) said "The collective action of QIEU members were absolutely critical to achieving a satisfactory outcome for Linda and has proved to the DES that they cannot treat their employees in a harsh way."

"This result shows that employees do have a voice when they call for fairness in their workplace," Mr Burke said.

"QIEU's task now is to ensure that DES adopts a formal process for handling all workplace issues to ensure fairness and dignity in our schools.

"This task will be vigorously pursued by QIEU members until DES provides such a commitment."

Linda was advised of her dismissal when a letter was delivered to her home in the school holidays, directing her to immediately remove her possessions from her classroom under employer supervision.

For more information contact

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