



## INDEPENDENT EDUCATION UNION OF AUSTRALIA – QUEENSLAND AND NORTHERN TERRITORY BRANCH



# MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Quality Education at Risk: Sunshine Coast School Staff Restructure**

A move by the Head of the Sunshine Coast Grammar School (SCGS) to make 21 staff redundant following a staff restructure has brought into question the future of high quality education delivered at the School.

The Head of the School announced last week that the reduction to the overall number of staff in positions of 'added responsibility' would not impact on the educational programs at the School and staff would be able to reapply for their jobs once new positions were created and roles redistributed.

The Independent Education Union of Australia Branch (IEUA-QNT) Secretary, Terry Burke has rejected claims that this restructure would not impact on the quality education at the School.

"The Head of the School cannot guarantee the 21 staff a job at the School in the future, with many of the positions being advertised to external applicants," Mr Burke said.

"There has been little or no consultation with affected staff, who should not have to reapply for their jobs.

"Letters were handed out to the 21 staff subject to the restructure at a separate meeting last week.

"Most of the proposed restructuring is highly questionable and places at risk the high quality education at the School," he said.

Sunshine Coast Grammar School is renowned for its high quality reputation, however its quality education has been brought into question with past and present students and their families questioning the School's reasoning for removing key education positions.

Mr Burke said the School had rejected requests not to advertise the restructured positions externally in light of urgent discussions to occur on the validity of the restructure and implications for staff.

"A meeting with the Head of the School has been scheduled this week for urgent talks on the validity of the proposed changes," he said.

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*"The Queensland Independent Education Union represents nearly 15,000 non-government education sector employees including teachers, principals, school support staff, grounds and maintenance staff, early childhood education staff and employees in business, international and English language colleges."*