



ABN 45 620 218 712

Queensland Independent Education Union

Friday 8th August 2003 – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Staff in Catholic Boys' Schools to Stop Work and Rally for Equitable Super and Sick Leave Provisions

Queensland Independent Education Union (QIEU) members in Religious Order Owned Boys and Christian Brothers Colleges will stop work after lunchtime on Monday 11 August in a bid to highlight the inequitable sick leave and superannuation provisions on offer from their employers.

QIEU General Secretary Mr Terry Burke said the stop work would occur in schools from lunchtime and would be followed by a rally of QIEU members at City Hall's Ithaca Room at 3pm.

The action follows an earlier one hour stoppage and an ongoing campaign of lunchtime meetings which have endorsed a claim for a better deal from employers.

Members from Boys' schools across Brisbane and Ipswich will rally together in their campaign for equity, which has been a significant issue for these workers for more than three years.

Mr Burke said members in these schools were taking the action because their employer continues to disregard their concerns despite the fact that these two issues have remained unresolved since the last round of enterprise bargaining in 2000.

"While members in these schools believe they have a special relationship with their employer, the provisions their employers are offering in the current enterprise bargaining negotiations suggest that they don't feel the same way about their staff," Mr Burke said.

"Employers have put forward a proposal to give all staff portability of sick leave accruals but only from the start of the new certified agreement. This means long serving staff would still have no recognition of existing sick leave accruals, even if they moved from one of their employers to another, even in the next suburb".

"A crucial safety-net for employees will be denied if the current employer position remains".

"Staff in these schools are also concerned that their superannuation provisions continue to lag behind that of their State school counterparts," Mr Burke said.

"State school employees have had enhanced superannuation provisions since 2000; however, Religious Order Owned Boys and Christian Brothers College employing authorities have refused to alter from their inferior position on superannuation compared to the provisions State school employees receive".

"Employing authorities need to provide their staff immediately with a 12.75 per cent contribution to their superannuation (with an employee co-contribution of 5 per cent) to ensure equity".

"These employees believe they have a very distinct relationship with their employer and they simply want the outcomes of the current enterprise bargaining with their employers to reflect this relationship," Mr Burke said.

For more information contact

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Media Release