



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



# MEDIA RELEASE

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### **The Onus is now on the Employer to Retain Staff: Sunshine Coast Grammar School**

The Independent Education Union of Australia - Queensland and Northern Territory Branch (IEUA-QNT) will meet with the Sunshine Coast Grammar School (SCGS) employer this Friday, 27 August 2010 to address the validity of the school's restructure which has left 21 staff facing redundancy.

"The way Sunshine Coast Grammar School handled the restructure has left staff uncertain and parents and students rightly concerned about the future of quality education delivered at the school," IEUA-QNT Secretary Terry Burke said.

"The complete lack of engagement with staff has demonstrated the lack of respect the Head of School has for the staff and for the outstanding contribution they have made to the quality reputation of Sunshine Coast Grammar School," he said.

The Head of the School announced last Friday to staff that 21 positions had been redistributed and staff who originally filled those positions would need to reapply for their jobs if they wished to remain employed at the school past 2010.

Letters were handed out to the staff subject to the restructure in a separate meeting however staff were not given the opportunity to direct questions.

None of the 21 redundant staff have been guaranteed a job at this point, with the restructured positions already being externally advertised over the past weekend.

Mr Burke said the Head of the School had ignored requests not to advertise these positions until discussions could occur to address the implications the restructure has on the affected staff.

"The onus is now on the employer of Sunshine Coast Grammar School to demonstrate leadership and resolve this issue in the interests of the staff and for the future of the quality education delivered at Sunshine Coast Grammar School," Mr Burke 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."*