MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Charlene Stephenson, QELi, 3007 5260 or cstephenson@qeli.qld.edu.au
Kevan Goodworth, School Councils Qld, 3352 3900 or kevangoodworth@pandcspqlq.com.au

Friday, 4 September 2015

QELi and School Councils Qld to bolster expertise of Queensland’s State School Councils

Queensland state schools are being given a greater degree of flexibility and local decision-making power than ever before. The State Government predicts that there will be up to 250 Independent Public Schools around the state by 2017.

Queensland Education Leadership Institute (QELi) in partnership with School Councils Queensland, have developed a specialised training program to foster the skills and expertise that School Councils need, to support school communities and bolster student outcomes. The first stage of the pilot is being run on Friday 4 and Saturday 5 September, 2015.

Independent Public Schools are mandated to have a School Council. However, School Councils are a popular addition for any state school community’s governance structures, due to their ability to support diverse school structures, improve strategic vision and reinforce schools’ focus on improved student outcomes.

Dr Stephen Brown, CEO, QELi said, “QELi are excited to be partnering with School Councils Queensland, to develop the pilot program. Together, we are collaborating with a number of nationally and internationally renowned industry-leading experts, including Ms Elizabeth Jameson, who will facilitate and coach our participating School Council participants throughout the program.

“We are also proud to be associated with researchers from Griffith Institute for Educational Research, who will be assessing the impact and results of the program.”

School Councils offer a strategic level of support to a school principal and the senior leadership team, and can offer meaningful contribution to the development of the school community.

Kevan Goodworth, CEO, School Councils Qld said the partnership with QELi would ensure new and established School Councils in state school communities will have the tools to further develop robust school governance and business management support.

“Being a member of a School Council can be both rewarding, as well as challenging. Each member brings their own valuable skills and expertise to the role, but there will also be areas of school governance that are new to them.

“This training partnership with QELi will give people new to School Councils the skills, resources and benchmarks to guide their work, and it will give more established School Councils an opportunity to refine specific tools and skills they need, to support their school’s long-term vision.”

ENDS.
About QELi
Established as a not-for-profit organisation in June 2010, QELi helps develop education leaders to improve student outcomes. Attracting participants from across Australia and the world, it is a partnership between the Queensland Department of Education and Training, Queensland Catholic Education Commission and Independent Schools Queensland.

About Schools Council Queensland
School Councils Qld was established in 2014 as the second entity of the Queensland Council of Parents and Citizens Associations (QCPCA) which also encompasses P&Cs Qld. School Councils Qld exists to support the training of all school community members in successful governance practices.