

To: The Education and Innovation Committee eic@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Committee Members,

I have been teaching mathematics, science and PE for many years. I have become more and more frustrated with the QSA's approach to assessment. The extra workload created by marking worthless assignments is a constant drain on my preparation time, and student contact time is limited due to class time being occupied by doing these worthless assignments. I also know that many of my colleagues feel the same.

Assessing mathematics using written assignments is not valid for the following reasons:

- (1) Students cheat by copying or paying tutors to do the assignments.
- (2) Students do not learn much maths by doing them.
- (3) Assignments use up much time which could be better used learning fundamental maths.

The criteria paragraphs which QSA call standards, are the most ridiculous thing I have ever seen. They are subjective and unhelpful. It would be much better to add up marks and award percentages, as has been done in the past.

I would also support state-wide exams set by teams of experienced teachers and discipline experts, in preference to the current system of school based assessment which is coupled with the current QCS exam. The time spent practicing for the QCS exam is a constant disruption to school routine, and it seems ridiculous to ask students to sit an exam which is not based on their chosen subjects.

Please help make the Queensland Education system the best in Australia rather than the worse.

Sincerely,

