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Media Release

Nathan Rees appointed CEO of Public Education Foundation

The Chair of the Public Education Foundation, Jenni Neary, is delighted to announce the appointment of the former Premier of NSW and member for Toongabbee, Nathan Rees, as the new Chief Executive of the Public Education Foundation.

“With the tremendous growth of the Foundation and its scholarships over the last 2 years, this couldn’t be a better time for public education to have such an experienced, talented and committed advocate as Mr Rees. He is absolutely the right candidate at the right time.” Ms Neary said.

“I am very excited by this opportunity,” Mr Rees said. “Education is the great equaliser in an often unequal world. The Foundation believes that demographic needn’t be destiny and it has tailored its work to provide a wealth of opportunities to ensure that this can happen. ”

The Public Education Foundation was founded 6 years ago to administer a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) scholarship program so organisations and philanthropic individuals could finally get tax deductions for donations to public school students. Since then it has been providing scholarships for students in need, and promoting the proud role public education will play in Australia’s future.

Already many successful scholarship programs are up and running. More than 100 students have already received awards from the Foundation including aboriginal students, talented creative arts students, rural students and refugee students. The Foundation has also provided leadership scholarships to Harvard University for talented principals in Public Schools.

With around \$1.5 million raised and invested already, Mr Rees will lead the Foundation in seeking more support for public school students through the creation of scholarships and for public education in general as the Foundation expands its offering into support for public school teachers and public school communities in general.

“A strong and successful public education system is vital to a functioning democracy.” Mr Rees said, “I am looking forward to getting stuck into helping provide more educational opportunities for public school students, their teachers and communities that I supported when I was Premier.”

For more information please contact:

Jenni Neary on 0419 160 847

Nathan Rees on 0439 041 446

Donate to the Public Education Foundation at <http://www.publiceducationfoundation.org.au>.