Local Register

Volume 4, October 3, 2016

Tentative Provincial Agreement

Tuesday October 4th

6am – 8pm

How to vote:

- Go to your NSTU Representative, autograph the nominal list. If your name is not there and you are a perm, prob or term teacher, simply put your 6 digit professional number and add your name
- Receive a voting key card, scratch it – that is your unique key to enter when you vote online
- Go to nstu.ca & vote

Substitute Teachers:

You may vote if you are working on Tuesday

- Add your name & 6-digit professional number to the nominal list
- Get your voting key card, scratch it
- Go to nstu.ca and vote



NSTU Representatives:

Please send leftover cards and lists to Provincial NSTU
3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax NS, B3L 4L7

If you have any problems, need more voting cards, etc, please email our Regional Election Officer, Keri Butler at kebutler@nstu.ca. You can also email our Local President, Ryan Lutes, at halifaxcity@nstu.ca.

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School Visits

Our Local President is available to come to you so that you may ask questions directly. Lunch visits, after school, staff meetings, In-service Days – whenever is best for you. School administrators or NSTU Reps can arrange this with the Local Pres.

Member Engagement Social

Join our Local Executive and your colleagues Thursday October 6th to celebrate

Membership Engagement Day

#NSTUnited

THE LOWER DECK BAR & GRILL
CLAYTON PARK

Between 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Brought to you by your Halifax City Local Executive

Refreshments to be served

Register now until October 14 for Professional Association Conference

On the fourth Friday in October of each year, NSTU members from around the province are invited to attend professional development conferences organized by our Professional Associations. The program offerings demonstrate a breadth of curriculum-based and other professional development opportunities that are designed to ensure Nova Scotia's students benefit from the latest pedagogical advances.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PROFESSIONNELLES

To register please go to www.nstu.ca

As in the past, there is no on-site registration.

NSTU/HRSB Pre-Retirement Seminars

To register, login to myHRSB – registration closes October 7th

The Teachers' Provincial, Community College and APSEA agreements allow a teacher in their last five (5) years to register with the Board/Employer for a pre-retirement seminar.



The Union provides a two-day seminar from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each of these days. The topics include:

- Features of the Teachers' Pension Plan
- Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security
- wills and estate planning
- service awards
- Money management in retirement
- Retired Teachers Organizations
- Insurance
- Psychological aspects of retirement.

Dates for HRSB NSTU Members are:

November 28 & 29
February 13 & 14
March 6 & 7

Please direct questions to Anne Patterson at apatterson@hrsb.ca

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Want to stay informed with what's going on in the NSTU.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Facebook—Halifax City Local NSTU

Twitter—@HalifaxCityNSTU

Class Caps

The class caps for this school year are:

- P-2—20 students
- 3-6—25 students

The date for calculating class caps is September 30th. If you feel you have a class over the cap and it is not being addressed, please let me know. If you have any concerns, please email halifaxcity@nstu.ca



Economic Welfare (Working Conditions)



- Physical space not big enough to teach?
- Not enough resources?
- Too many special needs? Or violent students in your class?

If any of the above are having a negative impact on the learning conditions in your classroom, check out Article 63: Class Climate in the TPA (Teachers Provincial Agreement).

It is written in steps and timeline provided. It is best to start by communicating your concerns to your school leadership first and try to solve there first. Sometimes the leaders' hands are tied because of funding, etc. This article can potentially help in that case.

Please contact our Local President, Ryan Lutes, for assistance with this: halifaxcity@nstu.ca.

ARTICLE 63 CLASS CLIMATE

63.01 The parties under this Agreement recognize the educational desirability of having **classroom climate conducive to creating conditions under which teachers are able to carry out their duties** pursuant to the Teachers' Provincial Agreement.

63.02 A teacher who considers that her/his class climate is inconsistent with Article 63.01 may report the facts of the **situation in writing to the Principal** who shall investigate, take appropriate action, and report in writing within fifteen (15) days to the teacher the action taken.

63.03 If the Principal is unable to resolve the concerns of the teacher, the **teacher and/or Principal may report, in writing, the facts of the situation to a Classroom Climate Review Team**. A Classroom Climate Review Team shall be comprised of a representative designated by the Superintendent, and a representative designated by the Union.

63.04 The **Team shall meet with the teacher and the Principal within ten (10) days** to review the teacher's written concerns. The teacher may be accompanied by a representative of the Union.

63.05 The Team's considerations shall include but not be limited to:
(i) the **physical limitations** of the instructional area;
(ii) the **resources** available to the classroom;
(iii) the **range of educational and behavioural needs** of the students in the teacher's class.

63.06 The Team shall examine all options available within the Board and make recommendations within fifteen (15) days of the meeting with the teacher and the Principal or such longer period as may be agreed by the Union and the Director. The recommendation(s) of the team shall be reported to a Director determined by the Superintendent, with a copy to the teacher and the Principal.

63.07 The Director will review and assess the recommendation(s) of the Review Team and will report back within ten (10) days to the Review Team to identify which recommendations will be implemented, if any, and will provide status updates when accepted recommendations have been implemented. The Director's decision as to whether or not to implement the recommendation(s) is final and non-grievable.

63.08 The parties recognize the sensitive nature of class climate issues, and accordingly agree that the process is to be kept confidential.

Halifax City Local Committees



Interested in getting more involved in the Halifax City Local NSTU? The Halifax City Local has numerous committees that help drive the direction of our local. We need your knowledge, expertise and commitment to continue to provide services to our members. We have the following standing committees: Economic Welfare/Resolutions, Social, PA/PR/Communications, Nominating, Professional Development and Finance. There is more information on each committee in the attached brochure. The level of commitment is generally 3-4 meeting a year. We'd love to have your input.

If you are interested, please fill out the following expression of interest: https://goo.gl/lRYYrb

Communications Conference

This past weekend, the NSTU held its Communications Conference. Halifax City had two representatives – Kyle Sarka and Nancie de la Chevotière. On Friday, representatives of the major political parties were invited to speak to delegates. Here are some highlights:

Ron Dunn (PC)
- ensure vocational training at all high schools
- focus on mental health

Gary Burrill and Lenore Zann (NDP)
- build respect for teachers
- address poverty in our schools
- repeal bill 148

Liberals
- were invited but did not send a representative

The delegates also met with the firm that the NSTU has hired to work on the new public relations campaign. The members helped brainstorm the narrative and image that the NSTU will want to bring forward to the people of Nova Scotia.



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1 Deadline PDAF Grant App	**2**
3 Deadline Educ Leaves less 1 year starting Jan-May 2016	**4** **Tentative Agreement Ratification Vote**	**5** **World Teachers Day** Deadline Out-of-Prov Conf (NSTU)	**6** **Fall Social – Lower Deck Clayton Park – 4:00 – 7:00**	**7**	**8**	**9**
10 Thanksgiving Day No School	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14** Deadline Professional Association Conferences Equity Conference	**15** Equity Conference	**16**
17	**18**	**19** Exec Meeting	**20**	**21** Prov Exec at NSTU	**22**	**23**
24 Deadline Art 60 Conf Grants In-Service Prom Grant	**25**	**26** Local Council Meeting – 4:30PM	**27**	**28** NSTU Professional Associations Provincial PD Day	**29**	**30**
31						