

February 2020
Vol. LXII No. 3



NBTA NEWS

NEW BRUNSWICK TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



NBTA Staff Changes

4 Wellness Challenge

Teacher Designed PL Grants 2020



Your NBTA, Your Magazine

Have you ever thought about writing something for the *NBTA News*? If so, we would love to hear from you! We are always looking for interesting articles, stories or information about the amazing activities taking place in your schools. This magazine belongs to you, the members of the NBTA. Your submissions are essential in making this the best publication possible.

For more information about the *NBTA News* or to submit an article, contact Chantal Lafargue, editor of the *NBTA News* by email at chantal.lafargue@nbta.ca or nbtanews@nbta.ca.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Upcoming Deadlines:

April 2020 Issue: March 15th

June 2020 Issue: May 15th

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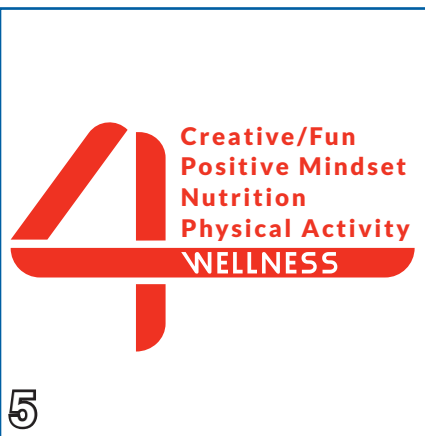
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Cover Photo: Members of the NBTA Finance Committee met on January 16 before the NBTF Finance Committee meeting: Tamara Carter (Branch 0214), Michael Fletcher (Branch 1827), Tammy Malley (Branch 1608), Rick Cuming (President), Julie Page-Michaud (Branch 1454).

Message from the President



As a teacher, I always found New Year's resolutions to be misplaced. The new year starts for us in late August and right after Labour Day with students. Early January is merely the mid-point of our school year. The December Break is an essential opportunity for teachers to recharge their batteries for the sprint to March Break. Perhaps you have seen the CBC articles in which my friend Philip

Davis, a classroom teacher from Carleton North High School, was being interviewed about how he successfully keeps his New Year's resolutions each year. In the past few years, he has kept resolutions such as creating hundreds of YouTube music videos, quitting eating after 8 pm, and writing hundreds of handwritten letters to important people in his life or community.

Philip's uncanny ability to complete resolutions comes down to resolve, but he says he has learned that if the resolutions are attainable, measurable, and valuable, he finds them much easier to complete. In the context of the NBTA and teachers, resolutions are decisions on actions to be taken, but in order to bring them to fruition, a similar resolve or firm determination is required.

Teachers will often make resolutions at the beginning of the school year that pertain to how they teach, the pedagogy they use, their classroom practices, etc. Resolutions that address one's physical, mental, and spiritual well-being are just as important for their professional success. Reading more books, getting a gym membership, spending less time on social media and more time with family, are not school related, but they will improve professional wellbeing. It is far too easy to fall into the misconception that always going the extra mile for your work is a professional necessity. In fact, the opposite is true. The healthier and happier a teacher is, the more likely it is that there will be benefits for students.

For our branches in the Association, however, Branch Resolutions are a well-known component of our AGMs. If you are reading this and thinking that you want your branch to submit a resolution, you have some tight timelines to meet. Your branch has to accept and submit any resolution to the NBTA by March 1st. Remember, Branch Resolutions may come from individual ideas, but they are submitted by branches, as their title indicates.

A great many of the resolutions each year pertain to negotiated items and our next Collective Agreement. In this particular year, I would strongly suggest that teachers and branches consider a more direct route for these types of ideas. Branches will be asked for submissions to the Federation Committee on the Terms and Conditions of Employment (FCTCE) who will be meeting in November 2020. The process for creating these NBTF submissions is similar to the one used for NBTA Branch Resolutions. The group of teachers on the FCTCE will examine all suggestions they receive and eventually create a draft Asking Package for our next round of negotiations. Although our Collective Agreement ends in February 2021, our Asking Package will be created and ratified well before that time. The next Bargaining Team will be led by your President, the NBTA Vice-President/President-Elect (who will be elected in April 2020), our AEFNB equivalents, and staff from the three organizations.

As you continue into the second half of the school year, I hope you had the time to fully recharge your batteries. Your resolve to improve the lives of your students every day is admirable, but just as important, is your determination to take care of your own physical and mental health. The students of New Brunswick need you...healthy.

As always, please contact me with your opinions and concerns. As the spokesperson for the almost six thousand NBTA professionals on the frontline of education, I need your help to do my job effectively.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rick Cuming'.



Branch 1431 President Claudine Bouvrette-Dionne (left) and NBTA President Rick Cuming at the branch meeting in January.

NBTA Staff Changes



Blake Robichaud transitioned to retirement in late December 2019 from his position as *Staff Officer – Communications* after twelve years of supporting all NBTA internal and external communications, media and public relations, and various initiatives associated to this portfolio. Blake has served on the Association staff since 2007, having spent ten years prior to that on the Board of Directors representing Branches 1454 and 1826, including 3 terms on the executive and 3 terms as an alternate.



Chantal Lafargue is the new *Staff Officer – Communications*. She joined the NBTA team in January 2020 after sixteen years of teaching. Chantal has taught Spanish, English and French as a second/additional language and she has held several supplemental positions of responsibility during her career. In her most recent roles, she worked .8 as a Newcomer Support Centre Teacher for ASD-W and .2 as a Faculty Associate at the University of New Brunswick. Prior to teaching, Chantal studied communications and worked in this field for approximately five years as a reporter, public relations coordinator and media monitor.



Kimberley McKay returned from her educational leave in January 2020. She is replacing Ardith Shirley in the role of *Acting Deputy Executive Director* until Ardith's return on July 1, 2020. This leadership role is in addition to her Staff Officer responsibilities for Professional Issues, Support for Early Career Teachers, High School Council, and various internal and external advisory committees.



2020 NBTA Provincial TEACHING AWARDS

NOMINATING A TEACHER IS AS EASY AS 1-2-3!

STEP 1

Letter of
Recommendation

STEP 2

Highlights of Career &
Accomplishments

STEP 3

Testimonials from
Students, Colleagues,
& Parents

NBTA
CENTENNIAL
AWARD

NBTA CREDIT UNION
AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE
IN TEACHING

VINCE SUNDERLAND MEMORIAL
AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING
EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Details and Applications:

www.nbta.ca > The Profession > Teacher Awards



NBTA 4 WELLNESS CHALLENGE

Winter may be the season when teachers face the greatest challenges to their health and wellness. For many, winter wellness doesn't happen on its own. It may require effort, encouragement and sometimes, rewards. To encourage staff wellness over the upcoming months, we will be conducting "NBTA 4 Wellness 2019-20." Schools will be encouraged to organize events or programs that promote wellness.

CATEGORIES

Wellness has many facets, so in order to encourage the broadest application and appeal we will have four categories for our contest:

Creative/Fun
Positive Mindset

Nutrition
Physical Activity

PRIZES

The winning school in each category will receive a "**Wellness Break**" for staff, including healthy food, with our NBTA Teacher Counsellors. The **Grand Prize** will be **\$200** for staff wellness, and this will go to the school that has created the most inclusive, longterm overall program to promote wellness in their school.

TO ENTER IS EASY

WE KNOW YOU ARE BUSY SO... send a photo or two along with three or four lines describing your event or program to chantal.lafargue@nbta.ca. We will share these on our Facebook page, hopefully giving other teachers some great ideas for wellness.

DURATION

January 13, 2020 - February 28, 2020.

ENJOY YOURSELF AND BE WELL.

Teacher Designed Professional Learning Grant 2020 Grant Recipients

By Greg Peters, NBTA Staff Officer

The New Brunswick Teachers' Association recognizes that teacher professional learning occurs within a broad spectrum of experiences and processes that lead to deepened understanding and improvement of practice. Effective professional learning strongly links teacher and student learning and is guided by evidence. Further, research highlights that effective professional learning must be personalized and responsive to the complex and unique needs of the learner.

Allowing teachers multiple chances over several weeks to experiment with the new strategies in a low-risk environment, such as their own regular teaching settings, is important.

(Nelsen & Cudeiro, 2009)

As adult learners, teacher motivation for professional learning is linked to relevance, meaning, and choice. Developing a sense of self-efficacy by directing one's efforts to meet student needs is key to teachers undertaking professional learning, and as John Hattie notes, teachers' collective self-efficacy also offers the greatest potential impact

on student achievement. An integrated program design that focuses on student and teacher learning activities within a job-embedded context, supported by both time and resources, is the ideal environment for professional learning.

In support of teacher designed professional learning, the NBTA is pleased to sponsor five grants valued at \$1,500.00 each. The grants are intended to support teacher professional learning within the context of improving student learning, fostering teacher leadership, and facilitating the sharing of exemplary practices. Each team has autonomy to spend the grant as they see fit. Provision for release time for team collaboration, purchase of equipment, or production of materials for sharing represent some of the most common uses of grant funding in previous years.

Grant applications were received from several teams representing all four anglophone districts and all three levels (6 Elementary, 5 Middle Level, 4 High School). Grants for 2020 were awarded to five teams—1 Elementary School, 2 Middle School, and 2 High School. The successful applications

respected the criteria and were designed within the context of best practices. The successful applications were clearly linked to teacher professional learning and projects of importance to the local school circumstances. The teams also gave thoughtful consideration to measures to make the work sustainable once the grant funding was depleted. Additionally, the successful project proposals clearly explained the potential impact on student and teacher development, as well as described a practical and realistic approach to measuring team goals. Finally, successful applications included a sharing component.

The assessment committee wishes to thank all teams who applied. It is hoped that all those who participated found the collaborative experience of developing a professional learning project beneficial. We look forward to learning more about the successes and challenges that teams experience as they embark on this personalized learning opportunity that is designed to deepen teacher understanding and, ultimately, enhance student learning.

GRANT RECIPIENTS 2020

Centennial Elementary School

Project: *Oral Language & Social Emotional Learning Through Discovery*

Team Leader: Tracy Ross

Dr. Losier Middle School

Project: *Real World Math*

Team Leader: Marie-Louise Squire

Bernice MacNaughton High School

Project: *T.I.P. - Teacher Innovation Project*

Team Leader: Adam Trider

Fredericton High School

Project: *Redefining the Book Club Model to Explore Poetic Narratives through Student Choice*

Team Leader: Valerie Marshall

River Valley Middle School

Project: *Middle School Readiness Intervention*

Team Leader: Erika Nelson

Works Cited:

Nelsen, J. & Cudeiro, A. (2009). Lasting Impression. *Journal of Staff Development*, 30(5), 32-35.

Share your school's

“Great News Stories”

on NBTA Facebook

\$ Win Monthly and Annual Prizes \$
for the most shares

There is always something newsworthy happening in the schools of New Brunswick! Share it with us and we will spread the word about these wonderful initiatives. We know you are busy, but even a good photo and a three-line caption is all it takes.

Here are some subjects that generally receive the most interest:



A word cloud of subjects that generally receive the most interest. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape and vary in size and color. The most prominent words are 'innovation', 'technology', 'science', 'events', 'environment', 'projects', 'ideas', 'social justice', 'education', 'citizenship', 'art', 'community service', 'learning', 'new', 'exciting', 'students', 'interest', and 'teachers'. Other smaller words include 'unique', 'modern', and 'education'.

So, You Have Decided to Retire?

Below is a checklist of things you should do when you have decided to stop teaching and receive your pension.

Retirement Process

- Verify that you are Eligible to retire by contacting NBTA or Vestcor Pension Services.
- Notify your Superintendent, in writing, of your intention to retire:
Specify the date of retirement (always at end of the month - e.g., June 30, 2020)
- Make arrangements with a financial institution to have your Retirement Allowance placed in a RRSP account or any other registered investment mechanism.
- If you are age 60 or over, do not forget to apply for the Canada Pension (CPP).

Note: In the case of a disability pension, these steps will only occur once the teacher has received approval for his/her disability pension from the Vestcor Pension Administration Services (Pensions Branch).

Pension cheques are received on the 24th of each month, except December. For any additional information on the above process, please contact:

Michael Ketchum
NBTA, P.O. Box 752,
Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6
Tel. 452-1722

District Office will contact you to complete various forms and will require the following documents:

- Birth Certificate for you and, if applicable, your spouse/partner
- Blank/void cheque for direct deposit
- Name of financial organization to send your Retirement Allowance
- Your latest Income Tax Assessment (to verify RRSP space)

Vestcor Pensions Preliminary Retirement Statement

will be forwarded to your home address. Choose the surviving spouse/partner percentage option on this document (if applicable).

Note: It is important that the Vestcor Pension Administration Services (Pensions Branch) receive the necessary forms properly filled out (notice of termination and TD1) at least **90 days** prior to the month you expect to receive your pension. The School District will look after sending these forms where appropriate.

Attention 2020 Retirees!

Teachers retiring this school year will be able to choose the option of having a donation made in their honour to the **Children's Wish Foundation**, rather than receiving the framed, inscribed print, featuring the NBTA stained-glass window. Those retirees wishing to choose the option of a donation must **contact Tammy Boon at the NBTA by April 24, 2020** (tammy.boon@nbta.ca).



*These donations are not individually tax-deductible as it is the organization making the payment.



2019-2020 NBTA Pension Seminars Registration Form

Date and Location of Seminar:

- February 22 - Sussex - Sussex Regional High
(Deadline for Registration: February 14)

Name of Teacher: _____ Birth Date _____

Email Address: _____ Dist. _____

Is partner attending? Yes No **(If partner is a teacher, please fill out a separate form)**

No. of pension years you will have accumulated to June 2019 _____ Certificate Level: _____

Do you receive a Responsibility Allowance (Principal/Vice Principal/SPR)? Yes No

Are you paid by pay bands? Yes No

If "Yes" to either, please contact the HR Officer at your District to have your salary history, dated back to June 2014, emailed to tammy.boon@nbta.ca.

***Form can be emailed or faxed to Tammy Boon
tammy.boon@nbta.ca
Phone: (506) 452-1722 Fax: (506) 453-9795***

Seminar Guidelines

The following guidelines should be noted for participation in these seminars:

1. All participants must pre-register.
2. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participant.
3. A nutrition break will be provided.
4. Questions relating to these seminars should be directed to:

Michael Ketchum
NBTA Staff Officer
New Brunswick Teachers' Association
P.O. Box 752
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6 (Tel. 452-1722)

5. All teachers are welcome to attend.
6. All seminars begin with registration at 8:30 am and sessions at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Program

Teachers' Pension Act

- contribution rates
- retirement options
- pension calculations
- survivor options
- purchase and transfer of Pension Service

Retirement Allowance

- pre-retirement vacation

Canada Pension

Old Age Security

Financial Planning for Retirement

- RRSPs
- RRIFs
- Annuities

***PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION ONE WEEK
PRIOR TO SEMINAR.***

Interest-Free Loans up to \$1500

2020-2021
School Year

Up to **\$1,500.00** in any one school year shall be made available to statutory NBTA members who are **on leave** and **improving their professional qualifications** through educational programs.

Application forms are available on the NBTA website (www.nbta.ca) under Resources > Forms.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Tina Estabrooks at:
tina.estabrooks@nbta.ca
or **(506) 452-1834**.

**Deadline:
March 27, 2020**

Are your students Canada's next upstanders?

**Being an upstander means
defending human rights.**

Give students a chance to tell us how they're using their strengths to create change; they could be one of ten students who wins a trip to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights!

Use the Museum's free teacher-developed and tested resources with your students to encourage inquiry and action on rights-related issues.

Middle years students and teachers who use the resource and submit projects are eligible to win.

Take up the challenge in your classroom. We want to hear what upstanders are doing, so they can inspire other young Canadians to do the same.



Check out the **student-focused website**



Download the **teacher-developed** and tested **project-based learning unit plan**



Book a **virtual field trip** for your class,
or **visit in person**



Enter the **Be Canada's Next Upstander** challenge



Learn more at humanrights.ca/upstander



Canada

Paid Advertisement

Outstanding Summer Professional Learning Opportunities

DSS 2020 Developing Successful Schools Conference

July 13-16, 2020
Mount Allison University,
Sackville, NB

"This was an extremely practical session that will support our work with teachers and leads. Networking opportunities were very productive and I learned a lot from around Atlantic Canada."
— DSS Attendee

Conference on New Techniques and Classroom Teaching



This 3 ½ day conference explores educational trends as well as 'simply great teaching techniques' that stand the test of time. It includes sessions facilitated by classroom teachers from all four Atlantic Provinces.

August 4-7, 2020
Antigonish, NS

ATTENTION TEACHERS! Are YOU eligible for a PAY RAISE?

Are you an **EARLY CAREER TEACHER** with previous work experience that is related to teaching?

Apply to have previous work experience count!

If you are a new teacher who has previous work experience that is related to teaching, you may apply to the Office of Teacher Certification to have it considered for an increase on your salary grid. The form you need is available from the NBTA website www.nbta.ca. Click the Certification button and download the form called **Application for Work-Related Experience for Salary Purposes**. You should also contact your district office to ensure that all supply teaching experience has been credited.

The deadline is March 31st to have the increase back-dated to January 2, 2020.

Are you a teacher who has **COMPLETED COURSE WORK** towards a certification upgrade?

Don't forget to apply for your certification increase!

The form you need is available from the NBTA website www.nbta.ca. Click the Certification button and look for the Application for Upgrading Teacher Certification Level at the bottom of the page with other forms.

The deadline is March 31st to have the increase back-dated to January 2, 2020.

Don't forget to include the evaluation fee!

NBTA Sponsored Professional Course

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses may be used towards Teacher Certification.
Contact teachercertification@gnb.ca to confirm if this is a fit for your certification path.

Enrichment Triad Training Course

Target Audience: Teachers (K-12)

Cost: Tuition **\$500 + \$25** material fee

Location:

**NBTF Building, 650 Montgomery Street
Fredericton, NB**

(Please make cheques payable to NBTA)

Find registration form at www.nbta.ca by clicking on the Enrichment Triad Training Course.

Instructor: Barb Buckley

*(former District Supervisor/Coordinator
of K-12 Programming & Enrichment)*

Registration Deadline: See below

Register Early - Limited Enrolment!



Spring:

Dates: Apr. 18, 25, May 2, 9, 23
(9 am to 3:30 pm)
+7 hours outside of class

Reg. Deadline: April 1st

Summer:

Dates: July 6-10
(9 am to 3:30 pm)
+7 hours outside of class

Reg. Deadline: June 12th

The Enrichment Triad Model is a literacy-rich, inclusive, cross-curricular, student-driven model. Its primary goal is to improve schools from within the classroom by differentiating and enriching the curriculum for ALL students in the regular classroom through interdisciplinary studies. It encourages the use of a wide variety of instructional strategies and styles while allowing students to experience self-directed, innovative learning based on their individual interests, strengths and learning styles. If thoroughly implemented, this model will offer the students three levels of enrichment.

Participants will be introduced to the work and philosophy of Joseph Renzulli and Margaret Beecher. This will be followed by an intensive, in-depth training of what the enrichment triad model is and how to implement it in the classroom. The training will include multiple handouts, activities, video clips of the model, discussion articles and actual practice. There will be lesson demonstrations of key skills to be taught and practice of each phase of the triad.

Participant Comments

"I learned how the Enrichment Triad Model has such an amazing impact on student's learning and their lives."

"I had such fun! I was not expecting to have laughed and cried, be so moved and motivated. I feel invigorated and excited about implementing this model."

PERSONALIZE LEARNING • INCREASE SELF-ESTEEM • CELEBRATE STUDENT SUCCESS

Professional Course

Name: _____

School: _____

Email: _____ Member Number: _____ Cell: _____

Spring (Apr. 18, 25, May 2, 9, 23) Summer (July 6-10)

You will be emailed with a confirmation of your seat.

Please print and mail registration form with payment (cheques payable to NBTA) to:

**Judy Deveau, Executive Assistant, Professional Learning
NBTA, PO Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6**

You are encouraged to apply well in advance because of limited enrollment.

NBTA Sponsored Professional Course

Kagan

Attention Teachers!

NBTA Sponsored Course
Kagan Cooperative Learning Credit Course

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses may be used towards Teacher Certification.
Contact teachercertification@gnb.ca to confirm if this is a fit for your certification path.

When: Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
July 20 - 24, 2020

Where: NBTB Building, Fredericton, NB

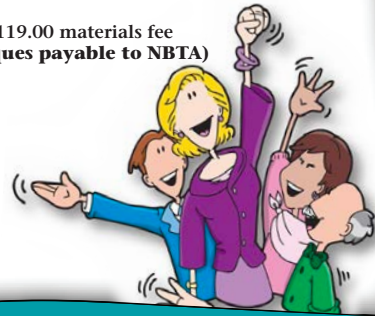
Instructor: Michael Smith
Certified Kagan Instructor

Cost: Tuition \$500.00 + \$119.00 materials fee
(Please make cheques payable to NBTA)

**Registration
Deadline:** July 3, 2020

Register by July 3rd by going to www.nbta.ca and clicking on the Kagan Button

Please make cheques payable to NBTA



It's All About Engagement

Workshop Highlights

Structures for Success™

- Put the best research into practice in your classroom
- Use cutting-edge structures that promote success
- Boost your students' achievement through practical, classroom-proven structures
- Make your lessons come alive
- Use strategies to reach all your students
- Make learning more fun for everyone

Improve Your Class Climate

- Create a caring, cooperative classroom through energizing classbuilding activities
- Foster belonging for students of all ability levels
- Have fun with your students with indoor and outdoor cooperative sports and games
- Promote full-class cooperation with scoring and recognition systems
- Establish a classroom environment where everyone wants to be - including you

Build your Students' Social Skills

- Teach your students the skills they really need to succeed in school and throughout their lives
- Promote caring, kindness, empathy, respect, and responsibility without separate lessons
- Develop your students' character in the context of learning together
- Improve student relations in your class and beyond

Form Successful Learning Teams

- Create and manage teams in your class where **Together Everyone Achieves More**
- Learn a better approach than simple group work
- Transform your lessons into engaging, interactive learning events that guarantee success
- Release the power of true cooperative learning

Participants Rave!

"I would HIGHLY recommend Kagan training to anyone and everyone who has any interest in helping kids succeed! One of the very BEST trainings I've ever been to!"

- Katie Canar 4th Grade Teacher

"This method, in my opinion, can change the face of education! Amazing stuff!"

- Josh Scott, 9-12th Grade Math Teacher

"This is life changing! I don't understand why every teacher isn't doing this! A+!"

- Beth Box, 7-8th Grade Teacher

"Kagan training is the BEST professional development I have attended. I look forward to attending many, many more workshops."

- Shannon White, 4th Grade Teacher

Professional Course Summer 2020: Kagan

Name: _____

School: _____

Email: _____ Cell: _____ Member Number: _____

I would like to attend: Kagan Cooperative Learning Credit Course (\$619) (July 20 - 24)

You will be emailed with a confirmation of your seat.

Please print and mail registration form with payment (cheques payable to NBTA) to:
Judy Deveau, Executive Assistant
NBTA, PO Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses may be used towards Teacher Certification.
Contact teachercertification@gnb.ca to confirm if this is a fit for your certification path.

WE Believe Saint John

by Daniel Foote, Hampton Middle School

WE Believe Saint John is an event that engages students in volunteerism, leadership and social action through year-round activities. **WE Believe** is an international celebration to motivate students across the Maritimes and the state of Maine to give back both locally and globally to causes they are passionate about. On May 14, 2020, at TD Station, WE Believe Saint John will be celebrated by almost 8000 students and staff from schools all across New Brunswick and the state of Maine.

At WE Believe Saint John, the speakers and performers will focus on mental and physical health, volunteering, bullying and self-worth, and how each of us can better the world. Students and adults attending the event will have the

opportunity to speak with over 35 organizations where they can become volunteers in their community. In addition to this, various organizations will offer information to students who wish to broaden their volunteer experiences by going beyond the Maritimes and out into the rest of the world. The WE Believe Saint John event, in partnership with the many businesses and organizations across the Maritimes and Maine, will be the second time WE Believe will be held at TD Station in Saint John. Students in grades 5-12 cannot purchase a ticket to WE Believe Saint John. They must earn their way by doing something positive, locally or globally.

Please feel free to contact Dan at Daniel.Foote@nbed.nb.ca to reserve your tickets for WE Believe 2020 today.



submitted photo

New Brunswick Social Studies Educators Network (NBSSSEN) Conference

MAY 1, 2020
Marshall d'Avray Hall
University of New Brunswick

Social Studies: Now - more than ever!

The newly-created New Brunswick Social Studies Educators Network is proud to host its first conference titled "Social Studies - Now, more than ever!" in conjunction with the Middle Level Council in Fredericton. In addition to our keynote speaker, teachers will be able to select from nine different sessions over two blocks, with time built into the day for collaboration and learning more about the role of this network as well as its membership in a recently incorporated national network of Social Studies educators. Lunch will be on-site and will be included for all registrants.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Catherine Duquette from the University of Quebec - Chicoutimi. Her presentation is titled "Turning a Game of Trivial Pursuit into an Escape Room: Proposing New Directions for Assessing Students' Historical Thinking".

In recent years, there has been a pull to move away from a teaching of history based solely on memorization to a more active approach that includes historical thinking concepts, inquiry and evidence. This presentation will offer a summary of results emerging from on-going research in assessment as well as ideas for strategies based on the cognitive progression of student's ability to think historically.

Registration information:

Teachers will be able to register for the conference on the NBTA website under the Council Day button starting in April.
Stay tuned!

For more information, please contact:

Lise.martin-keilty@nbed.nb.ca
kevin.foster@nbed.nb.ca

New Brunswick Social Studies Educator Network (NBSSSEN)

Twitter: @NBSSSEN

website: www.nbssen.wordpress.com

Certified to Weld

by Frank Kelemen, Hampton High School

Nearly two years ago, I had the opportunity to not only teach in my hometown of Hampton, but to build a new welding program at the local high school. I was extremely excited to start this new endeavor and wanted the program to have a positive impact on the school and the community.

Prior to teaching at Hampton, I was fortunate enough to have some of the best training I could ask for from my time spent teaching at Fredericton High School and opportunities through the Canadian Welding Bureau (CWB) and District. In my years at Fredericton High School, I saw the potential that many of the students had, and I recognized that many of the students were able to reach a skill level comparable to welders that held their first tickets. Unfortunately, at the high school level there was no opportunity for the students to be tested in order to receive certification. I thought there must be a way to make this happen.

When I arrived at Hampton High School, the shop was nothing but a concrete room with 12 metal bays. But as the welding equipment started to come in, I saw the potential that the shop had, and the overwhelming interest in the welding trade from the students. As the semester progressed, I noticed again that students who were taking the course were reaching the skill level of some ticketed welders. There had to be a way to give these students the opportunity to prove their skills and gain the certification I believe they deserved.

Thankfully, after years of teaching welding I had developed a friendship with an instructor from a local welding college, Ready Arc Training and Testing. One day after he

had joined my class for a presentation, I brought up the idea of allowing the students to challenge for their CWB welding certification. He loved the idea, and we started making this vision a reality.

We started working closely with Ready Arc and the CWB to set up training sessions for students to prepare to challenge for the 1GF, 2GF, and 3GF welding tickets which would certify students across Canada to weld in the flat, horizontal, and vertical welding positions. We were able to organize testing sessions at the Ready Arc Training and Testing facility for students to go to the college and perform a practical test that would certify them through CWB to weld in the positions that they successfully passed. The results were overwhelming.

After the first year of giving students the opportunity to challenge for their welding certification, we had a total of nine students from Hampton High School become CWB certified welders. Six students were certified in the 1GF positions and three students were certified in the 1GF and 2GF positions. Harbour View High School also joined us on test day and had five students successfully pass the 1GF certification. After hearing of the success of the program, I was contacted by various employers in the welding industry about hiring the students with certification. This resulted in three students being hired directly out of high school and three students who went on to further their welding education and experience at Ready Arc and NBCC. One of these students also received a national scholarship on behalf of the CWB that is only presented to one student across Canada.



submitted photo



submitted photo



submitted photo

This year we are working closely with Ready Arc and CWB to offer two test sessions to a total of nearly thirty students. It is incredible to watch students who may have struggled in typical academic course to come to the welding shop and excel. It is a testament to the fact that these students have the skill and potential, they just needed the opportunities and support to prove that they can succeed.

This program has also had a positive effect on the community and school environment: Class attendance has increased for students in the welding program; there has

yet to be a behavioural issue in the shop; there is a waitlist for the course; and, it has allowed for connections with industry. The skilled trades are providing students with opportunities for post-secondary education and careers that they may not have had before.

I would like to end by mentioning that this could not have been done if not for the support from Ready Arc Training and Testing, the Canadian Welding Bureau, and my school administration.

NBTA High School Council Institute

Saturday, February 15, 2020
Riverview High School
 400 Whitepine Rd, Riverview NB

CREATIVE PEDAGOGY:
Teaching in a culture of change

a full-day workshop with
Paul Syme

For information & registration
 contact laura.lamey@nbed.nb.ca

New Brunswick Physical Education Society

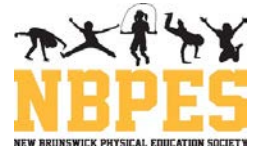
The New Brunswick Physical Education Society (NB PES) has partnered with the NBTA Elementary Council to provide a P.E. Strand Professional Learning Day at Riverview East School in Riverview, N.B. on Friday, May 1, 2020. This PL conference is being planned and organized for Physical Education Specialist Teachers for all Elementary, Middle and High School Levels.

The P.E. Strand Committee is planning to provide P.E. Sessions to teachers which will be based on “active practical P.E. lessons” and/or classroom P.E. theory sessions. Presenters for these sessions will consist of fellow teachers, local/provincial sport associations and activity based community programs.

Session Highlights include the following:

- Blair Abbass - Mindfulness in the Classroom
- Chris Tremblay - Intro to BOKS Program and Live Training
- Ian Chiasson/Robin Buchanan - Ultimate Frisbee and Slam Disc
- Melissa Yerxa - Barre Intensity Session
- Mickey Mazerolle – Indoor Curling Session
- Mike King/Robin Buchanan - Team Building Wellness Activities
- Patrick Gautreau - Teaching Physical Literacy Through Soccer Activities
- P.E. Buffet of Activities – P.E. Conference Committee
- Sarah Kalemkarian - PE PLPs and RCCs Session
- Sarah Kalemkarian - DeEscalation Session
- Suellen Stickle - Using iDoceo in Physical Education Session

The NB PES P.E. Strand Committee’s goal is to be able to provide current and informative professional learning for New Brunswick P.E. Specialists to assist them with their daily P.E. Lessons.



Elementary Council Day 2020

The Social event for Elementary Council Day 2020 will take place at *The Old Triangle* on Thursday, April 30th. Entertainment for the evening will be provided by the band, **The Tristan Legg Duo**. They are a cover band playing Irish Rock, dance and party music with an East Coast flare.

The Hotel Beauséjour is our host hotel for Elementary Council Day 2020. The **Hotel Beauséjour** is conveniently located at 750 Main Street, which is across the street from our Social venue; *The Old Triangle*. A limited number of rooms are available at a discounted rate, so please call 1-506-854-4344 to book your room soon. These rooms are at a first-come; first-served basis.



Elementary Council Day 2020 Moncton - May 1, 2020 + Physical Education Specialists Strand

James Mullinger: Elementary Council Keynote

Elementary Council Day 2020 Keynote Speaker

submitted profile

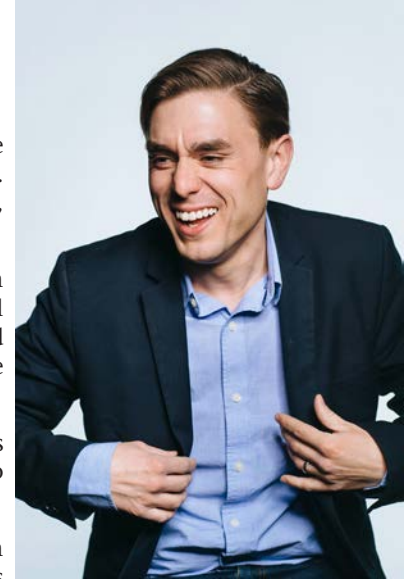
James Mullinger was one of the UK's top comedians and the Comedy Editor for *GQ* magazine when he moved to Canada five years ago. Since his arrival, he has taken the country by storm. Sold out shows across the country, appearances on CBC's *The Debaters*, movies, TV shows, festivals, awards, stand up specials – he's done it all.

An award-winning writer, comedian and filmmaker, he spent 15 years in a senior position at British *GQ* magazine, interviewing everyone from Jerry Seinfeld and Paul Rudd to Rachel Weisz and Scarlett Johansson and launching the magazine's digital division. In April 2016 and 2018, James sold out Harbour Station, outselling both Jerry Seinfeld and Guns N' Roses at the same venue.

His latest stand up special, *Almost Canadian*, shot straight to #1 on the iTunes charts and was nominated for a Canadian Comedy Award for Best Taped Live Performance. It is available to watch internationally on Amazon Prime Video.

In June 2017 he launched Atlantic Canada's first ever international magazine, [EDIT] - an award-winning premium media brand devoted to celebrating business leaders and creatives doing the unexpected while expanding Atlantic Canada's global reach.

James has also raised more than \$150,000 for Atlantic Canadian charities. He is a much sought after corporate clean comedian and keynote speaker internationally on the subjects of marketing, media and uplifting positivity celebrating life, work and play in Canada.



submitted photo

www.jamesmullinger.com • www.maritimeedit.com

James Mullinger Writing Workshop

James has worked in magazine publishing for more than twenty years and has written for dozens of newspapers and magazines internationally including *GQ*, *Conde Nast Traveller*, *The Guardian* and *The Times*. As part of his workshop, he will share insights in to how he writes, how he overcomes writers block and how students can be inspired to put their thoughts to paper.

He will also share interview techniques and illustrate how to put an interview subject at ease and get students excited about writing. Mullinger has interviewed everyone from

Scarlett Johansson to George Clooney and he will show how to overcome nerves and write from the heart.

Mullinger often cites his English teacher at school as being the person who inspired him, gave him a reason to live and through various interactional workshops he will convey how this can be passed on.

In this workshop, you will write, laugh and interact closely with Mullinger and your colleagues. Prepare to be inspired.



submitted photo

Middle Level Council Day 2020

Regular Program
George Street Middle School
575 George Street, Fredericton

Art Strand Program
Leo Hayes High School
499 Cliffe Street, Fredericton



submitted photo

Keynote Speaker – Dr. Katie Martin, author of “Learner Centered Innovation: Spark Curiosity, Ignite Passion and Unleash Genius” will be joining us as our keynote speaker for the day.

Social Location – The Middle Level social will be held at Grimross (600 Bishop Drive, Fredericton). The social will be held from 9:00 pm to 12:00 midnight.



submitted photo

Host Hotel – Radisson Kingswood Hotel and Suites located at 41 Kingswood Way, Hanwell, NB, E3C 2L4. Room rate will be the NBTA rate of \$99.00 + tax for a room of up to 4 people. Blocks of rooms will be available up to April 10th. If reserving a room, please cite “NBTA Middle Level Council” to receive the NBTA rate. Hotel phone number is 1-506-206-6270. Parking is free of charge at the hotel for guests.

Middle Level Council Day 2020 Fredericton - May 1, 2020 + Art Specialists Strand

Do You Know a Deserving Teacher? Nominate Today!

Deadline for nominations: April 1st

Council Day 2020
Teacher Recognition Awards

Go to www.nbta.ca for more information

Supporting Teachers, Supporting Newcomers: EAL Learning Opportunities

Submitted by Corey Harvey, Newcomer Support Centre, ASD-W

In recent times, newcomers have been arriving in our province in greater numbers. In fact, a month ago, CBC News reported that “newcomers fuel(ed) the largest N.B. population bump in 44 years” (December 19, 2019). This may be partially attributable to our province’s successful population growth strategies that have the goal of attracting, retaining and repatriating people to New Brunswick. Consequently, our schools have been responding to cultural and linguistic diversity and adjusting existing models of support for newcomers. In terms of supports for teachers, educational leaders and stakeholders from community associations have also been collaborating to provide professional learning opportunities for those who work with newcomers and language learners. For example, in early May of last year I attended the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers’ national conference in Fredericton, which was a collaborative effort between various partners, including teacher associations, universities, government, and community groups. There were many sessions and networking opportunities that allowed me to deepen my understanding of EAL instructional strategies and to respond to the diversity present in my classroom. As the then president of a professional organization called TESL New Brunswick, I was also invited to a networking conversation with others who were in similar leadership roles in Atlantic Canada.

This year, there will be another opportunity to network with and to learn from EAL educators. The TESL Atlantic conference is a collaborative event with TESL NS to be held in Halifax on May 1-2, 2020. Following the theme of teacher and learner wellness, resilience and empowerment, one of the keynote sessions will relate to teacher self-care. Additionally, one of the three focal strands of the conference will be K-12 EAL; colleagues from TESL Newfoundland and Labrador will do a feature presentation related to their initiatives and challenges in that province. We can also look forward to a variety of other relevant sessions on current topics such

as portfolio assessment, pronunciation techniques, and task-based teaching. Teachers would be required to submit an Alternate Proposal Request form and any necessary out-of-province travel requests to seek approvals to participate in this independent learning opportunity. More information can be found at <https://teslnb.ca/events/1766/>.

In terms of opportunities closer to home, TESL NB is a professional organization affiliated with TESL Canada that aims to support English as a Second Language (ESL) and English as an Additional Language (EAL) teachers and instructors working in a variety of institutions in the province of New Brunswick. TESL NB provides ESL/EAL educators with a venue for networking and professional learning opportunities. All teachers who work with language learners and newcomers, including K-12 teachers who are looking for additional learning opportunities, are welcome to join this organization or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. For more information, please visit www.teslnb.ca. Finding the resources to travel to conferences can sometimes be challenging, so I sometimes look up #ELLchat on Twitter or read the TESL Canada Journal, which is a free publication (www.teslcanadajournal.ca). Also, with your membership to TESL NB, you are eligible to apply for TESL NB and TESL Canada PL bursaries that are available from time to time. It is wonderful to know there is a community of practice within New Brunswick—and beyond. I invite you to join us virtually, or otherwise!



Deferred Salary Leave Application Deadline: February 28, 2020

Go to school district websites or
www.nbta.ca > Resources > Forms
for more information

Great News Stories from Facebook

Showing Great Sportsmanship

This story, featured on the NBTA's Facebook page, set an all-time record for the most shares. As of mid-January, the post had reached 126,000 and 1,200 shares. CBC News also reported on this account of true sportsmanship from Southern Victoria and St. Stephen high schools. The letter between principals and the image below were part of this "Great News" Facebook post.

Hi Valerie,

I just wanted to send along this picture and a quick note to tell you how extremely impressed I was on Saturday night with your Boys Hockey Team (players and coaches). SSSH is in a rebuilding phase of our hockey program and chose to continue to play in the AA league this year, knowing it was going to be a struggle, but wanted to stay part of the group of teams that they have connected with and held long-standing relationships with over the years.

Our team found ourselves in a position Saturday without a goalie. The team had one of our Senior Players step up and wear the gear despite never having been in net before. Your team was so respectful during the entire match, but the attached picture brought tears and a round of applause from the crowd between periods.

Your goalie made his way down to give our goalie some pointers and tips. It was an inspiring show of sportsmanship. He continued to support our goalie by

slapping his stick on the ice for each and every save our goalie made.

Sometimes, hockey can present challenges for administrators, but this weekend, it was the highlight of the week and reminded all who were there of the good and kindness in our youth.

Kudos to you, your coaches and to your players!

Krista



submitted photos

Lunar New Year

Students from St. Malachy's Memorial High School and Rothesay High School helped to celebrate the Chinese New Year at a gala at the Imperial Theatre in Saint John on January 18th.

Do you have a "Great News" story to share?

Send a caption and a photo to:
Chantal.Lafargue@nbta.ca

Don't forget to like and share on Facebook! Each month, the school whose story has the most shares will receive a prize.



New Brunswick Teachers' Association - NBTA
on Facebook

LEAP: An Invitation to Share School Leadership Internationally



An Enriching Program for Principals/Vice-Principals/Supervisory Officials

LEAP (Leading Educators Around the Planet) is a program designed by educators from New Brunswick and Australia to provide an opportunity for administrators to engage in strong professional dialogue about common and diverse issues facing school leaders around the world. The program is offered through NBTA and UNB.

Visit www.nbta.ca for further details.



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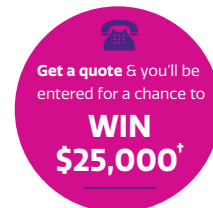
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Workshops coming to New Brunswick:

TRAUMA—Strategies for Resolving the Impact of Post-Traumatic Stress
Moncton: February 25-26

CHALLENGING BEHAVIOURS IN YOUTH—Strategies for Intervention
Fredericton: April 4 (low-cost weekend training)

HARM REDUCTION—A Framework for Change, Choice, and Control
Moncton: April 20

WALKING THROUGH GRIEF—Helping Others Deal with Loss
Moncton: May 12-13

TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE—Building a Culture of Strength
Fredericton: May 26

Workshops coming to Nova Scotia:

PLAY THERAPY—Tools for Helping Children
Halifax: March 9-10

SELF-INJURY BEHAVIOUR IN YOUTH—Issues and Strategies
Halifax: April 15-16

CRITICAL INCIDENT GROUP DEBRIEFING
Halifax: May 13

Please visit our website for information on more workshops coming in 2020.

Many of our workshops are now live-streamed or available on-demand! Visit our website for details!

GENDER AND SEXUAL DIVERSITY IN YOUTH

Toronto: March 30-31

For details and to register, please visit our website.



**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
Facilitating Dialogue**

TORONTO, ON: July 14-16



This highly experiential workshop utilizes a trauma-informed approach, and provides frameworks for identifying and responding to the needs of all those who were impacted by the wrong.

For details and to register, please visit our website.

info@ctrinstitute.com

www.ctrinstitute.com

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Q: Can I take money out of my RRSP without a tax penalty?

by Meghan Reed, Member Service Supervisor, NBTA Credit Union

A: When you take money out of your RRSP, you pay tax on it. There are only two scenarios where you can do so tax-free: a) if you're buying/building your first home or, b) if you're planning to go back to school.

Under the newly amended federal Home Buyers' Plan (HBP), you can withdraw up to \$35,000 from RRSPs without paying tax on it, to help pay for your first home. This plan requires that you repay the full amount within 15 years. The federal government recently extended access to the HBP in order to help Canadians maintain homeownership after the breakdown of a marriage or common-law partnership. There is also a provision for helping a related person with a disability buy their home. See Canada.ca for more information.

Another instance where you can withdraw money from your RRSP without paying tax on it is under the Lifelong Learning Plan (LLP). You can withdraw up to \$10,000 per year from your RRSPs tax-free, to a maximum of \$20,000, to finance your education. The amount that you withdraw under the LLP is not limited to the cost of the tuition and you must repay the full amount within 10 years.

Outside of these programs, if you plan to withdraw money from your RRSP, you will be required to pay a withholding tax ranging from 5% to 30%. It is always best to speak with a specialist prior to making any early withdrawals to ensure you understand the full tax implications and repayment programs.



Have a financial question you would like answered?

Email questions to: nbtacu@nbtacu.nb.ca

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