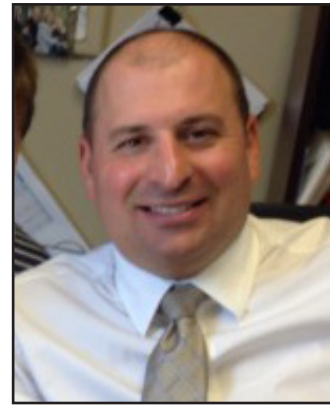




April 2014
Vol. LVI No. 4

NEW BRUNSWICK TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

NB Celebrates 2 of Canada's Outstanding Principals



Registration Opens April 2nd at 4pm

- Speakers
- Business Meetings
- Reminders
- Social



**NBTA Combined
Council Day 2014**

- Prizes
- Schedule
- Sponsors
- Trade Show

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The deadline for the next NBTA News is May 15. We welcome all submissions from teachers!



A Message from the President



Peter Fullerton

My, how time flies! I have no more than warmed up the President's chair and the election campaign is in full swing to determine my successor. This year's NBTA election is for VP/President-Elect and, as such, the winner will be the Vice-President for 2014-15 and then succeed me as President the following year. Please take the time to become acquainted with the candidates and listen to their messages when they visit your school. Voting week is April 21st to 25th. The successful candidate will also be the Co-President of the NB Teachers' Federation during the next round of negotiations with the province.

A Minister of Education once said, "The only constant in Education is change in Education." In the past few years, the educational system has seen a number of major changes such as Inclusion Policy 322, review of Graduation Requirements, the introduction of Powerschool, High School Renewal and the list goes on and on. How can a system withstand constant overhaul? I believe it is time to step back, evaluate these changes, and see if we are headed in the right direction before we travel too far

down the road. The time has come for the system to take a breather and see if these changes have had a positive effect on students or teachers. If not, the change has been merely for the sake of change. I have said it many times... "Change must have a positive effect on students or teachers." Evaluation is part of the educational cycle and it is time for the department to evaluate each of these changes, and at least as importantly their combined impact on the system, teachers, and students' learning, to see if they really have had the desired effects.

To provide quality education for the students of New Brunswick the appropriate funding and supports must be available. This year's Education Budget, for Primary and Secondary Education, shows an increase of 0.6% over last year. During the last four years the total increase has been a combined total of 1.6%. This does not even match the inflation rate and thus can be viewed as a cut indicating a reduction of services. In recent years, the school system has undergone District amalgamation, a supposed saving of \$5,000,000 which was to be earmarked for return directly into the system. We have yet to see the accounting of these monies. The system has also suffered a reduction of over 400 FTEs during the last four years. While there has been declining student enrollment, the government must be made to realize that this does not translate directly into a cut in teachers. Most can understand that a class of 20 students becoming a class of 18 still needs a teacher for instruction. Play out this scenario throughout the province and it becomes easy to see how a reduction in students should not translate directly into a corresponding drop in the number of teaching positions. As well, in a time when the needs of students are clearly so great, we are missing a great opportunity to increase supports.

Pension is the topic on everyone's

mind. It has become very clear that the Shared Risk Plan, as outlined in "Schedule B" as proposed by the Minister of Finance in no way meets the needs of teachers. At the time of this writing, the Expert Strategies Committee has developed a proposal that we feel meets the needs of teachers and government by being sustainable, affordable and fair for all. The outcome may be clear by the time this article is published.

On a more positive note, it is the time of year we recognize deserving teachers. Although nominations for this year closed on April 1st, I hope that many of you have nominated colleagues for several awards presented through the NBTA.

The NBTA Centennial Award is presented each year to an individual in recognition of having made a significant contribution to education in New Brunswick. The Bell Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented to an NBTA member, recognized by peers and the community, as a teacher who exhibits excellence in teaching through on-going commitment to students and pedagogical approaches.

School administrators are recognized through the Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership, sponsored by the Department of Education. If you missed your chance to nominate someone this year, put it in your calendar for 2015. We simply have thousands of potential nominees who have made such positive impacts on the lives of their students and colleagues.

Don't forget there are also Branch Awards of Excellence, Elementary, Middle Level and High School Council Awards being considered. Please check out the NBTA website for information and applications for all of these awards.

Many teachers take part in summer courses and PD activities for credit or personal growth and enjoyment.

I want to remind you of DSS (Developing Successful Schools) in Sackville in July, and CONTACT (in Newfoundland in August) to name a couple. The applications for these conferences are also located on the NBTA website.

Once every five years Combined Council Day occurs. This is the largest gathering of teachers in New Brunswick. Council Day is May 2nd this year. I trust you are already planning to attend. The day will be a positive opportunity to grow professionally and, most importantly, this day is organized by teachers for teachers. I'm sure you will find something that

will be of benefit to you and please encourage your colleagues to attend with you. Hope to see you there! If you are in need of any help onsite just look for one of us in the bright orange shirts!

Upcoming in May will be our Annual General Meeting. The AGM is the highest decision-making body of the NBTA and I want to thank the delegates for volunteering and taking the time to represent the teachers of their branches.

Each year, we look for members to fill vacant positions on our NBTA committees. There is no better way to become knowledgeable and

understand the workings of your NBTA then to become part of one of the committees. The application form will be printed here in the *NBTA News* and you can forward it to my attention at peter.fullerton@nbta.ca. I will be spending a few weeks doing my best to match up the expertise of members with the appropriate committees later this spring. This is your chance to become part of the over 400 volunteers.



NBTA Executive Director Larry Jamieson, Executive Assistant Erna Leger, President Peter Fullerton, Vice-President Guy Arseneault and Past President Heather Smith at the February Board of Directors meeting in Fredericton.



NBTA Professional Learning Chairs attended a workshop on January 24.

Canada's Outstanding Principals Awards

Release from The Learning Partnership

The Canada's Outstanding Principals program was developed by The Learning Partnership. Veronica Lacey, President & CEO of The Learning Partnership, states, "We are proud to celebrate the achievements of these extraordinary principals. Their dedication to enhancing our public education system clearly demonstrates the importance of strong leadership in education. They will have the opportunity to further their knowledge and leadership capabilities through the five-day executive leadership program, which is part of the Canada's Outstanding Principals program."

Raising Good Citizens

Pat Thorne – Woodstock Middle School

By Blake Robichaud, NBTA Staff



For Pat Thorne, the principal's office is the place she goes to do paperwork when the students are not in the building. "It's really about visibility, in the hallways, playground, bus area or wherever the students are. You're in touch with what is going on and it's a great way to get to know the kids. It's a little confusing sometimes because my term of endearment for students and staff alike is *kids*."

A UNB graduate (BPE, BEd, MEd (Counselling)), Pat became principal of Woodstock Middle School five years ago, after having taught at Nackawic High and Canterbury High. Pat has also been chosen to be principal of the "yet-to-be-named" new K-8 school that will open within the town of Woodstock this fall. She is excited about moving to a brand new state of the art facility although she still loves the current school. "It's got lots of character, like a lot of the people that work here."

"I have two basic priorities; I want my students to have the best possible grade 6-8 experience; and I want the learning environment here to be a positive one where staff can teach and students can be safe and learn. I think most of my decisions and our efforts here are based on these. They aren't always popular, but they're the ones that have to be made. Teaching and leading a school is not for the faint of heart."

Thorne says always getting better requires a lot of hard work, "We hold our own in provincial assessment results, but it's a snapshot. What teachers do in their classrooms every day is more important. Each student learns differently and teachers have to make a lot of adjustments to reach out."

She says there are lots of photos in the hallways of both student and staff "kids" doing good things because it is important to celebrate achievements

whether they are academic, athletic or relating to citizenship. "When kids leave grade 8, I want them to know right from wrong and make the right choices whether anyone is looking or not. In some ways, this is even more vital than math and reading skills. I want this to be obvious to everyone who enters our school. It is my passion"

"It's a big deal getting this award, however there are so many other administrators who are doing such great things day in and day out who may never get recognized. I was just lucky to have a PSSC and colleagues that put this nomination forward."

Thorne also feels she should thank the leadership of Anglophone School District West; Superintendent David McTimoney and SEO Jay Colpitts. "They have provided great support in my role as a principal and this makes a huge difference in the job that I do."

Canada's Outstanding Principals Awards

A True Community School

Michael Wilson - St. Patrick's School, Saint John

By Blake Robichaud, NBTA Staff



It might have taken a little while and a variety of work experiences to get there, but Michael Wilson has clearly found his calling and his professional home at St. Patrick's School. Wilson came to the K-5 school eight years ago, following employment with Irving, as a probation officer and as a high school teacher. With a Master of Arts in Public Policy and Public Administration, rather than Education, his love of teaching grew from instructing a single university course in the evening. "I loved it. I found myself looking forward to the nighttime job because it was a lot more fulfilling than my full-time employment."

Wilson views the role of his school is to serve the entire community, not just its 175 K-5 students. "It's considered to be a vulnerable neighborhood with a lot of poverty, subsidized housing and high-needs students. We know that if the basic needs of students are not taken care of, it can really hinder their learning.

Therefore, we do a lot of extra things, from helping kids find doctors and getting referrals to pediatricians, providing food and clothing as needed, and paying for extracurricular activities so no one will be left out. There are even programs during the day to help mothers with young children."

Wilson credits the entire staff of the school who every day go the "extra mile" to help kids to learn. He believes his job is simpler, helping create the environment that supports and encourages their efforts. "It's a very caring, positive atmosphere, but everyone is on task and focused on learning. Teachers take the initiative to grow, learn, and improve their instructional practice. There are lots of meetings whether among staff, with parents, or involving external agencies, but that is how you solve problems and come up with solutions that will serve kids and the community."

Wilson says provincial assessments

and other data show that St. Patrick's is not just a nice place to be, but also great place to learn. "We had a school review this year. It was an opportunity for us to showcase all that we've accomplished, and gave us time to reflect on what we need to work on. We came away knowing our strengths and weaknesses and we've already made a few changes as a result."

Michael Wilson is proud that students can start their day with a visit to the breakfast room in the basement of the school and then go to classrooms where support and learning are paramount. He says his recognition as one Canada's Outstanding Principals could not have taken place without such a dedicated staff and the support of so many partners in the community. "Our school is just such a vital part of this neighborhood. It's a great responsibility, challenge and opportunity for us to really contribute."

Bringing Care to the Kids

By Deborah Carr, Bennett and Albert County Healthcare Foundation

www.bachfoundation.com

In 2009, the late Belinda Myers, principal at Caledonia Regional High School, realized many of her students did not have easy access to primary healthcare. She asked Krista Cormier, a nurse practitioner at the Albert County Health and Wellness Centre if they might work out a solution together.

"Students in the city (Moncton) can take a taxi, bus or vehicle to visit a nurse practitioner, doctor or clinic, but this was not always an option for Albert County kids," says Krista. "So we came up with the idea of a satellite office."

One year later, with funds provided by the Bennett and Albert County Healthcare Foundation, Krista established an office in the high school and began offering primary healthcare to students and staff members at Caledonia High, Middle and Elementary schools. She sees approximately 260 students a year during her office hours every Monday.

"We brought care to the kids," says Krista. "I see the kids for a variety of issues, ranging from simple, like prescription renewals, to complex, like mental or sexual health issues." She also participates in health promotion and illness prevention, and provides consultation or referrals to specialists or other health care disciplines such as physiotherapy, mental health, social work, and nutrition.

CRHS principal, Donna Godfrey, says Krista's presence has been a huge benefit. "We've gained a partnership with Horizon Health Network that enables us to pool our resources and collaborate with outside agencies when our kids are struggling with particular issues."

Krista's observations have resulted in actions by the school and the health centre to address such problems as bullying and smoking.

Anne-Marie Weston of Dennis Beach has two daughters in high

school. "My girls started seeing Krista at the Albert County Health and Wellness Centre, but now, they can make their own appointments without missing school. Plus, Krista is young; she sees and understands what the kids face in school life."

"I am sometimes blown away by how honest the kids can be with me," notes Krista. "They know help is here. I think to grow up now, with peer pressure and bullies, is very different because social media does not let them escape. But we are seeing positive results with the effort we've put forth."

She sees improvements in self-esteem, relationship-building and health behaviours, and believes teens are more aware of the practical actions involved in healthy living.

Anne-Marie's daughter, Taylor, says

she feels comfortable seeing Krista. "I don't have to go to my mom first. I make appointments on my own. If I am curious about something, I can just go in and ask her about it."

Anne-Marie notes that this is something a teenager or even an adult might not do with a typical healthcare provider. "This has made my girls more aware of their own health and is teaching them to take responsibility for it," says Anne-Marie. "This is setting them up for good habits when they are on their own."

"She is providing a true service to these kids," says Donna Godfrey. "She has such strong interpersonal and counselling skills. Her care for these students is genuine. We are very lucky to have her."



Nurse Practitioner, Krista Cormier, with a student in her office at the Caledonia Regional High School.

We Need Stories from Teachers and Schools for NBTA Facebook Page

 **Facebook**
New Brunswick Teachers' Association

 **Twitter**
@NBTeachersAssn

Help us to promote your school activities and the profession!



New Brunswick Teachers' Association shared a link.
5 November 2013 near Fredericton

The application period is now open for Education Officers (high school & university teachers, science educators...) onboard the JOIDES Resolution, an incredible 143m-long scientific ocean drilling ship!

Education Officers have the opportun... See more



For Teachers/Educators — IODP Canada
www.iodpcanada.ca

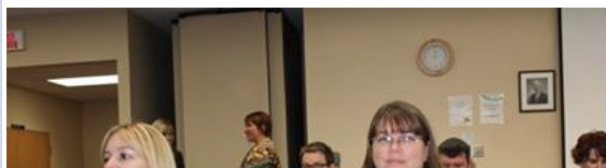
JOIDES Resolution Education Officers have the opportunity to learn shipboard science alongside the expedition's science party and translate their learning experiences for students, families and the general public through creation of blogs, videos, social

Like · Comment · Share



New Brunswick Teachers' Association
23 October 2013

NB Teachers' Federation Board Meeting (7 photos)
Elected volunteer teachers from both the Anglophone and Francophone sectors, meeting in Fredericton today to help guide the union in its work.



Cheer on Saint John High teacher Maryanne Lewell as she appears on "Jeopardy" this Thursday evening, November 14.

Like · Comment · Share

 22  23



New Brunswick Teachers' Association
24 October 2013

NBTA Board of Directors Meeting (7 photos)
The NBTA Board of Directors meets today and tomorrow in Fredericton. Board members will receive updates and reports from NBTA Committees and Staff and make decisions that will guide the Association. It is also the first Board meeting for Peter Fullerton as NBTA President. Education and Early Childhood Development Minister Marie-Claude Blais discussed key issues with the Board for over an hour this morning.



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 5



New Brunswick Teachers' Association shared a link.
18 October 2013 near Fredericton

To submit an article, please contact Blake Robichaud (blake.robichaud@nbta.ca)

NBTA Committees: Tapping into Member Expertise



NBTA Assessment Committee met in Fredericton on January 28. (l to r) Julie Kilcollins (Florenceville Middle), Mark Crowley (M. Gerald Teed Memorial), Bridget Fraser (Fredericton High) and Victoria Green (Doaktown Elementary).



Early Career Teachers gathered in Fredericton on January 28 at the NBTF building to participate in a Differentiation Essentials workshop. A loud round of applause to all who attended!



The Professional Learning Chairs attended a workshop on January 24. (l to r) Erin Kingston (Harkins Middle), Roxanne Grant (Pennfield Elementary), Jayme Campbell (Harkins Middle) and Heather Darrah (Minto Elementary Middle).



Changes to our country's copyright laws have established a clearer legal framework for digital technology and use of Internet materials for learning purposes. Updating our country's copyright law to address Canadians' evolving digital learning needs has been long overdue. So, it is very good news that the new copyright law supports the use of the Internet in classrooms.

New Internet amendment

A new Internet provision in the Copyright Act establishes that teachers and students can legally conduct routine classroom activities such as downloading, saving, and sharing publicly available Internet text or images. Teachers and students can also incorporate Internet materials into assignments, and exchange works electronically with one another.

Where the copyright law was once silent on activities like surfing and using on-line resources, it is now stated explicitly within our country's Copyright Act. The Internet amendment permits teachers and students to use publicly available materials on the Internet for educational purposes without having to pay copyright or license fees.

This Internet amendment is essential in a day and age when our federal and provincial/territorial governments are simultaneously increasing our levels of connectivity and positioning the country to be a leader in the information age.

Respecting Creators

However, this new Internet amendment does not allow teachers or students to use any and all material that they find on the Internet.

The new Internet amendment applies only to material that has been posted to the Internet with the authorization of the copyright holder and without any barriers to restrict access such as encryption or password protection. Teachers and students must respect any "digital" lock that in any way restricts access or use of the Internet content.

The new education amendment does not apply to materials that are not publicly accessible. Content creators and copyright owners still have a right to continue to sell and receive payment for their works through subscription, password, and payment technologies. In this way, the amendment respects the rights of those creators and other copyright holders who post materials on-line

for commercial purposes.

Note as well that the new Internet amendment does not apply to pirated textbooks or films.

The use of pirated materials is akin to plagiarizing works. The education sector teaches respect for creators and copyright. Students are required to cite materials used no matter what the source, as a matter of appropriate use of material created by others. This practice teaches respect and recognition for intellectual property. Teaching the inappropriateness of pirating materials is one way the education sector re-enforces respect for creators.

Internet in the classroom

The Internet provides us with access to a wealth of information. Computers and digital technology are invaluable tools in the learning process. With the new copyright law, teachers have wonderful new opportunities to teach and use on-line materials.

The new copyright law and its Internet amendment ensures that both teachers and students can reap the full benefits of the evolving digital technology without harming the interests of copyright owners.



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:

- If you are unsure of your pension service, check with the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources (Pensions Branch) to make sure that you are indeed eligible for retirement. Include your Social Insurance Number (SIN) and birth certificate in any communication with the Pensions Branch.
- 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, 2014)

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 Compensation & Employee Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources.

- Make arrangements with a financial institution to have your retirement allowance placed in a RRSP account or any other registered investment mechanism. The banking institution, trust company or credit union, etc. will then undertake the necessary steps (complete TD2 form) so that the amount is deposited directly into a RRSP account without going through your hands. Otherwise you might end up paying tax at a high rate on that amount.
- If you are age 60 or over, do not forget to apply for the Canada Pension (CPP).

Forms to fill out at District Office:

1. Termination Notice / Benefit Request — Claim for pension benefits (copy of birth certificate(s) required)
2. TD1 — Personal exemptions for income tax purposes after retirement
3. Direct Deposit form (blank, void cheque required)
4. NBTF Group Insurance form indicating what you plan to do regarding your group insurance coverage. This will allow the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division to make the necessary deductions from your pension cheque.

Note: It is important that the Compensation & Employee Benefits Division 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.

Pension cheques are received on the 23rd/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**



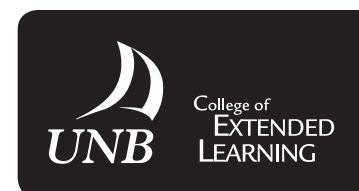
Behavioural Intervention Training Support Program

*Teaching evidence-based practices
for effective support for people with
behavioural challenges.*

Behavioural Intervention Workshop

April 21-23, 2014, Fredericton

**Find out more at go.unb.ca/celintervention2014
call 506 458-7619 or email profdev@unb.ca**



Understanding and Responding to Self-Harm

New Brunswick Association of School Psychologists

Submitted by Jo-Anne Burt, Psychologist, Anglophone South

Students who self-harm intentionally inflict physical harm on themselves. While many people believe that self-harm is linked with suicide, the majority of people who self-harm are not trying to kill themselves (Canadian Mental Health Association, 2010; Lieberman, 2004).

Self-harm behaviors occur on more than one occasion (i.e., repeatedly) and are personally gratifying (Lieberman, 2004). Cutting is the most common form of self-harm. Other behaviors include burning, hitting, pinching, scratching, biting, hair pulling, and ingestion of harmful substances.

People who self-harm are often seeking a relief from emotional distress (CMHA, 2010). Other reasons why people self-harm include self-punishment (for being 'bad'), to increase feelings of control, and to physically distract themselves from emotional distress (CMHA, 2010; Lieberman, 2004). Although there is no one factor, or precipitating event, that causes a person to self-harm, research suggests that persons who are socially or emotionally disconnected (with family, the community, or peers), who suffer from low-self-esteem, who have a mental health disorder, or who are gender variant self-harm more than others.

Most persons who self-harm hurt themselves between the ages of 11 and 25 (Richardson, 2009). The age at which most persons start is 12 but children as young as seven have been known to engage in self-harming behaviors (Lieberman, 2004; Richardson, 2009). It is estimated that between 14 to 39 percent of the Canadian

adolescent population engages in self-harm (CMHA, 2010). Rates of hospitalization, due to self-harm, are highest for New Brunswick adolescents (CMJA, 2011).

Persons who self-harm often attempt to hide their behavior. Signs of self-harm include frequent injuries with suspicious explanations; wearing incongruent clothing (e.g. pants and long sleeves in warm weather); general signs of depression (e.g. social isolation and withdrawal); descriptions of self-harm school work; substance abuse; and extreme risk taking.

If a person tells you that they self-harm **do not:**

- Ask abrupt questions
- Discourage self-harm/demand the person stop self-harming right away (instead encourage positive coping and problem solving)
- Accuse the person of seeking attention
- Agree to hold the behavior confidential

Do:

- Focus on that person's concerns and/or issues and not on the self-harming behavior
- Avoid anger and judgment
- Create a safe, and caring, place for the person to speak with you. Listen and acknowledge the person's feelings. Take the person's concerns seriously.
- Let the person know that you have to tell someone if the self-harming behavior is active (i.e., if there are active wounds) or if the person appears suicidal.
- Coordinate the person with community mental health resources.



References

- Canadian Mental Health Association (2010). Learn about self-harm. *Here to Help*, <http://www.heretohelp.bc.ca>
- CMJA (2011). Self-injury rates indicate Canadian mental health services are inadequate. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 183(10), 615-616.
- Lieberman, R. (2004). Understanding and responding to students who self-mutilate. *Principal Leadership*, 10 – 13.
- Richardson, C. (2009). The truth about self-harm. *Mental Health Foundation*, <http://www.mentalhealth.org.uk>

NBTA InfoBrief #2: **New Brunswick Report Card Review**

by Kimberley McKay, NBTA Staff Officer

Introduction

The *NBTA InfoBrief #2: New Brunswick Report Card Review* is intended to provide members with an update on the proposed changes to the New Brunswick K-8 report card. Anglophone West School District will be the first district to pilot/implement the new report card.

The NBTA Curriculum Committee has been intricately involved in this review as part of its ongoing mandate. The terms of reference for the NBTA Curriculum Committee include:

- Review curriculum-related recommendations, reports and briefs
- Maintain a positive line of communication with the Curriculum Branch of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Highlights of Proposed Changes

1. Number of Reporting Periods

The number of reporting periods would increase to 4, but there would be 2 kinds of reports: progress and achievement.

2. Anecdotal Remarks

The achievement reports would include limited anecdotal comments pertaining to strengths and next steps for each subject area. Anecdotal comments on the progress reports will be optional

3. Reporting is consistent K-8

Grading indicators, descriptors, reporting period and content would be consistent throughout the system.

4. Transition to Kindergarten Report

A transition to kindergarten report bridges the move from early learning to a system of evaluating achievement on curriculum expectations.

5. Content Reported by Learning Strand

Grading would be done by strand in each subject area. No overall grade would be provided.

6. Learning Habits

Learning habits would be reported by each subject area teacher on the achievement reports. Learning habits would be reported as one overall comment on the progress reports. The learning habits remain the same from K-8.

7. Decrease number of values for grading

There would be no nominal grading system, or letter grades. A 4 point scale would be used on the achievement report (4 – exceeds; 3- meets; 2- approaching; 1- below) and a 3 point scale would be used on the progress report (progressing well, progressing and progressing with difficulty). Rubrics and indicators will be provided for these scales.

Review Update and Projected Timelines

Teacher focus groups and an electronic survey/comment collection were completed in November-December. The draft of the proposed report card was modified to reflect the feedback collected. Parent focus groups have been held and the parent survey will launch mid-March and be open to parents until early April. The Report Card Review Committee will meet on April 11 to review parent data and prepare final recommendations. The building of Powerschool (student information system to WinSchool) report card requirements, the development of grading rubrics, the development of indicator descriptions, and the communication launch plan for both teachers and parents are all being worked on while the drafting, revising and consulting regarding the report card template is taking place.

Nashwaak Valley School Needs Your Vote

Starting April 7th!

NVS is the only New Brunswick School in the Running to Win a \$20,000 Outdoor Classroom as Part of the MAJESTA TREES OF KNOWLEDGE Competition

- Votes needed to decide which of the 10 finalists comes out on top -

The *Trees of Knowledge* competition was launched in 2011 by MAJESTA, in partnership with *Tree Canada* and *Focus on Forests*, to help teachers and students experience the benefits of being outdoors. Each year, through *Trees of Knowledge* one Canadian school is awarded a complete, customized outdoor classroom, valued at \$20,000. Additional prizes are also awarded to the schools that finish 2nd, 3rd and 4th and for the school that has the most creative idea to rallying support.

We are so excited that **Nashwaak Valley School** has been chosen as one of 10 finalists in the MAJESTA *Trees of Knowledge* Competition. To come out on top and win the \$20,000 outdoor classroom we need votes from the public.

Winning the outdoor classroom would mean so much to the staff and students at Nashwaak Valley. We are a small rural school of 125 students and have lots of room to build an outdoor classroom. Studies have shown that outdoor learning can foster an environmental ethic, improve social interactions, lead to higher standardized test scores and ultimately advance learning.

It's easy to show your support! Just visit majestatreesofknowledge.ca from April 7th to May 5th, 2014. Canadians 6 years of age or older can vote for Nashwaak Valley School EVERYDAY!

GO TO: majestatreesofknowledge.ca

VOTE: Nashwaak Valley School

Life online for young Canadians is more connected, more mobile, and more social

<http://mediasmarts.ca/ycww>

Ottawa, ON (January 22, 2014) – Canadian children and teens are more connected to the online world than ever through a variety of portable devices, and more connected to others through social networking, according to new research released today by MediaSmarts. Although boys and girls have different experiences online, the Internet is an important source for seeking information, entertainment and socializing for all young Canadians.

MediaSmarts surveyed over 5,000 students in classrooms across the country on their Internet behaviours and attitudes, as part of Phase III of its Young Canadians in a Wired World study. The first report drawn from the survey, Life Online, looks at how youth access the Internet, their main activities and favourite sites, their attitudes towards online safety, household rules on Internet use and unplugging from digital technology.

One of the biggest changes since the survey was last conducted in 2005 is the proliferation of mobile devices, such as tablets, smartphones and MP3 players, which give youth constant – and often unsupervised – online access. The other big change is the growth in social networking, even among children too young to register for these sites: many of the sites that now dominate the list of students' top 10 favourites – Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Tumblr and Minecraft – were barely on the horizon, or didn't exist, in 2005.

“We were surprised at the level of social networking, especially in the younger grades,” said Jane Tallim, Co-Executive Director of MediaSmarts. “With many of these activities taking place on portable devices and fewer family rules about being online, there is a greater need for parents and teachers to educate young people about the issues around socializing and sharing online.”

Key findings include:

- 32% of students in grades 4-6 have a Facebook account and 16% have a Twitter account, even though these sites are restricted to users 13 or older
- Girls are significantly less likely than boys to see the Internet as a safe place

- Students have fewer rules at home about what they can do online since 2005, but there is still a strong connection between having rules and fewer risky behaviours
- Students like to stay connected: more than a third who own cell phones say they sleep with their phones. At the same time more than a third worry that they spend too much time online
- One in six students has gone offline in order to avoid someone who is harassing them

To view the Life Online report, infographic, and slide show, visit <http://mediasmarts.ca/ycww>.

Follow the conversation using hashtag #YCWW.

Young Canadians in a Wired World – Phase III: Life Online was made possible by financial contributions from Canadian Internet Registration Authority, Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada and The Alberta Teachers' Association.

Future reports based on this data will look at students' habits, activities and attitudes towards: privacy, digital permanence, bullying, commercialization, offensive content, online relationships and digital literacy in the classroom and in the home.



DEVELOPING SUCCESSFUL SCHOOLS



Cognitive Coaching

An Instructional Leadership Institute

Mount Allison University

Sackville, NB

July 7-10, 2014

John Clarke has facilitated programs that promote the development of enhanced teaching practice, the creation and maintenance of positive and successful school cultures and the establishment of quality work environments. He has been a trainer, facilitator and presenter for schools, school districts and professional organizations across Canada, the United States and Australia for 25 years.



John is a Training Associate for Thinking Collaborative (www.thinkingcollaborative.com), offering “Adaptive Schools” and “Cognitive Coaching” Seminars to schools, school districts and organizations. John also, presently, works with school districts to create long term professional development plans aimed at student achievement, enhanced teacher practice and organizational success.

Special Qualifications

John has over 30 years experience as a counselor, teacher and principal at the Junior and Senior High School levels. He holds a Master’s Degree in counseling psychology.

Cognitive Coaching

The mission of Cognitive CoachingSM is to produce self-directed persons with the cognitive capacity for excellence both independently and as members of a community. Research indicates that teaching is a complex intellectual activity and that teachers who think at higher levels produce students who are higher achieving, more cooperative, and better problem solvers. It is the invisible skills of teaching, the thinking processes that underlie instructional decisions, which produce superior instruction. Cognitive CoachingSM is a research-based model that capitalizes upon and enhances teachers’ cognitive processes.

In the seminar, participants learn how to:

- develop trust and rapport
- develop an identity as a mediator of thinking
- utilize conversation structures for planning, reflecting and problem resolving
- develop teachers’ autonomy and sense of community
- develop higher levels of efficacy, consciousness, craftsmanship, flexibility and interdependence
- apply four support functions: coaching, evaluating, consulting, collaborating
- utilize the coaching tools of pausing, paraphrasing, and posing questions
- distinguish among the five forms of feedback
- use data to mediate thinking

Sponsored by: New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, New Brunswick Teachers’ Association, Prince Edward Island Teachers’ Federation, Nova Scotia Teachers Union, Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers’ Association, & Nunavut Teachers’ Association

If interested, please contact Ardith Shirley for more information.

CONTACT 2014 TELLING OUR STORIES

CONFERENCE ON NEW TECHNIQUES AND CLASSROOM TEACHING
August 5-8, 2014 • Corner Brook, Newfoundland

Plenary Sessions, Keynotes and Your Choice of Concurrent Sessions

Presented by your teacher colleagues from the four Atlantic Provinces and the Canadian Teachers' Federation on a variety of topics including classroom management; technology in the classroom; teaching to multiple levels and abilities; and equity.

New Application Guidelines

1. Forward your application directly to the NBTA by **Friday, May 23, 2014**.
2. The Professional Learning Committee is the Selection Committee for delegates to CONTACT and decisions will take into account the following:
 - Priority will be given to teachers who have not previously attended CONTACT.
 - Branch representation will be considered.
3. Teachers will be notified of acceptance as soon as possible following the selection of delegates.
4. a) NBTA provides successful applicants with \$300.00 funding support towards CONTACT registration.
 b) Applicants may also apply for a Council Educational Improvement Grant (up to \$400.00 based on receipted expenses)
 c) Applicants may also apply to their local branch PL Chair for possible funding support.

CONTACT 2014 Application Form

Forward your application directly to the NBTA by May 23, 2014.

Name of Teacher: _____ Member #: (if known) _____
 School Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Tel: (s) _____ (h) _____ Email: _____
 Home Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
 Have you attended CONTACT before? No Yes Year: _____
 Branch: _____
 Grades/Areas of Teaching Responsibility: _____

If you are not selected in the initial process, do you wish to be wait-listed and contacted in the event of a cancellation? Yes No (Wait-listed applications will be considered up to June 30, 2014).

Date: _____ Received: _____

Deadline Date: May 23, 2014
Late Applications will not be considered. Return to:

Ardith Shirley, NBTA Professional Learning Services, 650 Montgomery Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6
 or ardith.shirley@nbta.ca

CONTACT is sponsored by the teacher organizations of the Atlantic region.



They Took the Words Right Out of My Mouth - I Couldn't Have Said It Better!

by Ardith Shirley, NBTA Staff Officer

This month, I must confess that I was finding it a bit difficult to find inspiration for a theme for my article. Then, on my drive home the other night it came to me – almost like the words of a song or two! So, on the advice of Meatloaf, I'm not even going to try to reword these kernels of wisdom, thoughts and ideas that I have stumbled upon. I'm giving them to you directly from the source à la Pinterest style:



Found on etsy.com



Rumi

"...we're long past due for a careful examination of the assumptions about teaching and learning that gave birth to the terms customized, individualized, and personalized learning. My complaints go beyond disdain for good words turned into jargon by the addition of the suffix "ize". In the case of personalized learning, it doesn't just elongate the root word and bestow a vague sense of science; it actually changes the meaning entirely - from "personal" to its antonym, "anything but personal. (...) There's a big difference between buying a product that has been tweaked according to your most trivial preferences and making or receiving something that's truly personal, something that emerges from your life story."

Found in Educational Leadership, March 2014 (p. 73-77)



Maja Wilson

"Calm, Alert, and Learning, authored by distinguished research professor Stuart Shanker, is a recent and seminal publication in the field of self-regulation. It expresses the notion that an enhanced professional understanding of self-regulation, and the implementation of appropriate strategies to support these skills, will lead to both enhanced learning capacities and "the skills necessary to deal with life's challenge." Shanker encourages all professionals working with children, especially elementary teachers, to enhance their students' self-regulatory skills by integrating educational strategies that boost their ability to cope with the stressors of everyday life."

Found in Education Canada, January 2014



"The Foundational "R": Self-regulation underpins reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic – and so much more"

I am in competition with no one. I run my own race. I have no desire to play the game of being better than anyone, in any way, shape, or form. I just aim to improve, to be better than I was before. That's me and I'm free.

Found on facebook.com



Unknown

"My students said, penalties have never really motivated me, but a chance to improve - that's motivating!"

Found in Educational Leadership, March 2014 (p.46) *See pin on next page for a neat incomplete work form.



Myron Dueck

Ardith

NBTA Staff Officer - Professional Learning



Ardith Shirley

Growing, Learning & Living - PL Pages continued...

*Found in Educational Leadership, March 2014 (p.46)

FIGURE 1. Incomplete Assignment Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Missing assignment: _____

Reason(s) for missing the due date:

- school-based sports/extracurricular activity
- job/work requirements
- difficulty with material/lack of understanding
- procrastination
- heavy course load
- social event(s)
- club or group event out of school
- other

Details: _____

Date assignment is expected to be completed: _____

Interventions/support required:

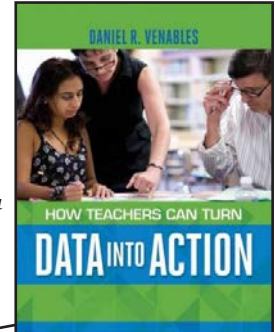
- extra study/home-based effort
- homework club
- extra help from teacher
- tutorial
- use of planner
- time management
- counselor visit
- other

Details: _____

Book Give-Away!

Congratulations to Kelly Christensen of Andover Elementary in Anglophone West on winning last month's draw for *Better Learning Through Structured Teaching* by D. Fisher and N. Frey. This month's give away is for Daniel Venables' *Data Into Action*.

Sound intriguing? Send me an email with the subject line "Book Draw" before April 25th.



Combined Council Day, Friday, May 2nd

Stan Davis

Full Day Workshop (Max. 200 people)

Alternate Site: Magnetic Hill School



Sponsored by



Stan Davis will present what he has learned from fifteen years of experience implementing research-based bullying prevention and training education professionals around the United States, in Canada, in Africa, and throughout India. Stan has worked since 1969 as a child therapist and retired from school counseling in 2010. More details about Stan and his work can be found online at www.stopbullyingnow.com. This workshop is based on Stan's two books, *Schools Where Everyone Belongs: Practical Strategies for Reducing Bullying, Second Edition* (2007), and *Empowering Bystanders in Bullying Prevention K-8* (2007) and on the results of the Youth Voice Project Research which he is conducting with Dr. Charisse Nixon at Penn State Erie. This work is also documented in their 2013 Research Press book *Youth Voice Project: Student Insights Into Bullying and Peer Mistreatment*.

Building Supportive, Connected Schools: Preventing Bullying, Preventing Harm

What the latest research, including the new results from the Youth Voice Research Project conducted by Stan Davis and Dr. Charisse Nixon, tells us about building safe, affirming schools where everyone can learn. This workshop teaches a series of practical, research-based strategies for: gathering and using authentic assessment data to identify our schools' strengths and needs; building and implementing school-wide definitions of respect, with student input; building positive student-student and staff-student relationships; building resiliency in all youth; building effective responses by adults and peers to potentially harmful behavior; working with persistently aggressing youth and their parents; supporting mistreated youth; working with subgroups and populations who are often marginalized or mistreated; and empowering silent witnesses to become allies.

Combined Council



Andy Hargreaves

www.andyhargreaves.com

Andy Hargreaves is the Thomas More Brennan Chair in the Lynch School of Education at Boston College. He has taught primary school, lectured in several English universities, including Oxford, and was Co-founder and Director of the International Centre for Educational Change at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in Toronto. Andy is Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Educational Change*, and has authored or edited more than 30 books. Andy's current research is on successful educational change strategies in high performing schools, districts and countries and special education reform strategies achieved through whole-school changes that also benefit all students.

Keynote Session 1 — 8:45 - 9:35 am (Main Coliseum)
What's Worth Fighting For In Education?

Session 3-03 — 11:10 am - 12:10 pm (Main Coliseum)
Uplifting Leadership/Professional Capital



Dylan Wiliam

www.dylanwiliam.org

Dylan Wiliam is Emeritus Professor of Educational Assessment at the Institute of Education, University of London where, from 2006 to 2010 was its Deputy Director. In a varied career, he has taught in urban public schools, directed a large-scale testing program, served a number of roles in university administration, including Dean of a School of Education, and pursued a research programme focused on supporting teachers to develop their use of assessment in support of learning.

Keynote Session 2 — 9:40 - 10:30 am (Main Coliseum)
Why Formative Assessment Should be a Priority for Every Teacher in Every School, Everywhere

Session 4-01 — 12:30 - 1:30 pm (Agrena C)
Strategies and Practical Techniques for Formative Classroom Assessment



Marcia Tate

www.developingmindsinc.com

Marcia L. Tate, EdD is the former Executive Director of Professional Development for the DeKalb County School System, Decatur, Georgia. During her 30-year career with the district, she has been a classroom teacher, reading specialist, language arts coordinator, and staff development executive director. Marcia is currently an educational consultant and has taught more than 350,000 administrators, teachers, parents, and business and community leaders throughout the world. She is the author of five bestsellers including, ***Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Instructional Strategies that Engage the Brain***. Marcia uses the 20 brain-compatible strategies outlined in her books to actively engage her audiences.

Session 3-01 — 10:45 - 11:45 am (Agrena B)
Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites - 20 Instructional Strategies That Engage the Brain

Session 4-02 — 12:40 - 1:40 pm (Agrena B)
Characteristics of a Brain-compatible Classroom Environment

For full Session Descriptions go to www.nbta.ca • Registration opens Apr

Day 2014 Program



www.jessehirsh.com

Jesse Hirsh



Jesse Hirsh is an internet strategist, researcher, and broadcaster based in Toronto. He has a weekly nationally syndicated column on CBC radio explaining and analyzing the latest trends and developments in technology using language and examples that are meaningful and relevant to everyday life. He owns and operates Metaviews Media Management Ltd., which focuses on research and consulting around new media business models, big data, and the strategic use of social media. Educated at the McLuhan Program at the University of Toronto, his passion is educating people on the potential benefits and perils of technology.

Session 3-02 — 11:00 am - 12:00 noon (Agrena C)

Technology, Leadership & Authority: What it Takes to be Taken Seriously in an Era of Rapid Change

Nikki Payne



A lot sure has happened for Nikki Payne since moving west from her trailer park in Nova Scotia. Her sharp tongue, engaging charm and trademark lisp has won her multiple Canadian Comedy Awards, and Gemini nominations. Nikki has traveled the world with her unique sense of humor, performing at major comedy festivals such as Kilkenny's Cat Laughs, The Las Vegas Comedy Festival and Montreal's Just For Laughs, where she has been honored with being asked to play "The Talk of the Fest" shows twice. You may have seen Nikki on your television as she has been on many Canadian programs such as CTV's "Satisfaction", CBC's "Made in Canada," "The Best of Just For Laughs," the wildly popular Much Music's "Video On Trial," CTV's "Comedy Now," "Comedy INC" and her very own special, "Nikki's Funtime Show." She also made it to the semi finals of season five's "Last Comic Standing" and you can also catch her on CTV's "Satisfaction" and Showcase's "Single White Spenny." In 2012, Nikki was named the Canadian Comedy Person of the Year by the Canadian Comedy Awards!

Session 4-03 — 12:50 - 1:50 pm (Main Coliseum)

Cheer Club for the Congenitally Compassionate!!

Linda Duxbury



Dr. Linda Duxbury, Canada's most accomplished researcher, writer and speaker on work-life balance, has influenced policy and attitudes to help create supportive work environments in both the private and public sectors. She has written hundreds of papers, journals, and books, and co-authored a series of Health Canada reports about work-life balance. Currently a Professor at the Sprott School of Business, Carleton University, Dr. Duxbury received her M.A.Sc. in Chemical Engineering and Ph.D. in Management Sciences from the University of Waterloo. Dr. Duxbury has been recognized for her engaging, enthusiastic communication skills and teaching practices.

Keynote Session 5 — 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Main Coliseum)

Work-Life Balance: Rhetoric Versus Reality

il 2nd at 4pm www.nbta.ca • See you at the Moncton Coliseum on May 2nd.

Conference Reminders

1. Layer your clothing: The temperature in the Coliseum can be unpredictable so we encourage conference-goers to dress with this in mind.
2. Cell Phones: Please be courteous and turn cell phones off or to vibrate during sessions.
3. Registration and Exhibits will open at 8:00 am so please make plans to allow for parking and check in. **Don't forget your Name Tag/Barcode.** If you lose your barcode before you leave home, just print off another one from the website. If you arrive in Moncton without it, it might take a little longer to get you into the Conference.
4. Plan to carpool and arrive early to reduce traffic. Radio stations have been informed about the Conference and may have traffic updates; there are maps in this issue showing alternate routes to the Coliseum, and police will be asked to be on hand to direct traffic.
5. Continuous sessions will be taking place throughout the day in Agrena B, C and the Main Coliseum Bowl. There is no scheduled nutrition or lunch break, but rather teachers have registered individually for sessions, self-selecting times for breaks, lunch and visiting the exhibitor's displays. Lunches will be available between 11:00 am and 1:45 pm, from the wide range of concession stands that will be open and serving food. We believe that this continuous programming will prevent bottlenecks, as well as encourage a constant flow. Our goal is to provide educators with the optimal choice of quality professional learning opportunities under one roof on one day. We sincerely hope that the majority of our members will come early, lunch and learn with us and stay late as the learning opportunities are simply too good to miss a minute!
6. Host Hotel: Delta Beausejour www.deltahotels.com/Groups/Delta-Beausejour-Groups/NBTA-Council-Day
Book now!

Conference Social

All NBTA members and guests are invited to attend our social for live music and a well-deserved chance to unwind with colleagues.

Delta Beausejour, May 1st, 9 pm - Midnight

Big Fish: Audiences of all ages have been fascinated by the creativity, powerful voices and showmanship of this talented group of performers as they bring together songs from the 50's to the present and cover everything from Broadway musicals to Maritime music. www.bigfish5.com



Council Business Meetings

On Thursday evening, the business meetings of all three Councils take place at 7pm at the Delta followed by a complimentary wine and cheese reception. All teachers are welcome!

Prizes/Draws

Many great prizes available upon your registration, but we are saving the best ones for last!

*** You must be present to win.**

Thursday, May 1

7:00 pm	Council Business Meetings	<i>Delta Beausejour</i>
9:00 pm	Conference Social <i>Featuring Big Fish</i>	<i>Delta Beausejour</i>

Friday, May 2 at Moncton Colliseum

8:00 am	Registration and Exhibits Open	
8:30 - 8:45 am	Opening Remarks and Welcome	<i>Main Coliseum</i>
8:45 - 9:35 am	Keynote Session 1 — Andy Hargreaves <i>What is Worth Fighting for in Education?</i>	<i>Main Coliseum</i>
9:35 am	ENERGIZER	<i>Main Coliseum</i>
9:40 - 10:30 am	Keynote Session 2 — Dylan William <i>Why Formative Assessment Should be a Priority for Every Teacher in Every School, Everywhere</i>	<i>Main Coliseum</i>

CHOOSE ONE	10:45 - 11:45 am	Session 3-01 — Marcia Tate <i>Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites – 20 Instructional Strategies That Engage the Brain</i>	<i>Agrena B</i>
	11:00 am - 12:00 noon	Session 3-02 — Jesse Hirsh <i>Technology, Leadership & Authority: What it Takes to be Taken Seriously in an Era of Rapid Change</i>	<i>Agrena C</i>
	11:10 am - 12:10 pm	Session 3-03 — Andy Hargeaves <i>Uplifting Leadership & Professional Capital</i>	<i>Main Coliseum</i>

CHOOSE ONE	12:30 - 1:30 pm	Session 4-01 — Dylan William <i>Strategies and Practical Techniques for Formative Classroom Assessment</i>	<i>Agrena C</i>
	12:40 - 1:40 pm	Session 4-02 — Marcia Tate <i>Characteristics of a Brain-compatible Classroom Environment</i>	<i>Agrena B</i>
	12:50 - 1:50 pm	Session 4-03 — Nikki Payne <i>Cheer Club for the Congenitally Compassionate</i>	<i>Main Coliseum</i>

2:00 - 3:00 pm	Keynote Session 5 — Linda Duxbury <i>Work-Life Balance: Rhetoric Versus Reality</i>	<i>Main Coliseum</i>
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Alternate Location

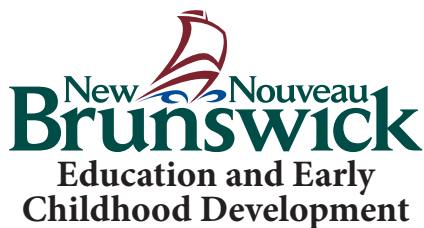
8:30 am - 3:00 pm	Full Day Workshop — Stan Davis <i>Building Supportive, Connected Schools: Preventing Bullying, Preventing Harm</i>	<i>Magnetic Hill School</i>
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NBTA Thanks the Council Day Sponsors

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsor



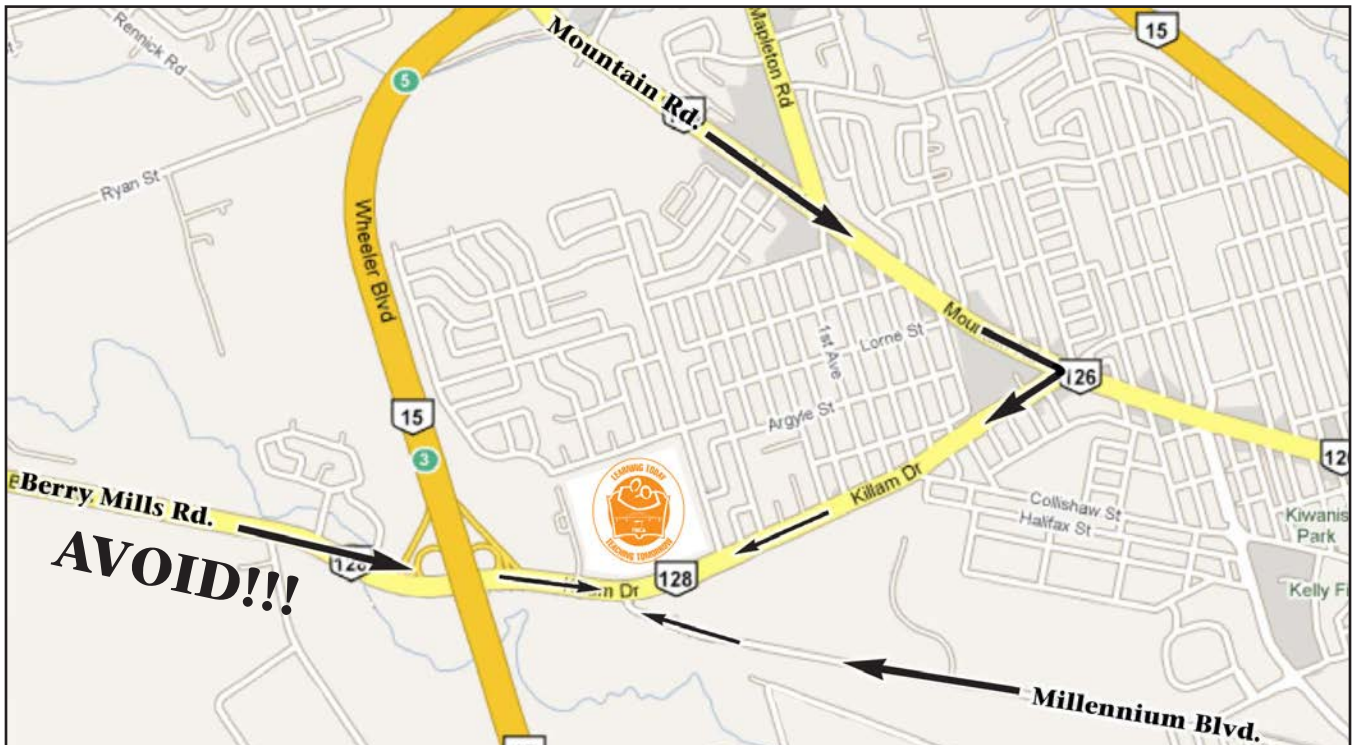
Bronze Sponsor



Conference Trade Show

We encourage all conference delegates to visit the extensive Conference Trade Show. Many booths have materials for sale. Booths will be open at 8:00 am.

Many Ways to Council Day!



In 2004 and 2009, many teachers coming to Moncton for Combined Council Day tried to reach the Coliseum via the nearest exit, Berry Mills Road. Unfortunately, many vehicles ended up on the same road causing needless frustration.

There are many exits into Moncton, including the Mountain Road exit, only a few kilometers past the Berry Mills Road. There are also 3 ways to approach the facility parking lot; Killam Drive from the west or east and via Millennium Drive.

- Moncton radio stations CBC (106.1), Rock 103 (103.1), Magic 104 (103.9) and News 91.9 have been contacted about the conference and may have traffic updates explaining the traffic situation to all motorists in the city. Many of them may choose to route their regular morning commute away from the Coliseum and its access routes. News 91.9 has a traffic tip line accessible by pushing #919 on a Rogers phone.
- RCMP have been informed and will be on hand to assist with traffic.
- Arriving early will lessen traffic congestion.
- Finally, we are trying to make the conference as green as possible. Carpooling is more eco-friendly, less expensive and can reduce the number of vehicles trying to access the venue.

NBTA Sponsored Professional Course

Delivery of Enrichment Triad Training Course

Dates: July 7, Monday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm)
July 8, Tuesday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm)
July 9, Wednesday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm)
July 10, Thursday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm)
July 11, Friday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm)

Participants: K-5 teachers

Resource: Developing the Gifts and Talents of All Students in the Regular Classroom

Cost: \$500 (**Please make cheques payable to NBTA**)

Location: NBTF Building, Fredericton

Facilitator: Barb Buckley

Registration Deadline: May 30, 2014

Overview: Participants will be provided with an introduction to Joseph Renzulli and Margaret Beecher's Philosophy and work. 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 model will offer the students 3 levels of enrichment within the classroom. This training will include video clips of the enrichment triad model in action, several hand-outs, discussion and actual practice. It is an exciting, enriching and inclusive model of interdisciplinary studies. Actual lesson demonstrations of key skills to be taught and reinforced, followed by a comprehensive explanation and practice of each phase of the triad will be emphasized. Course mark will be based on actual implementation of the enrichment triad model.

Professional Course Summer 2014

Name: _____

School: _____

Email: _____ Member Number: _____

I would like to attend: Delivery of Enrichment Triad Training Course (\$500)
 Kagan Cooperative Learning Credit Course (\$559) ([see next page](#))

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**

PLEASE NOTE: Course **may** be used to attain 3 credits towards certification for those moving from Certificate 4 to Certificate 5 OR from a Certificate 5 to a Certificate 6 depending on your individual Education Plan. **Please contact Joseph Arseneault or Amy-Lynn Papillon of Teacher Certification (teachercertification@gnb.ca) to inquire if the course is approved toward your Certificate 5 or Certificate 6 Education Plan.**

Kagan

Attention Teachers!

NBTA Sponsored Course Kagan Cooperative Learning Credit Course

- When:** Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm
July 21 - 25, 2014
- Where:** NBTF Building, Fredericton, NB
- Instructor:** Michael Smith
Certified Kagan Instructor
- Cost:** Tuition \$500.00 + \$59.00 materials fee
(Please make cheques payable to NBTA)



**Registration
Deadline:** May 30, 2014

Open to any New Brunswick teacher. Course may be used to attain 3 credits towards certification for those moving from Certificate 4 to Certificate 5 OR for those moving from Certificate 5 who have already achieved 30 credit hours towards Certificate 6 and require an additional course to meet Certification requirements with EECD.

*Course must have enrollment of 16 participants in order to be viable.

Register by May 30th by going to www.nbta.ca and clicking on the Kagan Button See form on previous page.

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

Councils

The Elementary Council Of New Brunswick Teachers' Association Annual Teacher Awards

In 2011 the New Brunswick Teachers' Association, Elementary Council decided to create Annual Teacher Awards to honour the vital role teachers play in developing the potential of students. These awards support peer recognition of those teachers and leaders whose inspirational approach to teaching stimulates student learning.

These special teachers and leaders are found throughout our education system and it is of benefit to the teaching profession that we identify and honour fine examples of inspirational teaching and

leadership. These educators will not only continue to shine as positive role models for beginning teachers, but also help build confidence in the profession as a whole.

The Elementary Council calls on its members to identify teachers and leaders who are an inspiration to their students, their peers and their community. Nominate a teacher who is a member of the NBTA Elementary Council by completing this form and return it to Elementary Council Awards Committee Chair post-marked, emailed or faxed no later than April 11th, 2014. Please do not

send via school mail as it can take up to 3 weeks to receive.

Erica LeBlanc
Liverpool Elementary School
50 Liverpool Street
Fredericton, NB E3B 4V4
Phone: (506) 453 - 5434
Fax: 453 - 2630
Email: erica.leblanc@nbed.nb.ca

Up to three (3) Annual Awards will be presented at the Elementary Council's Annual General Meeting on May 2, 2014 at the Delta Hotel in Moncton, N.B.

Name of Elementary Council member making the nomination:

Email address and contact phone number:

Name, address and email of member nominated:

Position held by nominee and present school(s).

Nominated members are teachers who have shown a substantial positive contribution to at least 3 or all of the following: School Environment, School Spirit, Student Learning Opportunities, Teacher Morale, Individual Student Development and Professional Activities.

Please identify the general area(s) from the list above. Please provide a letter of nomination indicating the activities that support the nominee's positive contribution(s). Please have two teachers and an administrator indicate their support by signing the letter.

Winners will receive a certificate and a cash award. Photos will be taken for the NBTA News.

Councils

Elementary Council Art Institute

When: Friday, April 25th, 2014, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, N.B.

Presenters: Michael McEwing, Adda Mihailescu and Kaylee Stevens

The cost of a Supply Teacher will be provided by the NBTA Elementary Council to the first 15 elementary teachers from K-5 who complete their registration. Teachers will be responsible for their own travel costs. Teachers must seek permission from their school administrator to attend any institute that would require them to be absent from their regular teaching duties.

An artfull day at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery!

Join us for a day full of art activities, discussions, art sharing and tours of great New Brunswick Art at the Beaverbrook Art Gallery! Come create, learn and play with educator and artist Michael McEwing, art educator Adda Mihailescu and art instructor Kaylee Stevens. Be inspired by the art on display and participate in art making and animated discussions. You will leave refreshed, recharged and ready to bring these activities and discussions into your classroom!

A \$25 cheque will need to be sent to Daniel Doucet to hold your place for this Institute. It will be returned to you on the day of the Institute. Once the cheque has been received, confirmation and information for third party billing will be sent.

Please email registration and send cheque to danielf.doucet@nbed.nb.ca (Please note the “f” after Daniel in the email address) and to the address below. Please include your name, grade, name and phone number of your school.

Daniel Doucet
1125 Highland Avenue
Bathurst, NB E2A 4P7

Elementary Council News

On February 19, the Elementary Council held another successful Art Institute. In coordination with the Restigouche Gallery and presenter Adrienne Hazen, elementary teachers learned how they can use water colors in the classroom. Color My World was the theme of the day and teachers were introduced to some color theory and all sorts of techniques were presented. Teachers had a chance to create their own work of art to bring back to the classroom.

Some comments from attendees:

“Very interesting and fun filled day.”

“Lots of hands-on activities!”

“Easy to use techniques that can be brought back to the classroom.”

“I would recommend Adrienne Hazen to any teachers who would love to learn more about water colors.”



Councils



More photos from the Elementary Council Art Institute in Campbellton.

Middle Level Council News

Middle Level Council (MLC) motion to amend constitution.

Amendments to the MLC Constitution are posted on the NBTA website for viewing by members, the amended constitution will be voted on at the MLC Annual General Meeting May 1, 2014 at 7pm at the Delta Beausejour by attending members.

Middle Level Council (MLC) notice of vacancies.

The Middle Level Council has a number of vacant Executive (members-at-large) positions for the Southern & Eastern part of the province for the upcoming year (beginning June 2014). All interested candidates could please forward their name and school to Middle Level nominating chair Cheryl Richardson at cheryl.richardson@nbed.nb.ca by April 22, 2014.

High School Council News

The High School Council would like you to consider nominating a high school teacher for our High School Council Recognition Award. Although the council believes that all teachers do a wonderful job, there are always teachers in each school across the province that go the extra mile for staff and students. The High School Council wishes to acknowledge these extraordinary teachers with up to ten

(10) Teacher Recognition Awards per year.

Nominated teachers are teachers who have shown a substantial positive contribution to any or all of the following: School Environment; School Spirit; Student Learning Opportunities; Teacher Morale; Individual Student Development; Professional Activities. For the first time ever, applications will be

submitted online:

<http://highschoolcouncil.nbta.ca/>

Winners will receive a certificate/plaque, \$200.00 and their picture in NBTA News. This year's award winners will be recognized at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday May 1, 2014. This happens to be the night before Combined Council 2014 in Moncton.

Councils



NBTA Elementary, Middle Level and High School Councils met February 1st in Fredericton. They also met January 31st with the Committee planning Joint Council Day 2014.

Elementary Council:
(1 to r, back row) Linda Ferguson, Paula Smith, Barbara Brown, Karla Roy, Linda Dickson, Janice Bueno.
(1 to r, front row) Aldena Higgins-Harris, Erica LeBlanc, Daniel Doucet, Karen Miller.

Members of Middle Level Council Executive met in Fredericton at the NBTF building on January 31 and February 1. Council members were busy planning their role in Combined Council Day on May 2 as well as finalizing plans for the upcoming institute. A sincere thank you is extended to these teacher volunteers who give of their weekend hours to do the work of Middle Level Council.

Middle Level Council:
(1 to r, back row) Sara Brooks, Donna Lagacy, Ryan MacDonald, Heather Ingalls, Alyson Hubbard.
(1 to r, front row) Cheryl Richardson, Kim McKay, Denise Perron-Green.



High School Council:
(1 to r, back row) Shane Sturgeon, Sheridan Mawhinney, Curry Winchester, Marla Anderson, Shyann Watters.
(1 to r, front row) Mary Anderson, Alice Walker, Erin-Beth Daneluk, Megan Crosby.

IMPORTANT: Educational Improvement Grant Funds

The NBTA/Department of Education Provincial Grants, Middle Level Council Grants and High School Council Grant funding has been depleted for conferences taking place to the end of June 30, 2014. Applications may be submitted for learning opportunities taking place after July 1, 2014.

Elementary Council Grants are still available.

ATTENTION RETIRED TEACHERS

If you are a recently retired teacher or know someone who is, you are encouraged to join your professional organization: the New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers. Membership in the NBSRT has the following benefits:

- Being part of a growing organization of over 2000 members.
- *Reflections* magazine published three times per year.
- Representation on the NBTG Group Insurance Trustees.
- School Days Museum filled with teaching memorabilia and artifacts.
- Affiliations with NBTA, Canadian Association of Retired Teachers, SERFNB, Coalition for Seniors and Nursing Home Residents Rights.
- Deduction of dues at source.

For membership information contact Vernon Harding, Membership Secretary, (506)459-2633, or e-mail at tutoris@nbnet.nb.ca
Roger H. Nesbitt, President
New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers



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Minister's Excellence in Teaching Awards

Do you know someone who teaches in your school and is making a significant difference for students?

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- Educational Leadership and Professional Growth
- Instructional Practice and Assessment
- Inclusive Practice
- Positive Learning Environment

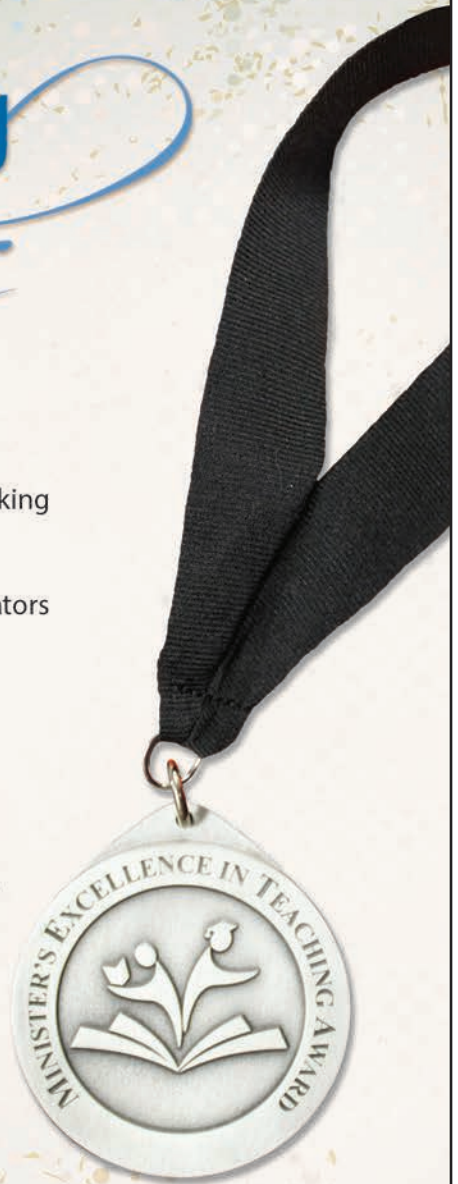
This is a great opportunity to acknowledge an individual who demonstrates exceptional commitment and dedication to student learning!

Individuals or groups, including parents and students can submit nominations.

Nomination forms are available on the NBED Portal and the GNB website (<http://www.gnb.ca/0000/awards.asp>).

Get your nominations in soon!

The deadline for the 2013-2014 Awards is May 16th!





Carmen Meehan

Coordinator, District South
1-800-563-3938
634-2901

carmen.meehan@teacherwellness.ca



Michael LeBlanc

District West
1-800-561-1727
462-0208

michael.leblanc@teacherwellness.ca



Lisa Calhoun

Districts North and East
1-888-763-5050
855-5243

lisa.calhoun@teacherwellness.ca

Mindfulness: Practice for you and your students

By Carmen Meehan, Lisa Calhoun, Michael LeBlanc and Eileen Anderson

Do you ever feel like you are searching for a tool to help you calm your racing mind? Ever feel like you would like a strategy to help your kids calm down in order to be more effective in the classroom?

There is a strategy that is gaining momentum in the school system. It's called MINDFULNESS. Mindfulness has been described as intentionally watching the moment-to-moment thought activity of the mind, without judging or attaching to the thought activity. Many scientific studies have proven that mindfulness calms the mind and body. This is a tool that can be used by the teacher, and also taught to your students.

How do you practice mindfulness?

1. **Breathe.** Focusing on the breath is the easiest way to begin because we always carry our breath with us. Deep, even breathing has the added benefit of calming the nervous system and engaging higher order brain activity.





Visit our website at Teacherwellness.ca

2. Begin watching your thoughts. Begin to watch your thoughts as though you were watching a movie. When you watch a movie, you don't typically jump into the film. You usually stay somewhat detached from the movie. This is how you treat your thoughts in mindfulness.

Your thoughts will wander from topic to topic. Practice watching them with detached interest. There will be time after your practice to actually do something about the thoughts if necessary. But for the length of your practice, just continue to breathe deeply and evenly, and stay detached from the activity of the mind.

What does 'mindfulness in the classroom' look like?

- Starting your day out with a short breathing activity to ground students before starting work
- Using a body scan to help students transition from one activity to another
- Using a CD of relaxing music, focusing on the breath, before a test to help students decrease anxiety and open their minds to allow the answers to come

Practicing mindfulness enhances a student's focus and concentration, raises self-awareness, decreases stress (for students and teachers), improves school-wide culture and climate, reduces stress around testing, helps them to better regulate their emotions, reduces violence, fosters conflict resolution, increases calm and empathy for others.

(Adapted from www.mindfulhub.com)

Mindfulness creates space, changing impulsive reactions to thoughtful responses.



We help to grow this space, enabling new, wiser responses that improve attention, learning, emotional regulation, empathy, and conflict resolution.



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Orff arrives on P.E.I

For the first time in our history, an Orff Approach level 1 training course will be held on P.E.I. from July 21 to August 2. What is Orff? Orff Schulwerk is a dynamic approach to music education that integrates movement, singing, speaking, playing instruments, and drama which fosters creativity in the classroom. Come learn and play with us this summer. For more information, please contact Synthia MacEachern at slmaceachern@edu.pe.ca, Ronita Baird at rmbaird@edu.pe.ca, or Dorothy Dahn at dhdahn@edu.pe.ca. Don't miss out on this exciting professional development opportunity. It will open your eyes to true integration.



The Professional Learning Chairs attended a workshop in Fredericton on January 24th.



Early Career Teachers gathered in Fredericton on January 28 at the NBTF building to participate in a Differentiation Essentials workshop. A loud round of applause to all who attended!





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Tweets



NBTA @NBTeachersAssn · Feb 18

I posted 8 photos on Facebook in the album "February 2014 NBTA Board of Directors Meeting" fb.me/1kimbwk2E

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NBTA @NBTeachersAssn · Feb 18

Each year, the Juno Beach Centre holds a 10-day Professional Development Tour for Educators. 2014 marks the 10th... fb.me/2S5xs0zii

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Juno Beach Centre @JunoBeachCentre · Feb 12

@NBTeachersAssn Hey #CdnHist Teachers! Deadline for the #Juno14 tour is 02/25 junobeach.org/Centre/english... Don't miss this great PD opportunity!

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Wednesday, April 16

Registration: 6:30 pm
Meeting: 7:00 pm

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