

NBTA News

June 11, 2009
Vol. LI, No. 5

New Brunswick Teachers' Association



Heather Smith Elected NBTA Vice-President

See page 2 for details

Bob Fitzpatrick Retires as NBTA Executive Director

See page 9 for details



NBTA Board of Directors Names Larry Jamieson to Replace Bob Fitzpatrick

See page 2 for details

INSIDE:

2009 AGM Resolutions Results	5	Equity in Education	14
Award Recipients	7	Turnaround Achievement Awards	28
Retiring Teachers of 2009	11		

Summer Hours For NBTA:

From June 22 to Aug. 28

Mon. to Thurs.

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Fridays

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

NBTA Board of Directors Names Larry Jamieson to Replace Bob Fitzpatrick

Larry Jamieson will become the 4th NBTA Executive Director since the Association established its current structure in 1970. He is the current Deputy Executive Director of the Association, as well as the Director of Teacher Welfare Services and former Principal of Harvey High School. Jamieson knows he will be replacing a person whose name has become synonymous with the NBTA. "Bob Fitzpatrick has provided extraordinary service to the teachers of New Brunswick during nearly 30 years of involvement in the work of NBTA, locally, provincially and nationally. He has provided calm, dependable advice to hundreds of individual teachers, many of whom were facing some challenge in their personal and/or professional life. Many teachers will never know just how much Bob Fitzpatrick has influenced their professional lives as teachers."

Jamieson's own NBTA involvement has spanned decades as well. For practically his entire

teaching career, he has also volunteered with his professional Association. Larry has served as a



Larry Jamieson

school rep, Branch President, Member of the Board of Directors, and on the Executive Committees of both the NBTA and NBTF. He served as NBTA Vice-President from 1997-98. In 2001-02, he joined the

NBTA Staff for a one-year term as Director of Communications. He began his current assignment in August, 2002.

Jamieson says he likes a challenge. "This organization is the professional voice of teachers in New Brunswick and being named the Executive Director is humbling. We must continue to lobby and inform government of the importance of public education to our society, and continue to press for sufficient resources and improved working conditions for our members so that they can continue to meet the challenges of the classroom. I am excited about the challenge that lies ahead, and I look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with the leadership of this organization and the various stakeholders involved in public education."

Larry Jamieson becomes NBTA Executive Director on August 1.

Heather Smith Elected NBTA Vice-President

Heather Smith of Bathurst has been elected NBTA Vice-President. She will begin her one-year term in August. Smith has 26 years' experience teaching in various schools around the province at many grade levels. Her NBTA service includes several years as a member of the Board of Directors and three years on the NBTA/NBTF Executive Committees. Interestingly, Heather has also served a year as Acting Past President of the NBTA, being elected to that role when former NBTA President Indu Varma retired and was unable to serve. Smith's key election issues were teacher workload, assessment and improved services for students. Following her election, she thanked teachers for all the support and input she received

as she visited schools across the province.

"I have to admit that I learned many great ideas and strategies and I have taken them to use in my own school! I used the analogy of a journey as I presented my campaign platform at Branch rep meetings, at staff meetings and on my website and blog. I am honoured to be embarking on my next journey, that of Vice-President of NBTA. "

NBTA Vice-President Election Vote Count

Heather Smith	2330
Grant Hendry	1318
Heather Ingalls	1107



ISSN 0317-5227

NBTA News is published five times a year. Opinions expressed are those of the authors, not necessarily the NBTA.

Editor: Blake Robichaud

Editorial Assistant: Loretta Clarke

Graphic Artist: Eileen McNeil

Printed By: NBTF Printing Services

Member: CEPA

Address all correspondence to:

The Editor

P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B.

E3B 5R6

Telephone: (506) 452-8921

FAX: (506) 453-9795

E-mail: nbtanews@nbta.ca

Web: www.nbta.ca

Brent Shaw will be ending his term as NBTA President this summer. This is a transcript of his final address to the 2009 Annual General Meeting.



Brent Shaw

It is with mixed feelings that I stand in front of you today. It has now been almost two years since I assumed the role of spokesperson for New Brunswick teachers. On July 31st, my term as NBTA President will end. It has not always been an easy task, but it has always been one of which I have been proud.

I came to this office with a couple of goals, including promoting

improvements to our vocational education programs. I believe I have been successful in increasing the profile of this issue. It is now accepted with the public and Department that we have shortages in skilled labour, and something has to be done. I am less satisfied with what form the "improvements" have actually taken. More work needs to be done to create solid, hands-on programs for our students.

Shortly after assuming my duties, our Association was faced with a very emotional and potentially divisive issue, a comprehensive review of our French Second Language programs. It was clear that there were going to be major changes and we had to be ready to get the voices of teachers heard. There were extremely strong views on many sides of this issue. We did our best to gather as much information as possible from our members and present them publicly. While our position may not have pleased everyone, I am comfortable that it represented the various views of all the teachers I represent. When approximately two-thirds of the people I represent feel one way and the remainder the direct opposite, it is a challenge to strongly favour one side over another.

Throughout my term, there have been significant challenges in the media. Some, but by no means all, of this province's major newspapers have published editorials critical of our profession, that I do not believe represented a truly balanced or unbiased view. As Lyndon B. Johnson said, *"If one morning I walked on top of the water across the Potomac River, the headline that afternoon would read: 'President Can't Swim'."* Needless to say, we had to contend with some right-wing think

tanks rating schools, promoting the ridiculous view that schools are businesses and students a manufactured product. And as James G. Watt said, *"They kill good trees to put out bad newspapers."*

There is great emphasis on standardized test scores in the public eye, but not enough about their relevance. Judging an education system solely on these assessments ignores so much of what we are trying to do as teachers and society, for those kids who require more. We also have to ensure that if comparisons are being made, they are based on all jurisdictions being on an even playing field. Some of you may remember Albert Einstein. He said, *"Not everything that counts can be counted and not everything that can be counted counts."*

Our Collective Agreement expired during my term, so I assumed additional duties over this past year as Co-President of the NBTF, our union. I brought forward and fought for the provisions put forth by your Federation Committee on Terms and Conditions of Employment. This group of teachers gathered and reviewed input from their colleagues province-wide, be they in the Anglophone or francophone sectors, and hammered out the basics of an Asking Package that would best serve teachers. Members have to be aware of how lucky we all were to have Kevin Sheehan as our chief negotiator. He drove the bus, clearly having the advantage in both ability and experience over the individuals we faced across the bargaining table. I did learn that there is one place I would not want to be — across the table from Kevin in a poker game. It isn't that I wouldn't want to take his money, I think you know what I mean. Also, let me compliment not only the other NBTA representatives on our negotiating team, but also our counterparts in the AEFNB. We were united, we were strong and we spoke with one voice. We were not Dysfunctional !! I know that is hard to believe.

By December 2008, we had a signed Collective Agreement that showed a respectable salary increase, but also importantly established a structure, the Teacher Allocation and Workload Committee, that could serve to address class composition issues and improve working conditions for teachers.

That is what we believed at that time. This view was further reinforced earlier this spring, when in a special meeting, I received the personal assurance from both the Minister of Education and the Premier of new Brunswick, Shawn Graham, that the NEW Collective

(continued on page 4)

President's Message

Agreement would be honored in its entirety.

Then, just a few short weeks later, we were asked to re-open our Contract. We worked diligently to provide our Board of Directors, your elected representatives and decision-makers, with as much information as possible. THEY SAID "NO", unanimously. The Minister then offered a \$1,000 INCENTIVE to individual teachers to BREAK their own legal contract. THEY SAID NO, if possible, even a little louder. The question has to come to mind, "who is dysfunctional here"?

Since that time, the public in this province has been bombarded with one message. "The cuts to Education are the teachers' fault."

Comments made by the Minister of Education, specifically those in a recent article published in the Times Transcript last Saturday, have left the teachers of this province shaking their heads in disbelief. Our Education system should be more important than rhetoric, and winning points in a public debate. The statement, "We will need fewer teaching assistants if we have good quality teaching" has been attributed to Minister Lamrock. This pronouncement manages to belittle the work of both groups who work diligently and directly with children facing significant challenges. Are we expected to believe that a child's autism or behaviour issues will disappear and they will no longer require individual interventions, if teachers just "get better." Surely even Minister Lamrock doesn't believe that, and if he doesn't, then why make these statements?

The Minister once again praised his Innovative Learning Fund, while criticizing the theory that "you teach in an old-fashioned way and then if students don't follow along, you put a teacher assistant on them." This statement indicates a disturbing lack of understanding of the way teaching takes place in this province, and paints a picture of a structure that truly has not been the norm for many years. Does he truly believe that the majority of Teaching Assistants are assigned to kids just needing a little "extra help", rather than the heart-wrenching and overwhelming needs that teachers and teacher assistants witness and strive to meet everyday? Innovation has long been a necessity for ALL New Brunswick teachers, before the Innovative Learning Fund which was established by stealing the money directly from our classrooms. Putting a bureaucratic structure in place has not truly enhanced innovation in New Brunswick schools. If it did, then the number of applications for ILF grants would be increasing rather than dropping like a stone. The vast majority of New Brunswick teachers do not like the ILF because their time can be better used in delivering programming to kids, not jumping through hoops to get some of their own funding back. Staff allocated to administer this paperwork, which by the way, uses a very significant amount of the fund, would be far more beneficial if assigned to direct student services.

"...A host of factors have contributed to the cuts in Education, but teachers, and I am sure others working directly with kids, would like the Minister of Education to at least accept some of the accountability..."

Finally, it would be refreshing to hear that the Minister at least take some of the blame for all the cuts that are taking place in Education because so far it has apparently been all the fault of the teachers. This argument might win some points in a debate, (if your life revolves around debating so you can avoid the real issues), but aren't there more important matters at stake? All games aside, NB teachers signed a contract in December that included a provision to reduce class size in

the Fall. The Minister is quoted as saying this was to give teachers "more time." One less child per class does not create more time for teachers, how can it? What it does do is address class composition issues by reducing the teacher-student ratio, something a previous government granted, not even as part of negotiations, but to improve services to kids. And by the way, cuts to libraries, Behaviour

Intervention Workers, and the Beginning Teachers' Induction Program were all scheduled to take place no matter what happened with class size reductions.

A host of factors have contributed to the cuts in Education, but teachers, and I am sure others working directly with kids, would like the Minister of Education to at least accept some of the accountability. We will be in the classes and schools doing our best to limit the effects of these reductions on services to students. When a ship hits an iceberg, it shouldn't be the captain who is rowing away in the only lifeboat.


Next year, Noreen Bonnell will be delivering this address, having spent about ten months in this position. I am totally confident that her wisdom, dedication and understanding of the work that you do, will make her a wonderful leader. I am equally sure that she will face her share of challenges as I did. My advice would be, talk to teachers, keep your door open, and listen to the advice of the professional staff who are there to advise, support and assist you, and keep your sense of humor. Believe it or not, it will enlighten many tense situations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to the Staff of Fredericton High School for making the transition of my two sons from a school of 600 to a school of 1800 a great experience.

I really want to pass on a special Bunch of HUGS to the staff of the NBTA. They have been a second family to me for nearly two years and they will never be forgotten in my thoughts and in my heart.

Finally, I would like to thank my wife Sharon, and sons Tyson and Dylan, for all of their support when DAD couldn't be home for whatever reason and the only questions asked would be "when will we see you".

I have been honoured to be your President. Thank you.



AGM 2009 Resolutions Results

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA investigate the feasibility of establishing a members-only server and report its findings to the October, 2009 NBTA Board of Directors for their consideration.

Result: Accepted

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the government to review its funding/allotment policy for Methods and Resource teachers and adopt a policy of funding for them based not solely on a school's total population, but also on its total population of students who are on an SEP nominal roll.

Result: Referred to New Brunswick Teachers' Federation Committee on Terms and Conditions of Employment (FCTCE)

3. Resolution Split

BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF (a) lobby our employer to require that all vacant positions be posted for all teachers to view.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

(b) allow B contract teachers to maintain their B contract status if they relocate to another district.

Result: Defeated

4. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby our employer to pay for all safety equipment that is required by our teachers for instructional purposes.

Result: Referred to NBTF

5. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby negotiate with the provincial government for two ~~discretionary~~ family days each year.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

6. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the employer to change the language in Article 29.05 to add: If at the end of a five (5) year term, a School District does not renew an individual's position of principal or vice principal, it must demonstrate just cause for the termination. In all such instances, it shall do so by written notice by registered mail or personal service to that teacher on or before the 30th day of April preceding the end of the school year. Said notice shall contain the precise reasons for terminating the appointment and from thereon no reasons other than those recorded in the teacher's personal record file may be invoked against the teacher.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

7. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the provincial government for more paid leave days for teaching fathers at the birth/adoption of their child.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

8. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the provincial government for supplemental pay during parental leaves.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

9. BE IT RESOLVED that the term of NBTA/NBTF staff positions be limited to 5 years. Positions may be re-applied for.

Result: Defeated

10. BE IT RESOLVED that NBTA services be provided fairly and equitably to all members, regardless of the nature of their position.

Result: Accepted

11. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA recommend to the Department of Education a mandatory discipline protocol for students who are chronic offenders that must be followed regardless of external and extenuating circumstances. This would include a definition of a chronic discipline problem, and a sequential step system with consequences.

Result: Defeated

12. BE IT RESOLVED that Learning Specialists lose their membership in the NBTA/NBTF after 5 consecutive years in these District Office positions.

Result: Defeated

13. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTF actively lobby the NB government to increase staff allocation from 1.1 to 1.2 for the K-5 level.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

14. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the NB government to establish clear protocols for Districts to protect teacher confidentiality when conducting investigations of complaints under Policy 701 or the Workplace Harassment Policy.

Result: Referred to NBTF

15. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTF lobby Districts to ensure that they make every effort to mediate disputes and complaints among school personnel prior to a formal investigation being undertaken.

Result: Referred to NBTF

16. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA/NBTF lobby the provincial government for one ~~turnaround~~ reporting day for each reporting period at the elementary and middle levels.

Result: Referred to FCTCE

17. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA lobby Districts to hold ELPA testing outside of the five-day exam schedule by either extending the exam schedule or writing them at a different time all together.

Result: Referred to NBTA Board of Directors

18. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA lobby the Department of Education to offer a variety of classes appropriate to meet the needs of all students, regardless of their level of ability. ~~Specifically, students on SEP's would be able to access courses that might better prepare them for~~

~~life after high school.~~

Result: Accepted

19. BE IT RESOLVED that a guidance counselor be placed in each elementary school on a full-time basis.

Result: Referred to NBTA Executive Committee

20. BE IT RESOLVED that the NBTA lobby for changes to the pension plan to allow teachers to purchase time spent teaching in non-governmental schools (e.g., Devon Park Baptist School).

Result: Defeated

***A number of Resolutions have been referred to the New Brunswick Teachers' Federation Committee on Terms and Conditions of Employment (FCTCE). This Committee gathers input from teachers across the province approximately one year before the next negotiations will begin. They use this information to assemble a proposed Asking Package.

New Board Members



Peter Fullerton, Branch 0217



Mélanie Bérubé, Branch 0333



Laura Côté, Branch 0619



Karen Miller, Branch 1428



*Dawn Beckingham-Noël,
Branch 1536*



*Sheridan Mawhinney,
Branch 1725*



Heather Palmer, Branch 1826

Outgoing Board Members



The NBTA wishes to recognize the contribution of members of the Board of Directors who are completing their term. These individuals have volunteered many hours of their time representing teachers in their branches at meetings in Fredericton and locally. We thank them for their commitment to service in their professional organization.

(l to r) Leo Sheehy (0217), Rheal Fournier (1608), Angela Young (1536), Linda McCarten (0619), Sandy Levesque (0333), & Pat Thorne (1428)

2009 Centennial Award Recipient

- Ivan Keirstead -

The NBTA Centennial Award is the highest honour bestowed by the New Brunswick Teachers' Association. Established in Canada's Centennial Year 1967, the Award is presented each year to an individual in recognition of having made a significant contribution to education in New Brunswick.

This year, we honour Caledonia Regional High School teacher Ivan Keirstead.

Over a 32-year teaching career in Hillsborough, Ivan has earned the utmost respect of grandparents, parents, students, staff, and the overall community by his dedication to learning, his active participation in extracurricular life, and by his engagement in uniting Caledonia Regional High School with the community by various means. He is considered a master at instilling in his students a passion for learning, but his contribution to the lives of children has not ended at the classroom door. For over twenty years, he served as a coach or activity advisor in diverse sports such as curling, softball, basketball and soccer. For two and a half decades, he assisted with Safe Grad activities, either as an advisor or supervisor. Students also expanded their frontiers on class trips with Ivan to England, Halifax, and on numerous occasions, to Boston,

Ottawa and Quebec City.

His colleagues benefited from his leadership and representation as he served in various NBTA roles for almost the entirety of his career,



Ivan Keirstead accepts the Centennial Award from NBTA President Brent Shaw.

Photo by Harry Mullin

including six years as a member of the Board of Directors.

It is therefore fitting that the NBTA's highest honour be awarded to someone who is above all, in the words of his colleagues and students, an inspiring teacher:

Ivan believes strongly that all children can learn and that they all deserve the best teaching we can provide.

Ivan's personalized teaching techniques elicit amazing results from our students. It is very rare that students do not achieve in his class, as the respect they hold for him encourages them to do their best work.

Mr. Keirstead is the teacher at our school who everyone can't wait to have.

When he spoke, you just had to listen. He had high expectations of his students. He was gentle and kind, but most of all he was caring. He was both funny and serious. It was obvious he loved his job and cared about his students.

He helped to shape my career and my life. He is someone who cares about the type of people we become.

Whether he is the teacher in charge of grad exec, helping out with a school fundraiser, or chaperoning a

trip, he does it all. He is always the first to volunteer for whatever it is that needs to be done, always there to lend a helping hand.

I can't imagine what school will be like without him, as a teacher and as a role model for students.

(Ivan is also the recipient of a 2009 Premier's Award of Excellence in Education for District 2.)

Bell Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching

- Nancy Ellsworth -

The Bell Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching is presented each year to a member of the NBTA recognized by peers and the community as a teacher who exhibits excellence through an ongoing commitment to students and pedagogical approaches. This year's award goes to a teacher who educates the whole child and takes great pride in seeing her students develop to their fullest potential; whether it is helping them to understand a difficult concept, advising them in the correct course to choose, giving them advice about their career path, or being the shoulder to cry on when facing a difficult life situation.

JMA Armstrong School teacher Nancy Ellsworth.

Schools play central roles in many small New Brunswick communities, and the impact of teachers becomes increasingly apparent as "I taught your older brother," becomes "I taught your mother," and even sometimes "I have taught pretty well everyone in your family or everyone that you know." It is difficult, therefore, to exaggerate the impact that Nancy Ellsworth has had in Salisbury over her extensive career. How many parents and students have anticipated and been rewarded with a positive school experience due to her influence. She earned so much credibility among her colleagues and the community of Salisbury that if someone wanted to promote a new idea or point of view, he or she could win instant support by simply saying, "I have discussed this with Mrs. Ellsworth and she thinks it's good idea."

As always, the most accurate portrait of a person is painted by the words of those touched by his or her efforts:



Nancy Ellsworth accepts the Bell Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching from Bell Aliant representative, Ron Forsythe.

every battle, bridge and mission I have had to conquer these past four years."

"She has a knack for explaining things so we understood and remembered."

"My friend and I get into a fight..Call Nancy/ Get accepted to university...Call Nancy/Did well on a test or horrible on a test...Call Nancy."

"It was never just about school work. She made me feel valued, like it mattered I was there."

From Parents:

"She is involved in many extracurricular activities and is always available to lend an extra hand at many school events. You can be guaranteed to see her volunteering at school dances, helping out with the drama productions, chaperoning school trips, or organizing or decorating for the numerous school events like graduations and variety shows."

"The students also love her because she has a great sense of humour and relates well with teens. She connects with her students and they connect with her."

"To be brutally honest, I wondered if my son actually didn't care if he passed or not, but thanks to Mrs. Ellsworth, who was at him everyday, pushing for success, he did. He still loves her."

On behalf of her colleagues, her community and all those students she wouldn't give up on,

Thank you, Nancy Ellsworth, 2009 Recipient of the Bell Aliant Award for Excellence in Teaching.

From Colleagues:

"Her strong work ethic and passion for teaching places her among the elite educators; the ones you meet a few times during a career."

"She possesses qualities which, regardless of her own modesty, are easily recognized by her colleagues, by students and their parents, earning an authentic respect."

"organized, great work ethic, knowledgeable, caring and always with the students' interests at heart."

"a creative self-starter and a wonderful listener."

From Students:

"She is not just my teacher, she is a true friend. She has helped me through

Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership

- Gilbert Cyr -

The Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership was established in 2006 and is sponsored by the Department of Education. The Award is presented each year to honour an NBTA member who is a principal or vice-principal, demonstrates the qualities of successful educational leadership, and fosters a positive school climate. The honour may also be bestowed upon an administrative team. The Award is named for its first recipient, Vince Sunderland, a vice-principal at Riverview High School who embodied all the characteristics

recognized by this award. This year's recipient is a leader in creating and fostering projects that increase student and teacher morale in his school, a gifted administrator, and above all, a giving and trustworthy man."

Sugarloaf Senior High School Vice Principal Gilbert Cyr.

From the establishment of a common area for enriched students, to a new cafetorium, Gilbert Cyr set out to create an environment that allowed each student to be

successful. Seeing that SSSH did not

learning at his school.



Photo by Harry Mullin

Gilbert Cyr accepts the Vince Sunderland Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership from John Kershaw, Deputy Minister of Education.

have a woodworking lab, he was a key figure in developing a partnership with an offsite facility, NBCC Campbellton, to allow students to participate in the trades of Carpentry and Cabinet Making. He has been involved in creating Alternate Learning Centers for students who were not succeeding in the regular classroom. These centers have been a blueprint for various other centers across New Brunswick. Gilbert has taken on the commitment to change the focus of

persuasion. These are evident in the partnerships he has developed with business and government agencies. He is a team player, supportive, encouraging, positive and open to new ideas.

The 2009 recipient of the Vince Sunderland Memorial Award for Outstanding Educational Leadership goes to a person "who embodies the entrepreneurial spirit by developing ideas and seeing them through to full implementation," Gilbert Cyr.

As a member of the District 15 Professional Learning Communities team, Gilbert has enshrined the core values of this methodology to the educational environment at Sugarloaf. He spearheaded the implementation of guided study periods to improve student learning at Sugarloaf. These sessions allow students to receive immediate support and assistance for 35 minutes each day.

Dedicated and committed to his work, Gilbert has developed very effective skills in negotiation and

Honorary Life Memberships

Bob Fitzpatrick

For the past three decades, New Brunswick students and teachers have benefited from the leadership and guidance of Bob Fitzpatrick.

Following graduation from St. Thomas University, Bob began his teaching career at Chatham Junior High in the fall of 1974, where he

taught and coached many of the youth of the Miramichi until 1988. He served one year as principal of Napan Elementary School and in the

fall of 1988 he became principal of St. Andrews Elementary.

Almost immediately, Bob began to serve his professional Association in various roles locally and provincially. In 1983, he was elected to represent his branch as a member of the NBTA/F Board of Directors; in 1984, he was elected to the NBTA Executive Committee and in 1985, he was elected to the NBTF Executive. He then became NBTA Vice-President in 1985.

Elected President of the NBTA in 1989, he served for two years in that role, before returning to his Principalship in his hometown of Chatham, Miramichi. This proved to be only a brief hiatus from provincial responsibilities. Bob was back in Fredericton in 1993 assuming the role of NBTA Executive Director, a position he has held since that time. He has also served with distinction in numerous capacities with the CTF, and been a great champion of CTF as a national

organization for teachers.

Bob Fitzpatrick is someone whose mantra has always been to "serve"



Photo by Harry Mullin

rather than to "impress." Providing the best advice possible to teachers in need has always been his priority. Many teachers have spent the majority of their careers, knowing

that if they were in a tight spot, needed advice, or simply had to be heard on an issue, they could "call Bob." Bob is at his best at times when other leaders often waver or err. In times of crisis, he can turn mountains into molehills and calm rough waters with his reasoned and thoughtful contributions.

Most teachers will never know just how much they owe to Bob Fitzpatrick, because he has never had any need for self-promotion. However, those who have worked with him the longest will most keenly feel his retirement.

On behalf of all teachers of New Brunswick - Bob has earned a heartfelt "Thank you" for his service to the teaching profession and a well-earned retirement.

It is with a great deal of pride, that for one of the last official times, we "Call Bob" to come forward so we can confer upon him an NBTA Honorary Life Membership.

Joe Monahan

Few may have guessed years ago as they watched two young boys trapping muskrats together in Apohaqui, that both would attain notoriety on the provincial stage. One of the boys was Frank McKenna and the other was Joe Monahan.

Throughout his teaching career at Belleisle Regional High, Hampton Middle School and Sussex Regional, Joe gave his best for students and staff. His NBTA involvement started in his second year of teaching, the beginning of over 20 years of service as a Branch Vice-President and President, member of the NBTA Board of Directors and the Executive Committee. He served two years as NBTA Vice-President, before assuming the role of President in 1993. In a recent interview, Joe spoke about his time as President and the daunting yet satisfying task of fairly and accurately representing over 5,000 professionals. During his

tenure, Joe strongly and successfully defended teachers against government efforts at sweeping,



Photo by Harry Mullin

detrimental changes to certification, while at the same time successfully bargaining for pension improvements, such as a reduction

in the required age service index.

Joe's farewell message from the *NBTA News* in June 1995 shows his dedication to supporting those facing a tough road. He suggested that the NBTA concentrate on two priorities: "stopping violence, especially against women and children; and maintaining our public school system as one that offers equal opportunities for students from low and average incomes. We must defend our public schools because they are central to the Canadian fabric we cherish."

With plenty still to offer the profession, Joe returned to the classroom in 1995.

From schools to the provincial stage and back to schools again, Joe has given his all for the children and teachers of New Brunswick. On behalf of them, we are proud to confer upon Joe Monahan an NBTA Honorary Life Membership.

Retiring Teachers of 2009

1023 Debra A. Adams (Burkholder)	0215 Bernie M. Donelle (LeBlanc)	0215 Dorice LeBlanc (Landry)
1429 Linda D. Aiton (Brannen)	0215 David B. Donelle	0215 Suzanne J. Lee-Lunney (Hachey)
1826 Dorene E. Alexander (McLean)	1023 Geordie A. Doon	0215 Mary Beth Legault (Thornton)
0618 Mary E. Alexander	0215 Dorothy M. Driscoll (Hackett)	0215 Janice A. Legere (Sears)
1640 Barbara Anne Amos	0820 Jillian P. Driscoll (Adams)	0215 Linda A. Leighton
0619 Colleen M. P. Babineau (Slattery)	1538 Pamela A. Duncan	1826 Francis A. Levangie
1826 D. Lynn Bailey (Murray)	1826 Margaret J. Dykeman (Mersereau)	1640 Carol L. Lister (Keenan)
1542 Katherine M. Baldwin (Flanagan)	0214 Patricia M. Dykeman (Coyne)	0820 Bonnie B. Lockhart
0619 Allan L. Barteaux	0216 Nancy C. Ellsworth (Hicks)	0215 Brenda F. Logan-Adams ((Deceased))
1826 Linda A. Batt (Marr)	0820 Eric B. Estabrooks	0618 Joanne Lucas (Sargeson)
0820 Joanne W. Batten (Souther)	0820 Sharen E. Farthing	0215 Barb L. Lusk (Sherwood)
1826 Jean-Marie J. Beaudin	0215 Deborah E. Fisher	1809 Jacqueline D. Lyons (Norrad)
1826 Gérard L. Beaulieu	Staff Robert D. Fitzpatrick	0619 Elizabeth A. MacGougan (Derrah)
1608 Irene A. Blakely (Lyons)	0820 Darlene J. Fraser	0215 Debbie M. MacIver (Christie)
1826 R. David Boles	0215 Kenneth W. C. Frost	0215 D. Peter MacLaggan
1430 Bernard J. Bourque	1724 Elaine E. Fulton (Caterini)	0215 Kim D. MacPherson
1809 Malcolm Bowes	1610 Clara A. Gallant	1021 Guy R. Mailhiot
1542 Gary A. Branch	1826 Betty L. Gardiner (Everett)	0215 Sharon A. Major (White)
1430 J. Kevin Branswell	0619 Susan J. Garrish-Scribner (Garrish)	0619 Debra L. Margeson (Parrott)
1725 Judith Ann Breen (MacAfee)	0217 Barbara A. Gebuhr	1610 Kenneth F. Martin
0619 Mary C. Breen (Scully)	1826 R. Elaine Geeringh (Beebe)	1023 R. Alan Matthews
1826 Tom M. Brewer	1826 Sharon L. Gosselin (Sibbins)	0820 D. J. Allison Maxwell
1431 Joy A. Briggs (Pray)	0215 Raymond N. Goudreau	1538 Shelley A. McBrearty (Volney)
0820 Donald Jr. W. Britten	0820 Brenda G. Greenlaw (Calhoun)	1023 Anne M. McConkey (MacLeod)
1429 Terry P. Brown	0619 Jane Gresh (Burt)	1610 Judith Ann McDowell (Mollins)
1608 Karen I. Brunet (Demers)	1428 Mary Ann T. Hanson	1021 Carol J. McMullin (Rogers)
1538 Bruce A. Cameron	1023 Thomas D. Hendershot	0215 Monique McTiernan-Black (McTiernan)
0215 Evelyn Carnat (Dubinsky)	0820 Donna D. Hennessey (McWhirter)	1826 A. Susan Merrill (Barrett)
1431 Wendy L. Caron (Bowerman)	0215 Faye E. Hetherington (Murray)	0618 Joseph Monahan
0820 Lynn Carr (Drury)	1725 Jacklyn G. Holder (Breau)	0820 Yvonne L. Morgan (Stewart)
1021 Linda D. Chambers (Wilcox)	1021 E. Nadine Holmes (Clark)	0618 David W. Mulford
0215 Dawn S. Chase	1640 Debra A. Hopper	0820 Michael J. Murphy
1431 Nanette M. Chiasson	0618 Helen M. Hopper (Martin)	0820 Peter J. Murray
1450 Stephanie C. Chowdhry (Roy)	0619 Rona J. Howald (Kilmartin)	1826 Marguerite-May I. Noel (Boudreau)
1826 Rosemary S. Church (Crawford)	1021 Rossann M. Howard - Fox (Howard)	1725 Gerald (Pat) P. O'Brien
1826 Elizabeth A. Clavet (Abran)	0619 Joanne H. Hurst (Maskell)	0619 Diane O'Connor (MacVicar)
0214 Eugenia G. Coates (Trueman)	1826 Marilyn A. Ingram (Southard)	0619 Elizabeth A. O'Hara (Corbin)
0214 Deborah K. Cooney (Desprey)	1023 Sharel B. Jacobs (Way)	1826 Joyce E. Pedersen
0619 Pamela A. Corke	0820 Vivian I. James (Young)	0820 Suzanne M. Pelletier
1429 Colin M. Craig	0215 Wanda A. Jessulat (Mellish)	1826 Marc J. Pepin
1429 Jill P. Craig (McLaughlin)	1428 Patricia A. Jewett (Morehouse)	1826 Deborah F. L. Perry
1429 Gail D. Cummings-Chin (Cummings)	1536 Mary Lou Johnson (Emery)	0215 Lise Philibert-Marquis (Philibert)
0820 Heather I. Cunningham (Thompson)	1826 Marilyn Kaufman (Chippin)	0214 Norma Plourde
0215 Kenneth D. Curwin	0217 Ivan B. Keirstead	0619 Shirley E. Richard (Burgess)
1826 Don R. Davis	1725 Maureen M. Kennedy (Collins)	0619 Lynn M. L. Ripley (Peters)
0215 Barbara S. de Niverville (Safran)	1826 Patricia A. Kennedy (Whipple)	1826 Lucille M. Robichaud
0215 Kathryn A. de Niverville	1610 Margaret (Peggy) A. Kirkpatrick (O'Neill)	0619 Frances D. Rogers (Jones)
0214 Janis E. Demers (LeBlanc)	0215 Sandra J. Lass ((Deceased))	0619 David Sadler
0820 Corina M. Devlin (Murdock)	1021 Bev H. Lawrence	1428 Virginia D. Sargeson (Jones)
1021 Micheline M. Dick (Godbout)	1725 Christina C LeBlanc (Cobham)	
1021 Ron G. Dick		

0217 Leo Sheehy
0215 Colombe L. Smith
(Robichaud)
0216 M. Judith Smith (Levangie)
1826 Reginald E. Springer
0215 Susan A. Srivastava
(McCollum)
0215 Clifford W. Steeves
0619 Rudy Stefani
0619 Sheena M. Stephens-Perkins
(Stephens)
1023 Linda M. Stephenson (Estey)

0820 Susan T. Stevens (Michaud)
0215 Jane M. Sunderland (Whalen)
0820 A. Elizabeth Sutherland
0618 Krista J. Tabor (Anderson)
1536 Mary E. Taylor (Lawlor)
0215 William J. C. Turgeon
1608 Nancy K. Vessie (Hawkes)
0619 Carole E. Wallace (Mark)
0820 Karen L. Walsh (Connick)
1826 M. Catherine Walsh-James
1826 Nancy R. Ward (Ritchie)
1640 Desmond C. Warham

0215 James W. Weldon
1429 Richard D. Wetmore
0820 Frances K. Wheaton
(Morrissey)
0215 Dorothy M. White (Donelle)
0619 Susan R. White (Bradley)
1725 Anna M. Wilby
0619 Constance D. Wilcox (Hicks)
1542 George A. Willett
0215 Harris T. Willett
0618 Marilyn A. Wynn (Anderson)



Nationally Speaking: Cooperate or Die

Last November, the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) was a co-sponsor with three other national labour groups in a *Forum on Labour Rights as Human Rights*. With presentations by the sponsoring groups, plus the International Labour Organization, Education International and others, it was educational, inspirational and motivating. There were many mentions of the pressure put on labour rights by major corporate interests supported by governments through both right-wing legislation and lack of enforcement of legislation when judgments are favourable to labour. Examples included farm workers in Ontario who earned the right to organize only to be summarily dismissed without recourse and the Quebec mechanics at the Gatineau Wal-Mart who won a first contract only to have Wal-Mart close down the automotive repair division of the store. For those workers their only labour right was to do what the employer wanted.

Teachers are not immune from labour rights bullying. We have seen

many governments strip away contract rights or arbitrarily change working conditions. Some, in the heady cutback days of the 1990s made no bones about the rationale behind certain changes. Conservative groups continue to state openly that teachers have too much power and must have their influence restrained as they attempt to move the emphasis in education away from a focus on children's needs to a focus on their own agendas. The Atlantic Institute for Market Studies (AIMS) group spoke against teacher organization influence advocating "Getting the fox out of the schoolhouse: How the public can take back public education" (CBC News, September 6, 2007).

Those who oppose strong public services are well resourced. They have strong corporate support for their fiscal policies and are supported (perhaps at times led) by conservative advocacy groups such as the Fraser Institute, the Conference Board of Canada and the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies. None of these groups is truly a non-

aligned free-thinking group. All support one another and all share resources and research to bring forward similar positions.

CTF is one major source of protection for teachers against the uniformity of thought that assaults government thinkers. CTF is the only forum for teacher leaders across Canada to come together to discuss pressures on education and coordinate action. Through Board of Directors meetings, various symposiums, joint staff activities and frequent communication focused on priorities set by the CTF Board of Directors, teacher interests are brought forward. Every provincial and territorial teacher group, large and small, benefits from this liaison. That benefit is a primary reason one CTF Director said last year, "If we didn't have CTF, we would have to create it."

Please address questions or comments on this article to Emily Noble, President, Canadian Teachers' Federation at enoble@cff-fce.ca

New Brunswick Provincial Capital Commission

NBPCC Inspires Students to Explore the Capital Region

(NBPCC) – The New Brunswick Provincial Capital Commission recently announced the launch of Capital

Encounters/À la découverte de la capitale in the rotunda of the Legislative Assembly. The program is designed to encourage New Brunswick's students to come to the capital region and explore the political centre of the province.

Edouard Allain, Vice-President of the NBPCC, and Chair of the Education Awareness committee said, "Our mandate includes offering students the opportunity to visit the Legislative Assembly and other aspects of our capital, to see the region as a second home," said Mr. Allain. "The Commission's first step in this project was the 2008 walk with the Premier and MLAs. The second step is to facilitate the visits of all New Brunswick students."

The NBPCC is offering a travel

subsidy to student groups to assist with their travel costs.

Currently, 2.5% of New

initiatives which promote heritage and cultural awareness, especially in this year which is the 225th

anniversary of the establishment of the province."

The Capital Encounters' subsidy is intended to encourage students to learn about their capital and the capital region as part of their education. The NBPCC's only requirements are that students visit the Legislative Assembly and submit a report to the NBPCC after



Brunswick's student population has the opportunity to make a capital visit. The NBPCC hopes to double that in the first year of Capital Encounters.

"The capital region is a special place filled with memorable experiences that teach us much about who we are as New Brunswickers," said Lee Ellen Pottie, Executive Director of the NBPCC. "We want to enhance that pride and understanding among New Brunswick students through

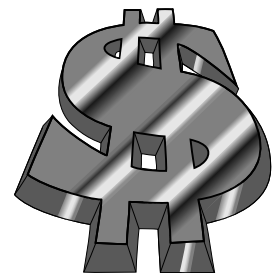
their travel.

More information on the Capital Encounters' travel subsidy and trip planning guide may be found at www.capnb.ca. Click on Discovering.

Established in 2007, the New Brunswick Provincial Capital Commission seeks to promote the capital region as a welcoming place for all New Brunswickers, encouraging a sense of pride, community and belonging. Contact person: Lee Ellen Pottie at 506-444-2026 or Lee.Ellen@capnb.ca

Notice: June 2009 Retirees

Teachers who will be retiring at the end of June 2009 will receive any residual (summer) money owed to them on the July 3, 2009 pay date. First pension deposit will occur on July 23/24 as long as all necessary paperwork has been completed.



Equity in Education: Delivering First Class Male?

by Kimberley McKay, NBTA Professional Issues for NBTA Equity in Education Committee

“Fewer Male Instructors Now Entering the City Public School Service” read a headline in the New York Times in March 1912. Despite the passage of time, this headline could appear in a 2009 publication, and still be considered accurate and relevant. However, as publicity surrounding the lack of males entering the teaching profession fails to wane, a new-era question has heightened the discussion: Does it matter?

The NBTA Equity in Education Committee debated this issue (among many others) at its first meeting in February 2009. Subsequently, the Committee identified its focus as developing a public relations campaign with the dual purpose of promoting the benefits of teaching as a profession to both males and females, as well as specific campaign strategies to encourage males to enter the teaching profession at the elementary level. The Committee further decided to target grade 11 and 12 students with this campaign, as it is with this population that we believe we can have the most impact.

To have a clear understanding of the focus of the NBTA Equity in Education Committee, it is necessary to have a synopsis of the research on two main questions:

1. What prevents men from choosing teaching as a profession?
2. Do we need more men in education?: Arguments and Counter-arguments

The remainder of this article will explain the “top 3” reasons for each question.

What prevents men from choosing teaching as a profession?

A myriad of reasons appear in the research to answer this question. Ironically, one could refer to the same 1912 *New York Times* article for an explanation of reason number

one:

There is unmistakably a scarcity of men among the teachers recently appointed, or to be more accurate, among those who have accepted appointment. The explanation is simple — men are unwilling to accept initial salary, \$720 a year, now paid in elementary schools. (New York Times, 1912)



Kimberley McKay

Faced with the potential of families to support, bills to pay, scarcity of permanent positions, often coupled with multiple years on D contract and lengthy commutes, it should come as no surprise that both sexes give careful consideration before entering our profession and that, in particular, many males opt for the career path that can offer big money. In *The Status of Male Teachers in Public Education Today*, Shaun P. Johnson summarizes the financial reasoning:

Low salary relative to other occupations may be one important reason why the non-pecuniary rewards of teaching are emphasized such as interpersonal relationships with children and connection to one's community. Low salary may have a differential effect on men because of the perception that they need to be a family's primary wage earner. (Johnson, 2008, p. 5).

The second reason preventing males from entering teaching is linked to the first: males often cite lack of prestige and status as a reason for not entering the teaching profession. Many men are looking for a career that offers opportunities

for significant advancement and they do not perceive this can occur in the teaching profession. A 1996 Statistics Canada report indicated that 32% of male education graduates pursued occupations other than teaching as their first full-time job after graduation. This report also indicated that men who leave teaching are much more likely to pursue professional or managerial occupations than women. More recently, Johnson (2008) explained the perceived lack of prestige:

Teaching's low status [due to its close association with two marginalized groups: women and children] resulted in a number of restrictive policies that took control of the profession away from educators and placed it in the hands of middle-level administrators. For instance...teachers have become overloaded with non-teaching duties such as excessive paperwork and child and health care duties, subsequently cutting them off from professional growth in their fields. (Johnson, 2008, p. 5).

The third reason cited in research as preventing males from entering the teaching profession is centered around the stereotype that teaching is a “nurturing” and “caring” profession that is best suited to females. Since the advent of the Industrial Age, the teaching profession has been historically dominated by women. Johnson (2008) further defines this stereotype:

Within education, caring for children professionally is for men a taboo that many are unwilling to challenge out of fear of social repercussions within the larger society. The cycle perpetuates itself to some degree because children do not observe men in caring roles. (Johnson, 2008, p. 5).

This issue is compounded by the possibility that many males outside the education field perceive teaching as essentially “all day recess” without any true understanding of the pedagogy and science of learning and teaching.

Do we need more males in education?: Arguments and Counter-Arguments

Equity in Education continued

The July 2008 edition of the *Canadian Teachers' Federation Economic & Member Services Bulletin* included statistics indicating that 62% of New Brunswickers surveyed believe schools should "increase efforts a great deal to bring more men into teaching at the elementary level". Increasingly, however, researchers are asking "Does it matter?"

First, the strong public support to recruit more males into education (particularly at the elementary level) is partially linked to the belief that male teachers make good role models for boys and that boys are often better behaved for males. Not all research supports this assumption. Janice Wallace, in her research *Questioning Assumptions about Male Teachers*, reviews the literature that says "boys who have male teachers are not better adjusted and do not have fewer problems". However, despite the lack of empirical evidence to support the necessity of male role models, researchers such as Johnson (2008) and Porter (2008) put forth the counter-argument that "the lack of male teachers undermines gender equity and social justice in schools". Porter further describes the need for students to see their identity in the classroom:

We are not born with the knowledge of who we are, what we have accomplished, and what we can become. We only develop based upon information we receive about ourselves. What better way to disseminate information than by someone who is most like you and can best understand your way of thinking. (Porter, 2008, p. 6)

Second, for many years an assumption has been made that the dwindling number of male teachers was linked to the dwindling literacy achievement results of boys. Yet, research on whether male teachers help male students learn better has been inconclusive at best. However, a study by Dee (2005) provides a counter-argument to this concern in that research has also shown that gender interactions exert environmental influence on student performance (if not academic influence).

Third, the need to recruit more

males in education is often discussed in tandem with the notion that schools have become too feminized because they are run largely by women. Once again, the research does not unequivocally support this

"...Many men are looking for a career that offers opportunities for significant advancement and they do not perceive this can occur in the teaching profession..."

assumption. Assuming that all male teachers behave identically and that by "parachuting" a few token males into each school will suddenly create a "boy-friendly" environment is naïve and generally, ineffective. Bryan G. Nelson, in his article "Including Male Teachers in our Future Educational Diversity", says:

...our work to recruit and retain male teachers is not based on placing any man in schools. Children need competent and qualified adults teaching them; therefore, our efforts seek only competent, qualified men. (Nelson, 2008, p. 7)

It is the belief of the NBTA Equity in Education Committee that the most critical factor is that a student have a quality teacher – male or female. It is also our belief that part of the responsibility of our Committee is to highlight teaching as a profession both to our current members as well as to those who have the potential and the commitment to become a future member. We have many fine students passing through our classroom doors everyday, many who simply need a nudge, an idea planted, an experience provided, an opportunity created to walk away thinking, "I'd make a great teacher!"

*Works Cited are Available Upon Request

2009 Escorted Tours



- **Nova Scotia Int'l Tattoo**
July 4 - day tour \$100.pl hst
- **Nova Scotia Tall Ships**
July 15 - 1 night stay downtown
Halifax, Walk on Pass included
starting at \$155. quad pl hst
- **AC/DC Transportation**
No Worries transportation to AC/DC
from Saint John and return \$50. pl hst
- **Annual Ultimate Shopping Tour**
Oct 16 - 2 nts: Portland and Kittery
\$250.dbl pp



Departures from
F'ton and Moncton

Phone:
1-866-933-0101

kellyb@tpi.ca
www.kellystravelandtours.ca

Paid Advertisement

Counselling Services

- Anger and Stress Management
- Family & Relationship Counselling
- Mediation

Yvonne Vaughan

MA M.ED CCC

1-506-454-2216
or
1-506-461-8440
(cell)

* Insurance Coverage *

Paid Advertisement



Star Date 2009•05•19

by Mary Ann Hanson, Nackawic Elementary School

I read the job description with interest. *"Wanted, Vice Principal, Nackawic Elementary for the school year 2009-2010."* I continued to read the description of the needed qualifications, the other supporting documents necessary for an application for the position. Decisions to be made for any aspiring applicant, to be sure!

But, those decisions would not be mine to make. You see, the reason for the appearance of the notice for applications is because I am retiring from this position as of June this year. After 33 years of teaching, it is time to put away the paper and chalk for the last time. Or, maybe, I should say, put away the laptop and Smartboard!

When the notice for hiring for my position first came out, I wondered how I would feel. Someone else would be doing my job in September. How would I react to seeing this job posting? I began to reflect back to when I first applied to be a teacher. How things have changed, and yet are still the same. Lots to consider...

The latest edition of the Star Trek movie franchise has recently been released. I have been waiting for this for a while, you see. I am a Star Trek fan from the beginning, way back in the 1960s. I have enjoyed all of the various versions of the show, all of the different crews, all of the different stories coming from this pop culture phenomenon. As I thought about this latest version of the saga, with the new actors portraying the familiar characters of Kirk, Spock, McCoy, and the others, I considered what it is about this particular story that has kept me interested all these years.

I appreciate the positive, optimistic view of the future and how the crews work together to solve problems. I have been "fascinated" by the technological gadgets that the show has featured over the years. Many of these

fantastic machines are now available to us. Perhaps that has been a major highlight of the program, science fiction that is believable!

There is a lot of fun and humour in many of the episodes. And, many of those episodes have provided a social commentary on contemporary issues of racism, poverty, justice, equality, war and peace, to name but a few.



You may be wondering what this has got to do with the *NBTA News*? Good question! As a soon-to-be retired teacher, I hope I may be permitted a bit of nostalgia about my teaching career and in turn, draw some comparisons with a favourite TV program.

Many of the things I enjoy about Star Trek I could use as reasons why I have enjoyed teaching these past 33 years. I like the people that I work with, always have. I have been fortunate to have worked with very dedicated people and in some ways, we have worked like a crew, helping the students in our classrooms. We have had lots of fun and laughter. We have had to solve many problems together. We have had to do battles with the "Klingons and the Romulans", those outside forces that we have no control over (lack of funding, lack of human resources, demands from all sectors of society, dealing with the ever-changing definition of family and how that impacts on our students, cutbacks,

and the list goes on).

The tools that have been part of my career have evolved quite a bit over 33 years. I can remember using an early copy machine known as a spirit duplicator (nothing to do with ghosts). You felt quite with the times if you used a film strip projector to teach part of your science lesson. The overhead projector was a big deal when it was first introduced. Then came the mother of all technological innovations — the photocopier. Definitely a Star Trek-like invention! Then there were the various kinds of "players": the Beta tape player, record player, cassette player, VCR player, and the DVD player. White boards began to replace traditional chalkboards. Now we are using laptops and Smartboards on a daily basis. Certainly technological advances to rival any Star Trek episode!

Over my career, I have also made it a priority to be involved in my professional organization, the NBTA. Kind of like being a member of "Star Fleet Command". This association over the years has been extremely rewarding. I got to collaborate with many dedicated people all working for the best interests of teachers. It used to be that when I went to an NBTA gathering, I knew practically everyone there. Not so now. I hardly know anyone at meetings any more. This is a sure sign of the changing demographics of our profession and another indication that the younger teachers are ready to take on more leadership roles in our organization.

Speaking of leadership roles, I have to say that I see another area where I can compare my beloved TV program and the evolution of education in our province. When I was a student and when I started teaching back in the 1970s, the administrative positions in schools were almost exclusively held by men. Over the years, more and more women have moved into leadership positions in schools and in our



Star Date 2009•05•19 continued

district offices. This is a good thing at first glance and perhaps, a natural evolution. It reminds me of how the early version of Star Trek was introduced.

You may remember the line about the mission of the Starship Enterprise was "to boldly go where no man has gone before." Even that eventually was changed to reflect a more diverse universe to "to boldly go where no one has gone before." Certainly the inclusion and equality of opportunity for both genders in the education system is a good thing. One area of concern for our professional organization today deals with the fact that a declining number of men are choosing teaching as a career. That is one topic that deserves a careful look by all the stakeholders in education.

Why would anyone want to leave

such a vibrant working environment? Most teachers I know spend a tremendous amount of time and energy to make their classrooms and their teaching the best that they can deliver for our students. Being a



teacher is a tough job, but a very rewarding one. Things are constantly changing and teachers have to keep up on all of the demands of a changing curriculum and the expectations of society for education.

But, I feel that it is the right time for me to leave. I am retiring from teaching with a positive attitude. I've been very fortunate in my career. And, it is time for a new generation of teachers to take over the reins. They are the ones with the ideas and imaginations needed to face the challenges of the future. I felt like that when I started my career. "Bring on the world! I'm ready to tackle it." Well, I've had my kick at the can. I think that there are some terrific future leaders out there amongst the new crop of educators in our province.

Kind of like the new actors in the latest Star Trek movie. It is time to pass on the roles to new actors with new appeal and new stories to tell.

***Ahead, Warp Factor Ten!
Live Long and Prosper!***

Be inspired, be involved, be an environmental leader!

This year, we invite you to help us recognize environmental leadership and achievement by nominating someone in your school, workplace or community for an Environmental Leadership Award.

For further information, please contact the Environmental and Local Government Initiatives Branch of the Department of Environment at (506) 453-3700, by email at: award-prix@gnb.ca, or visit our website at www.gnb.ca/Environment where you can submit your nomination online. Nominations will be accepted until June 20, 2009.

Don't miss this opportunity to recognize someone you know with a nomination for an Environmental Leadership Award!

The Bully and the Purple Pants

Award-Winning songs are combined with motivational speaking to provide students with effective strategies for dealing with bullies.

For Bookings

Call 519-655-2379

or visit

www.paulbehnke.on.ca

for complete details.

Paid Advertisement



Elementary Council News

Here is your Elementary Level Council Executive for 2009-2010:

- President: Peter Gorham
- 1st Vice-President: Donna Losier
- 2nd Vice-President: Karla Roy
- Secretary: Sharyn Pope
- Treasurer: Kelly Gorham-Gaines
- Members-at-Large: Erica LeBlanc, Ashley Dobbin, Roberte Melanson, Karen Miller, Natalie Legere
- Thanks to Jean White and Alyssa MacIsaac who have served on Elementary Council for many years.

Combined Council: What a great success!! The presence of the "Green

Hornets" was reassuring and set the tone for a wonderful day. The speakers were amazing and many teachers have commented about how well things were organized. A huge thank you goes out to the On-Site planning committee for all of their hard work. We are looking forward to Combined Council 2014.

What's up and coming? Plans are being made to hold an art institute this summer/fall. Please check our web site at www.elementary.nbta.ca in the next few weeks for more information.

A Capital Idea! Plans are now in the making for the 2010 Elementary Level Council Day. Fredericton is the site in our horizons. You asked for smaller sessions and Elementary Council is listening. Can't wait 'till May 2010!

We are always looking for new executive members. If you are interested in joining Elementary Council next year, please email erica.leblanc@nbed.nb.ca

Funds for the **NBTA Elementary Council** Educational Improvement Grants have been **depleted**.

Middle Level Council News

Announcing the NEW Middle Level Council Executive for 2009-2010:

- President: Stacy Garland
- Vice-President: Jason Burns
- Secretary: Amy Maloney
- Treasurer: Lise Martin-Keilty
- Past President: John Irvine
- New Officers: Tanya Whitney and Donna Lagacy.
- Returning Officers: Cheryl Aylward, Krista Nowlan-Hamilton, Lise Bourgeois, Shelley Hunter, and Lynne Morneault
- A very fond "Adieu" to Sandy MacCurdy and Katherine Lewis

Money, money, money: Still lots of funds from Middle Level Educational Grants. We have \$8000 for each term (and more left over from this past year for the Fall term) and an additional \$4000 which is earmarked for an upcoming Fall Institute (details to follow).

Food for thought ... Plan on some great PD. Go solo, or even better, go as a team! Here are some great opportunities to refresh and reenergize!!

- New England League of Middle Schools Conference next spring

(www.nelms.org)

- National Middle School Annual Conference (www.nms.org)
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Regional Conference, Oct. 2009 in Boston, MA (www.ntcm.org)
- National Science Teachers Association National Conference, March 2010, Philadelphia (www.nsta.org).

Miramichi, here we come! The 2010 Middle Level Council Day will be in Miramichi. Get ready, get set, let's go!

High School Council News

Announcing the NEW High School Council Executive for 2009-2010:

- President: Jocelyne Schwenger
- Vice-President: Martin Daigle
- Secretary: Jane Porter
- Treasurer: Celinda Van Horne
- Past President: Derek Taggart
- New Officers: Adam Trider, Mary Anderson and Paul Lenarczyk
- Returning Officers: Shelly Stairs, Angela Murphy, Stacey Stairs, Sheridan Mawhinney, Marla Anderson
- A very fond "Adieu" to Michael Butler

The 2010 High School Council Day will be in Moncton. More details will follow in the September issue of the *NBTA News*.

Funds for the **NBTA/DOE Provincial** Educational Improvement Grants have been **depleted** until January 2010.

Teaching Tips: Decluttering

Elementary

The end of the school year is near. This is the time of year that teachers begin thinking about organizing and storing materials needed for next year. There are many tricks of the trade out there. Here are a few submitted by teachers.

- If you haven't used something in 2 years, get rid of it. Anchor charts should be made each year and thrown out at the end of the year. Label containers and baskets as you can. Box up materials not needed next year and put them in storage for no longer than a couple of years. Keep only what you have room for.
- Put your subject material in colored folders or binders, e.g., all math materials in red binder, all science materials in green binder, etc...This will help keep all like materials organized and together when needed.
- Clean out filing cabinets at the end of each year. It may be nostalgic to look back at old tests or files, but there really is no room for them. Do not keep anything that is more than 2 years old and only if it can be useful in the near future.
- Teacher desk drawers can become cluttered very quickly. Once a month, you should go through your desk drawers and organize supplies and paperwork or discard anything that is not needed.
- Have the school sponsor a contest to see who throws away the most junk and give them a tree to plant. Get the school to bring in a huge bin in order to accommodate all the items that will be thrown out. Target bookrooms, closets and older textbooks. You can organize and go green at the same time!

Middle Level - Making it Real

To Purge or not to Purge? That is the Question

How ironic is a blurb about decluttering tips from a person with clutter? I have two main types of clutter after a school year ends: paper files and electronic files. So here are some ideas on how to handle both.

Electronic Files: There are lots of places that your "stuff" can be stored electronically.

- **Email files** are a huge concern and should be reviewed periodically. If you have already organized your emails by folder then the end-of-year task of deleting no-longer-needed emails is much easier. You can sort by the sender, the date received, the subject line, etc. just by clicking the appropriate heading bar located at the top of the list, then select one (or more) and hit delete. Just remember, after you have deleted files ... *you also need to delete them from your DELETED ITEMS folder!*
- **Files on Laptop (C drive)** should be deleted if you no longer need them. In my previous life as a computer person, naming conventions were a priority so this job is very easy if you have already used good file names and have filed them into a set of folders and subfolders. For example, in the age of Smartboards, I make a copy of my Smartboard files for each class by adding the class suffix to the end of the original file name. For example, I will keep the file named "Grade 7 Unit 02 Data Management" but delete files with a class suffix such as "Grade 7 Unit 02 Data Management 7Hunter". If your files do not have meaning names and you still need to keep them, then this is the time to make your own naming convention system and rename the file(s).
- **Files on Network (H drive, etc)** should be handled similarly as those on your laptop. Don't forget about them!
- **Files on Portal?** Did you know that you have space on the portal for your files? There are two folders: Private and Shared. Uploading files to the portal is easy. If you want to share them with others, save them in the Shared folder. If you want them for your eyes only, then the Private folder is where they need to be. Remember, organization is key: folder, subfolders and good file naming conventions.

Paper Files: I sure there are lots of great tips for this type of clutter. The one that works best for me is a system of coloured coded file folders. I use dark blue folders for grade 8 math, light blue for grade 7, green for science, red for school stuff, etc. I also use sticky labels to identify the folders' contents. This makes the job of filing easier and finding them next year simple. And remember...recycle the paper garbage when possible. Confidential papers should be shredded.

High School

Have a "messiest desk" contest at your school. Have students vote on which teacher has the messiest desk in the school, and then give the messiest five submissions two weeks to declutter. Appoint a judging panel to decide which teacher has shown the most improvement and give him/her a prize (a new recycle bin, for example). This also helps promote tidiness and cleanliness throughout the school.

Looking Ahead:

In the Council section of the September issue, we will be focusing on the theme of *Beginning Teachers* and providing teaching tips based on *Classroom Management/Start-up*.



Wellness Highlights

PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICE
FOR TEACHERS



TEACHER COUNSELLING SERVICES

Michael Ketchum, Districts 14, 17, 18

1-800-561-1727

Carmen Meehan, Districts 6, 8, 10

1-800-563-3938

Niel Cameron, Districts 2, 15, 16

1-888-763-5050

June Humour

How is Norma?

A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Joseph's Hospital. She timidly asked, "Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?"

The operator said, "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number?"

The grandmother in her weak, tremulous voice said, "Norma Findlay, Room 302."

The operator replied, "Let me place you on hold while I check with her nurse. After a few minutes, the operator returned to the phone and said, "Oh, I have good news. Her nurse just told me that Norma is doing very well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back as normal, and her physician, Dr. Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged on Tuesday."

The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful! I was so worried! God bless you for the good news."

The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?"

The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in 302. No one tells me how I am doing."

True story.

Did You Know?

Banana Tip #1

Peel a banana from the bottom and you won't have to pick the little 'stringy things' off it. That's how the primates do it.

Banana Tip #2

Take your bananas apart when you get them home from the store. If you leave them connected at the stem, they ripen faster.



soggy micro pizza.

Newspaper Weeds Away

Start putting torn newspaper in your plants, work the nutrients in your soil. Wet newspapers, put layers around plants, overlapping as you go; cover with mulch and forget about weeds. Weeds will get through some gardening plastic; they will not get through wet newspapers.

Cheesy Leftovers

Store your opened chunks of cheese in aluminum foil. It will stay fresh much longer and not mold.

Bumpy Peppers

Peppers with three bumps on the bottom are sweeter and better for eating. Peppers with four bumps on the bottom are firmer and better for cooking.

Reheat Pizza

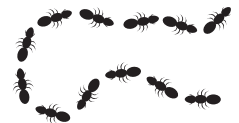
Heat leftover pizza in a nonstick skillet on top of the stove; set heat to med-low and heat until warm. This keeps the crust crispy. No

Goodbye Fruit Flies

To get rid of pesky fruit flies, take a small glass, fill it 1/2 with Apple cider Vinegar and 2 drops of dish washing liquid; mix well. You will find those flies drawn to the cup and gone forever!

Get Rid of Ants

Put small piles of cornmeal where you see ants. They eat it, take it 'home,' can't digest it so it kills them. It may take a week or so, especially if it rains, but it works and you don't have to worry about pets or small children being harmed!





NBTA Golf Tournament
 Saturday, September 26, 2009
 "Shotgun" Start - 1:00 pm
 Sussex Golf and Curling Club, Sussex



Open to all NBTA members as well as all retired NBTA members.

Fee: \$55.00 per golfer (includes green fees, meal, gratuities, HST, prizes).

Make cheques payable to:
 NBTA Golf Tournament and mail to:

Tom Gillett
 526 Main Street
 Chipman, NB
 E4A 2P3

Telephone: (506) 339-6128
 Email: tomg@nbnet.nb.ca

*NBTA Golf is a proud supporter of the
 Children's Wish Foundation*

Entry Form

4 Person Scramble

40 golf carts reserved through
Brent McKay (506) 433-4951
 (\$35.00 tax included)

Four Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Contact Person:

Telephone (Home): _____
 (Work): _____

*If you have not received confirmation,
 please call by September 19, 2009*

For Work or For Play, We're the Place to Stay!

Enjoy your negotiated NBTA rates while traveling for business OR pleasure! Ask for the "LNBTA" rate at any participating Comfort Inn in Atlantic Canada, to receive YOUR special rates!



- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Campbellton, NB (506)753-4121 | Amherst, NS(902) 667-0404 |
| Edmundston, NB (506) 739-8361 | Bridgewater, NS (902) 543-1498 |
| Fredericton, NB (506) 453-0800 | Dartmouth, NS (902) 463-9900 |
| New Glasgow, NS (902)755-6450 | Dieppe, NB (506) 859-6868 |
| Sydney, NS (902) 562-0200 | Charlottetown, PEI (902) 566-4424 |
| Moncton, NB (506) 384-3175 | Truro, NS (902) 893-0330 |
| Saint John, NB (506) 674-1873 | Yarmouth, NS (902) 742-1119 |
| Corner Brook, NF (709) 639-1980 | St. John's, NF (709)754-7788 |

Cannot be combined with other discounts. Subject to availability. Valid at hotels managed by Westmont Hospitality

Paid Advertisement

The Countdown is ON...I can smell SUMMER!

My nephew, Dylan, reported to me last night that there are exactly 11 school days left before summer vacation. (The countdown is officially on for his classmates and him.) Upon his pronouncement, I had to smile. In his childhood innocence, his grade one year feels like it has lasted an eternity. It struck me that at the same time Dylan's grade one class begins the countdown, many of us may be asking ourselves where this year has gone? A blur of faces, events, work, successes, near-successes and celebrations have filled the past ten months at a whirlwind pace.

Isn't June a joyful month to be in education? Oh, sure, it is plagued with too many things on the to-do list, students who think that summer vacation has already started, and challenges that occasionally reach the boil-over point, but essentially June offers teachers something which is quite unique...a finish. The opportunity to tidy the files and complete the endless lists, say our good-byes and look back on another successful year is, in my opinion, one of the most satisfying experiences we have as teachers. This "closure" is really special...and the period of rest and renewal that follows is vital to our profession.

Because I know that in June you are often too tired to read, I have listed just a few thoughts that might catch your weary eye and give you something to ponder. However, once you are rested (and you will be rested!), you may want me to send you one of the articles listed below or more information on certification upgrading options or another PD opportunity!

Certification Web Tool – we are pleased to have a section of our web site devoted to assisting those of you who are interested in upgrading your

certification. Simply go to www.nbta.ca, click on **Services**, then **Teacher Certification**. Check it out!

DSS – (July 20-23) Developing Successful Schools is a wonderful summer learning opportunity for Administrators.

CONTACT – (August 4-7) Conference on New Teaching and Classroom Techniques is being hosted by PEITF this year at UPEI in Charlottetown. This is a wonderful conference organized by K-12 Atlantic Teachers for K-12 Atlantic Teachers. (See ad on page 26)



May I Recommend?

If you are a teacher responsible for teaching numeracy and are looking for more ideas on how to effectively incorporate and evaluate writing within a math lesson, **Using Writing to Improve Math Learning** by Vicki Urquart, in *Middle Ground* (April 2009), pg. 17-18 is a must read! The author is kind enough to share some of the writing prompts that she uses in her own classroom as well as a time-saving, three-point rubric and procedure that her class uses to assess their own learning on particular outcomes.

It was wonderful to open the pages of the latest issue of *Education Canada* and find a submission co-authored by the Dean of UNB's Faculty of Education, Dr. Sharon Rich and UNB President, Dr. John McLaughlin. In **Social Imperatives for Better Education: Putting Wisdom on the Agenda**, the pair explore the "new Canadian reality" where they suggest our society is faced with the need to move beyond merely attending to the interests and experiences of middle class, Canadian-born, main-stream

children and meet the challenges of today's classrooms where children of minority, poor and aboriginal population clearly outnumber the aforementioned and privileged group. The duo contend that a new vision for education is required in order to meet this challenge head-on: "we need to reflect on our core cultural values so that we can create a new story – one that recognizes that human beings need to nurture mind, body and spirit. (...) As we develop the wisdom and capitalize on the wisdom of our community,

we may be able to rewrite who we are and help our children and grandchildren understand that what matters most is not an accumulation of material wealth, but learning to live a good life, that respects everyone as a valued member of a sustainable and global environment. Education is a social imperative; we cannot afford to fail.”

(Dr. Sharon Rich and Dr. John McLaughlin, *Education Canada* (Spring 2009) Volume 49, No. 2, pg. 40-43)

It was also interesting to read a national view on our province’s French Second Language changes that have occurred in our Anglophone system over the past year.

A Collision of Culture, Values, and Education Policy: Scrapping Early French Immersion in New Brunswick by Max Cooke, *Education Canada* (Spring 2009) Volume 49, No. 2, pg. 46-50, provides such a view.

As teachers, we are well aware

that issues faced within our communities and society in general, often turn up in microcosm in our classrooms. It should come as no surprise to teachers then, when the realities of difficult economic times, start to have impact on our students, their families and our colleagues.

These Tough Economic Times by J. Desrochers, K. Cowan, and R. Christner, *Principal Leadership*, April 2009, pg. 10-14 offers several proactive short-term and long-term strategies that individual teachers and schools can implement to minimize the impacts of these difficult times and help teach resiliency to our children.

“Principals who are determined to help their teachers inspire all students to bold accomplishments while identifying the right strategies for their most complex and struggling learners need to have a relentless focus on making learning the core business of school. This isn’t the same as emphasizing assessment data, standards, and

instruction. Rather, it means focusing on the foundation upon which all those initiatives rest: an understanding of how people learn.”

The Science of Learning by Mary-Dean Barringer, *Principal Leadership*, April 2009, pg. 36-40

Schools of Conscience by Charles Haynes, *Educational Leadership*, May 2009, pg. 6-13 is my personal favourite article this month. Although clearly written from an American context, (further highlighted by the choice of graphics), Mr. Haynes had me when he wrote: “Developing students’ hearts, I believe, is what educators are called to do. Each and every small act of honesty, service, responsibility, and compassion that teachers and administrators encourage daily in their students – and model consistently in their own lives – helps create moral and civic habits of the heart that instill in students the courage to care.”

Have a restful and relaxing summer!



P.S. By all accounts, our Combined Council Day on May 1st was a success. (See insert that was published with this issue for some of the wonderful pictures!) Thanks goes to the teachers who served on our ad hoc Committee for the many hours spent planning the events! (Carter Assels, Connie Keating, John Irvine, Donna Losier, Martin Daigle, Bill Burroughs, Cathy Keirstead, Jessica Fenton, Nick Mattatall)



Closing Quote:

“What is important is to keep learning, to enjoy challenge, and to tolerate ambiguity. In the end there are no certain answers.”

- Martina Horner

A Dream Meeting and an Opportunity of a Lifetime

by Jessica Fenton, Riverview High School

I have been a longtime admirer of Erin Gruwell for everything she has done in the field of Education in regards to struggling learners, socio-economic issues, racial discrimination, cross-curricular studies, Human Rights Education, and literacy. I want to teach with as much passion and enthusiasm as she exudes when teaching. I had always wanted to meet Erin Gruwell, and being involved in the 2009 Council Day led me to that goal.

After being asked to represent new teachers of the province on the Ad Hoc Planning Committee for 2009 Council Day, I realized this opportunity would guide me to many others. During one of our first planning meetings, well over a year ago, we started discussing potential speakers for the event. As a committee, we were asked to research educational leaders who we could consider as speakers for the event, and I quickly recommended Erin Gruwell. The committee recognized her as a valuable asset for our event with the theme of: 'Learning Today - Teaching Tomorrow'. By the end of the school year in 2008, we had Erin Gruwell

confirmed for the NBTA 2009 Council Day.

On the day of the event, I was very excited to hear Erin share her expertise with teachers. Almost like a



Jessica Fenton, a member of the Ad Hoc Planning Committee for 2009 Council Day, had the opportunity to meet her educational idol, Erin Gruwell

crazed stalker, I anxiously waited to meet her. As a member of the Planning Committee, I had the opportunity to meet Erin and have lunch with her. After discussing education and answering questions

about teaching practices, Erin offered me an opportunity to work at a Freedom Writer Teacher institute in California in the summer of 2010. I was shocked and did not fully believe what she was saying to me. Erin told me that: "this opportunity would change my life," and I feel like it already has.

Teaching is something I have always wanted to do. I feel it is my destiny; my calling. I was born to be a teacher and am very passionate about my students and my profession. My students can attest to this as they have seen me laugh and cry with them. Every day, I try to become a better teacher and to learn from my students.

I feel I am the luckiest person in the world. As a member of the Ad Hoc Planning Committee, I met so many amazing educational leaders who have helped me through my journey. I am looking forward to learning from Erin and the Freedom Writers. I still don't feel like this has happened to me. I have the best job in the world, love my students and know they will be the ones who benefit from my once-in-a-lifetime Opportunity.

Atlantic Summer Institute (ASI) for Teachers 2009

The ASI is an intensive two-week institute held in July that focuses specifically on Learning Disabilities and how they directly impact children and adolescents.

The ASI follows a unique three year cycle wherein an introductory level course is offered in the first year, followed by ASI - Part II in the second year, and a break with no course offered in the third year. This year (summer of 2009), ASI - Part II will be offered on the UNBSJ campus. This course will run the weeks of July 6-July 17 (Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:50 p.m.). This is a three credit hour course that involves direct instruction on the most recent research findings and theories on Learning Disabilities, cooperative learning opportunities with fellow teachers, as well as student-led presentations.

How to Register: To inform us of your intention to attend the ASI, you must complete the INTENT form, found at <http://www.unbsj.ca/arts/education/reg-formASI.html>. Please print it out, attach the institute fee and mail to:

Education Program
UNBSJ
PO Box 5050
Saint John, NB
E2L 4L5



New Music Resource

On March 23rd through 25th, all Grade 8 music teachers in New Brunswick took part in the “roll out” of the new Grade 8 music curriculum through excellent professional development presented by one of the lead authors of the “Spotlight On Music” textbook series. The workshops took place in Fredericton, Saint John, and Moncton with each location hosting 3 school districts. Liz Brewer, a Music Specialist at Forest Hills School, attended the Saint John session.

We were to have the good fortune of being in-serviced by one of the gentlemen, Dr. Michael Jochen, who had compiled the grade eight resource, *Spotlight on Music*.

As we gathered at the District 8 School Board Offices, we represented three districts: six, eight and ten. All of us were music teachers of different degrees of musicality, at different stages in our careers but bonded by the fact that we delivered middle level music. I think most of us met with trepidation because we knew the day to day challenges we shared and wondered just how this resource was going to answer our needs.

We were not long finding out. First, out came the tennis balls and we participated in an increasingly complex exercise that reviewed form and rhythm. Only then were we led to the actual text and we saw where this was

fulfilling a number of curriculum outcomes in a manner not at all painful for us or the students. A recording of Mary Chapin Carpenter singing “The Bug” was an entertaining example used to make



us, and potentially our students, think of the changing image that music creates. The lyrics of some of the songs that are favourites of our students (and that makes us

shudder) are something with which we must contend on a daily basis. The Addams Family? Star Wars? Yes, they were there right in the text to pique interest and allow students to begin their learning with what they were already familiar. The personal examples and anecdotes of our facilitator added so much to our understanding! When we heard about Marvin as an actual person, Marvin’s Midnight Music Sale Jingle took on new meaning. The finale of everyone using their chairs to play a piece of music can only be imagined. You have never lived until you have heard Frere Jacques played by three chairs!

It was a day of fun and it was a day of learning. It was a day of encouragement and collaboration. It was a day that provided useful tools for our classroom toolboxes.

Thanks and So Long to Loretta Clarke

After almost 30 years service, our NBTA News Assistant Editor will retire this summer.



The NBTA News will move to a two-person operation when Loretta Clarke (center) moves on. Blake Robichaud (left, NBTA Director of Communications) will remain as Editor, while Graphic Artist, Eileen McNeil (right), will assume most of Loretta’s duties.

CONTACT 2009



GUIDING IMMEDIATE FEEDBACK
ORGANIZING STRATEGIES FOR LEARNERS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS
IN A CONTEMPORARY CLASSROOM

MOTIVATING STUDENTS

Contemporary Classrooms
Tuesday, August 4th - Friday, August 7th, 2009
University of Prince Edward Island
Charlottetown, PEI

Our partners For more information, contact your Provincial Teachers' Association



Contemporary Classrooms

A Unique Professional Development Opportunity for Teachers of Atlantic Canada

August 4-7
University of Prince Edward Island,
Charlottetown, PEI

Only 30 spaces available to NBTA members. Apply early!

Consideration given to Branch representation and first-time applicants.

Complete the application form below and send to **Ardith Shirley**, NBTA Professional Development, P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB E3B 5R6 (Fax) 506-453-9795

CONTACT 2009 Application Form

Name: _____ NBTA Member Number (if known) _____

School: _____

Branch: _____ Contacts: Tel: _____ Email: _____

Have you attended CONTACT before? Yes () No () If yes, when/where? _____

- Registration fee: \$200.00
- Details for accommodations (in residence) and meals will be forwarded to successful applicants.
- \$200.00 grant available from NBTA. Applicants should also apply to Councils or Local Branches for other available funding.

DO NOT send any fees. Successful applicants will be contacted.

New Online, Part-time MEd in Second Language Education at OISE

The Second Language Education (SLE) Master of Education (MEd) program provides a rich learning experience that integrates theory and practice in second, foreign and minority language education in a wide range of topics and issues in classrooms, schools, multimedia, adult education, work, and communities.

The SLE program's new online MEd cohort accepts approximately 25 candidates and is designed to be completed in just over three years. During this period, three courses per year will be offered exclusively online to the cohort participants in the fall, winter, and summer terms. Graduation from the MEd requires completion of 10 half-courses.

For guidelines to submit an application, visit the website:
<http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/MLC/sleonline.htm>

46th NBTA Annual Bowling Tournament



Where:

Bathurst Bowlarama, Bathurst

When:

October 16-18, 2009

Cost:

\$45.00 per player

Registration:

Make cheque for \$45.00 payable to "NBTA Bowling Tournament" and forward, with a list of your team members to:

Ola Cormier

**77 Route 933, Grand Barachois, NB, E4P 8K6
(532-0031)**

Questions:

Marcellin Lurette (753-4114)



St. Thomas University Summer Institute for Teachers 2009

While each of these 3 credit hour courses are designed to meet teacher certification standards, teachers pursuing specific programs are advised to check with the NB Teacher Certification Branch before enrolling. Permission to use a graduate course toward a Masters degree should be obtained from the university at which you are taking that degree. Please note that course enrolment takes place by contacting the Admissions Office between April 1st and June 30th, 2009.

EDUC 3403 – Contemporary Mathematics Concepts

July 6th to July 10th, 8:30 - 4:00
Max. Enrol.: 30 participants

EDUC 3503 - Contemporary Physical Science Concepts I

July 13th to July 17th, 8:30 - 4:30
Max. Enrol.: 18 participants

EDUC 5503 - Human Rights Education: Classroom and Community

July 20th to July 24th, 9:00 - 5:00
Max. Enrol.: 30 participants

EDUC 5823 – Writing Across the Curriculum

July 8th to July 10th, 9:00 - 3:30;
July 13th to July 14th, 9:00 - 3:30
Max. Enrol.: 20 participants

EDUC 6113 – Introduction to Action Research

July 16th to July 17th, 9:00 - 3:30;
July 21st to July 23rd
Max. Enrol.: 20 participants

EDUC 6143 – The Professional Learning Community

July 8th to July 10th, 9:00 - 3:30;
July 13th to July 14th, 9:00 - 3:30
Max. Enrol.: 20 participants

Registration, Admissions & Accommodations

Tuition for each course is \$520.00 and must be paid by the end of the day of the opening class. It should also be noted that a \$35 application fee should be submitted with your application forms.

For information regarding . . .

- course application, contact admissions@stu.ca or 452-0532
- course payment, contact registrar@stu.ca or 452-0530
- accommodations, contact Nancy Collett at collett@stu.ca or 460-0329
- all of the above information will be available in April at <http://www.stu.ca> (*Campus News*)



St. Thomas University
Leaders in Liberal Arts Education
Intimate, Dynamic, Challenging

16th Annual Turnaround Achievement Awards

by Gary DiPaolo, Chairman of 2009 Turnaround Achievement Awards

“Changing our behaviour is probably the most difficult task we can try. Some of us never get there even after a lifetime of trying. On the other hand, we have 23 local role models to help inspire us because they have made a positive change.” This quote appeared in the Daily Gleaner’s coverage of the Turnaround Achievement Awards ceremony held at Kingswood Lodge in April.

The main purpose of the Awards is to recognize students who have turned their lives around, marked by improvement in behaviour, attitude and academics. Kingswood Park manages and administers the organization of the Awards Program since its introduction to our community in 1994. The program is made possible by Ernest and Susan McFadzen, proprietors, and Brian Johnson, Vice President who see this as an opportunity to make a difference in the community and the lives of the young people.

Each Grade 12 student was given a \$750.00 Scholarship from Kingswood Park. The following individual scholarships were also awarded: The Nic Plimmer Award (\$2000.00): Tabatha Ryder - Chipman Forest Avenue who will be attending Atlantic Baptist College; Sarah Villeneuve - Minto High and

Mallory Campbell - Stanley High, sharing the \$5000.00 University of New Brunswick Award; St. Thomas University will divide \$5000.00 between Tasha Augustine - Leo Hayes, Megan Wilson and Allison Christian - Oromocto High School; The Pepsi Scholarship (\$1000.00): Tonya Howe - Fredericton High who will be attending New Brunswick Community College in Woodstock; Erica Harper - Fredericton High, \$400.00 from New Brunswick Society of Retired Teachers Central Branch who will be attending New Brunswick Community College; Atlantic Business College of Fredericton (\$1000.00): Jessica White - Harvey High School.

The Turnaround Program has honored over 600 students in the past fifteen years and over \$80,000 in scholarship money has been awarded.

The program also recognizes the teachers and counsellors who care enough to spend quality time and effort with these students. The Ernie and Susan McFadzen Educational Award was presented to Jean McIntyre, Guidance Counsellor, Oromocto High School, District 17 and Charles Leech, Guidance Counsellor, McAdam High School, District 18.

2009 Turnaround Award Recipients:

- Devon Rice-McCaw, *Grade 7*,
Ridgeview Middle School
- Mary Johnson, *Grade 8*,
Devon Middle School
- Forrest Robichaud, *Grade 8*,
George Street Middle School
- Ben McWilliam, *Grade 8*,
Albert Street Middle School
- Brianne Reed, *Grade 8*,
Keswick Ridge School
- Ron Gerard, *Grade 8*,
Ridgeview Middle School
- Travis Augustine, *Grade 8*,
Nashwaaksis Middle School
- Tasha Augustine, *Grade 12*,
Leo Hayes High School
- Emlyn Parker, *Grade 12*,
Fredericton High School
- Tonya Howe, *Grade 12*,
Fredericton High School
- Erica Harper, *Grade 12*,
Fredericton High School
- Calvin Matchett, *Grade 12*,
Doaktown Consolidated
- Jessica White, *Grade 12*,
Harvey High School
- Barbara Dyer, *Grade 12*,
McAdam High School
- Johnathon Phillips, *Grade 12*,
McAdam High School
- Tabatha Ryder, *Grade 12*,
Chipman Forest Avenue
- Sarah Villeneuve, *Grade 12*,
Minto Memorial High School
- Megan Wilson, *Grade 12*,
Oromocto High School
- Allison Christian, *Grade 12*,
Oromocto High School
- Evan Green, *Grade 12*,
Oromocto High School
- Brian Gerard, *Grade 12*,
Leo Hayes High School
- Melissa McIntyre, *Grade 12*,
Leo Hayes High School
- Mallory Campbell, *Grade 12*,
Stanley High School



When I'm not Teaching....

Our 5600 members bring their energy and abilities to countless other interesting endeavours beyond schools. We are looking to publish photos showing teachers involved in these activities.



Photo by Harry Mullin

Example: The District 18 Staff Choir is a group of retired, current, and supply teachers, teacher assistants, administrators and administrative assistants. They performed once again this year at the NBTA Retiring Teachers' Luncheon.

Details:

We prefer good quality electronic images that show actions, events, etc. rather than traditional "grip and grins."

We probably won't be able to publish all of the photos that are submitted, at least not right away.

Captions should be a maximum of two sentences. Contact information may be included if you wish other teachers who might share your interests to contact you.

We want it to be about fun, not selling, so while we're not saying "no" to photos of commercial endeavors, they must be truly interesting or different.

To submit your photos, please email them to nbtanews@nbta.ca
Inclusion at the discretion of the editor.

We Need Your Photos!

Notice of Motion Received from St. John County Teachers' Association for Presentation at Annual General Meeting in April 1961:

Whereas the increase in revenue of the NBTA is rising steadily as salaries of teachers continue to improve each year, and

Whereas Branches of the NBTA have difficulty in financing good programs, and expenses of delegates to the Annual General Meeting are high;

Be it therefore resolved that the following amendment to the NBTA by-laws be made: (1) Branches - The Association shall pay to each Branch annually for each duly accredited member of said Branch the sum of two dollars, plus one and one-half cents per member for each mile by the shortest main highway between the city of Fredericton and postal address of Branch.

April 30 Deadline: Teachers are reminded that April 30 is the deadline for tendering your resignation. It is most necessary that teachers be most ethical in their dealings with School Boards regarding acceptance and resignation of positions. We expect School Boards to be fair to the teacher. School Boards have the right to expect the same treatment from us. Do not stain the name of our profession by accepting or signing a contract, and then later (any time up to the opening of school next September) breaking the contract. Your association will not support you if you break a contract other than by mutual consent with the School Board. Not only will your Association not support you, it will support the Trustees' Association in any action they might take to make you honor your contract.

Wanted: Assistant Secretary (Male) — For New Brunswick Teachers' Association: Duties to include research, field work and such other duties as may be assigned by the secretary-treasurer of the association. Beginning salary \$6,000; duties to begin August 1, 1959.

Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada launches 2009 National Youth Video Competition

Ottawa, May 29, 2009 – The Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada is proudly launching their second annual My Privacy & Me national video competition, which encourages youth ages 12 to 18 to produce video public service announcements that explore the importance of privacy.

Canadian youth are among the most wired in the world, but many of them have no idea how the messages and pictures they post today can affect them years into the future. The goal of the My Privacy & Me video competition is to encourage young people to learn how to build a secure online identity so they don't expose personal information about themselves that they will regret later.

"Social networking is a regular part of life for young people today and they often don't think about the consequences of disclosing personal information online," says Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart. "Our video contest gives them the opportunity to express their ideas and, we hope, also causes them to think about what they are posting so they are making informed decisions when they are having fun online."

The Office of the Privacy Commissioner was very impressed with the incredible response from the first contest. In total, seven finalists were chosen from an impressive number of entries. You can watch the seven videos (including the 1st-, 2nd- and 3rd-place winners) on youthprivacy.ca, the Office's youth Web site. They can also be viewed on the Office's YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/privacycomm>).

The Office is looking forward to the same success this year. More detailed information about the My Privacy & Me national video competition can be found at youthprivacy.ca. Videos must be submitted before **Friday, December 11, 2009**.

Announcements



Do you work with a speech-language pathologist or an audiologist?

Do words like excellence, commitment, contribution, and expertise come to mind when you think of that person? If so, please consider nominating him/her for a NBASLPA award!

Margaret Christie Lifetime Achievement Award Clinical Excellence Award Student Supervision Award

Award descriptions and nomination forms are available on the NBASLPA Web site. Go to www.communicationnb.ca and click on Awards. The nomination deadline is **September 15**.

We would like to remind all Members to **KEEP their membership cards** in a safe place. They have their **member number** on them and are **used for discounts** (see www.nbta.ca for discounts)

“Be ARTrageous! @ your library®” 2009 Summer Reading Club

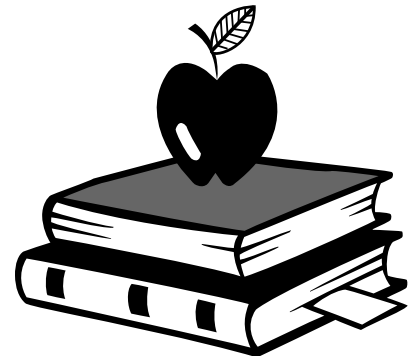
Young people in New Brunswick are invited to register for the 2009 public libraries' Summer Reading Club and discover the joys of reading. This year's theme is visual art and the slogan is “Be ARTrageous! @ your library ”. This theme promises, once again, an exciting program!

The Summer Reading Club is designed to encourage young people to read over the summer holidays. When they register, participants receive a reading logbook in which they can write down the titles of the books they read during the summer. They will also receive a certificate of achievement.

During the months of June, July and August, all public libraries and bookmobiles in the province will present various fun and entertaining activities to support and highlight the 2009 Summer Reading Club. Imagine all we can do with books!

The 2009 Summer Reading Club is intended for all young New Brunswickers. Children who do not yet know how to read can also participate by having a parent or guardian read to them. Registration for the 2009 Summer Reading Club begins upon completion of the school year. Posters have been provided to teachers to post in classrooms to assist in promoting the program to students. Teachers and students can contact their public library or bookmobile for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of the Summer Reading Club in your community!



Summer Camp Programs @ MTA!

World of Music — July 13-18 For students in Grades 10-11

International Relations: An exciting one-week summer camp for high school students in Grades 10 and 11 wishing to explore global issues — July 19 – 24

Science Research: An intense one-week summer experience for high school students wishing to participate in scientific research — August 8 – 16

Language Villages: A dynamic summer experience where middle school and high school students discover the language and culture of another country — Chinese: July 5-10, Spanish: July 12-16, Japanese: July 19-24

TechNow: Everything from PowerPoint to web design, video editing and more — July 5-10, 12-16

Live, Learn, Lead: High School Leadership: A training program and skills-based workshop for students to advance their leadership skills — August 14-16 For students in Grade 10-12

Take action! Academy: Coordinated with Leaders Today/Free the Children, this program will offer participants an opportunity to advance their leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills while, at the same time, learn more about social issues in our region and beyond — August 17-21

For information, contact: Isla Murphy, Student Summer Ambassador, Mount Allison University, camps@mta.ca (506) 364-2114 or check the web site at www.mta.ca. Enrolment is limited.



Mount Allfson
UNIVERSITY

**NBTA Credit Union Wishes You a Safe and Happy Summer!
 Summer Hours Begin June 22: 9AM – 4PM**

**New Brunswick Teachers' Association
 650 Montgomery Street,
 P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, NB
 E3B 5R6**

Find **Your Own**
 Space.



YOUR FINANCING



Ask About a
 Mortgage.

Buying a home is one of the most important decisions you will ever make, matched only by the mortgage you choose. You owe it to yourself to make the most informed choice possible. Through NBTA Credit Union, your mortgage can be tailored to have the flexibility you need allowing you to make the right decisions for your financial future. Call one of our mortgage professionals today!



Place Label Here



650 Montgomery St., P.O. Box 752, Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6
 506-452-1724 • 1-800-565-5626 • 506-452-1732 (fax)
 E-mail: nbtacu@nbnet.nb.ca • Web: <http://www.nbtacu.nb.ca>
 Hours: Monday to Friday, Telephone Service 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
 In-Branch Service: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

CANADA POST	POSTES CANADA
Postage paid Publications Mail	Part payé Poste-publications
41349976	