



The

CHECK IN

May 19, 2026

Issue 36

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:



As the school year winds down, I encourage everyone to stay involved in County events.

Please take a look at the candidate profiles attached to this email for our upcoming Executive elections to learn about the members putting their names forward to lead. We're lucky to have such

dedicated educators and Union advocates supporting members.

Missed Marking and Preparation Time Resoration

Missed marking and/or preparation time must be restored for those members whose banked marking and/or preparation time was less than 150 minutes and reduced during a storm day during the 2025/26 school year.

This is a direct result of a grievance filed by the NSTU on your behalf. Moving forward, banked marking and/or preparation time may not be reduced on storm days.

Instructions to complete the process along with submission form was sent via employer email on March 15/26.

Principals will cross reference your submission to their records and follow up with any questions so that eligible time can be credited back to your marking and preparation time bank, in accordance with Article 59.04 of the Teachers' Provincial Agreement (TPA):

A teacher who is required by the Principal to fill in when a substitute is not hired pursuant to Article 32.23 (Substitute Teachers) of this Agreement can bank the missed marking and preparation time until such time as the bank reaches 150 minutes at which time the teacher, in consultation with the Principal, can schedule a half day to engage in marking and preparation activities as required or other professional development activities. This work must be performed at the School or another work location as agreed. The Principal, in consultation with the teacher, will keep track of the amount of banked marking and preparation time that a teacher has in accordance with this sub-article. The bank shall not carry over to the next school year.

IMPORTANT DATES

May 21 First permanent posting round complete

May 27 Final permanent posting round opens (12pm)

Teacher or School Initiated Inservice Promotion Grant application deadline

Article 60 Conference Grant application due

May 29 Halifax County Local Conference Fund and Local Reserve Conference Fund application deadline

June 1 Final permanent posting round closes (12pm)

Article 10.04 postings open (12pm)

NSTU Program Development Assistance Fund application due

2026 Staffing Timelines



May 21	First permanent posting placement complete; check Successful Applicants list
May 27 (12pm)	Final permanent posting goes live
June 1 (12pm)	Final permanent posting closes
June 1 (12pm)	Article 10.04 posting goes live
June 3	Final permanent posting placement complete; check Successful Applicants list
June 4 (12pm)	Article 10.04 postings close
June 5 (12pm)	School Counsellor posting round goes live
June 8 (9am)	School Counsellor posting round closes
June 10 (12pm)	Teacher Placement Process appointment times and postings go live
June 11 (4pm)	Teacher Placement Process begins
June 13	Teacher Placement Process continues
June 17 (12pm)	First term posting goes live
June 19	Priority Placement staffing
June 22 (12pm)	First term posting closes
July 8 (12pm)	Summer term posting goes live
Aug 17 (12pm)	Summer term posting closes
Aug 19 (12pm)	Weekly Term postings resume

Important to Note:

During the permanent posting rounds and during the Teacher Placement Process (TPP) teachers are required to rank the positions they apply to, in order of preference. Rankings will be relied on by HR Services to place you in a position. Rankings along with seniority and qualifications will determine the position teachers are placed in. Please note that ranking a position #1 does not guarantee that you will be placed in that position, as a more senior qualified applicant may be placed or it may be determined by HR Services that there were no qualified applicants for the position.

Permanent Posting Rounds Process

- Permanent and probationary status teachers will apply for and rank positions in order of preference.
- HR will place teachers in a position for which they apply to, and are qualified for, in order of seniority and ranking, if it is available.
- **If a teacher is placed in a position they apply to, they will have no option to decline the position.** Therefore, it is important that teachers only apply to positions they are willing to be placed in.
- Successful applicants will be posted on Successful Applicants on myHRCE as positions are being filled by HR. Since this is a live system, please note that placements are subject to change if you're viewing these prior to the completion of the staffing process, May 15, 2025 and May 29, 2025.
- If you are listed as the Successful Applicant upon completion of the staffing process for the first permanent posting round, you are expected to email the Principal of your current school to advise them of such. Please follow the same process if you are the Successful Applicant for position in the final permanent posting round.

*****The above information is an excerpt from the 2026 Teacher Staffing Memo sent via HRCE email on Monday, May 4, 2026.**

Halifax County Local Executive Candidates

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the candidates for the following Local Executive positions:

VP Communications:	Sarah McCann
VP Nominating:	Christine Emberley
VP Professional Development:	Turk MacDonald
VP Social Wellness:	Jennifer Moriarty and Jessica Wells

Elections for these positions will take place at the June 3rd Annual General Meeting. As per Robert's Rules of Order, additional nominations for all positions will be taken from the floor.

The Nominations Committee wishes to thank all candidates for putting their names forward for these positions. Candidate profiles are attached to this email, posted on our website and will be posted here in the Check In as well.

Education Week 2026

Congratulations to Chantal Pye on being one of the HRCE recipients of the Education Week 2026 award! This year's Education Week theme, *Fostering Empathy: Learning and Leading with Kindness*, is perfectly reflected in Chantal's work. For the past eight years, Chantal has been a valued member of the Oyster Pond Academy staff, teaching Art and Science while also supporting students as the Junior High Interventionist teacher.



Chantal's kindness, patience, and genuine care for students are evident in everything she does. Her classroom is a welcoming space where students feel safe, supported, and understood. Through initiatives such as the Wellness group, she creates opportunities for students to connect, build confidence, and feel a strong sense of belonging.

She is also passionate about encouraging female students in science, helping them recognize their strengths and potential. Chantal's compassion extends to both students and colleagues, and the relationships she builds have helped make Oyster Pond Academy a more supportive and inclusive community. This recognition is a well-deserved reflection of the positive impact she makes every day.

NSTU Benefits at a glance...

The Chronic Disease Program – Offered Through Carepath Digital Health

Provides comprehensive and personalized support to members, spouses and their families in the event of illness or other health crises.

The **Chronic Disease Program** is led by Nurse Case Managers who act as partners and advocates for you and your family. Once connected with a Nurse Case Manager who is a specialist in your disease or condition, you will have a single point of contact to ensure continuity of care.

The **Chronic Disease Program** services include:

- Comprehensive health assessment
- Explanation of diagnosis, tests, and treatments.
- Education on how to manage symptoms to minimize treatment side effects.
- Facilitate access to diagnosis tests, treatments, and clinical trials.
- Ongoing virtual nursing support, health education, and coaching throughout navigation to ensure the individual has the information needed to make informed health care decisions.
- Virtual second opinion when needed.

*Excerpt - see

<https://www.carepath.ca> for more

The way a team plays as a whole determines its success

~ Babe Ruth

KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

REGIONAL AGREEMENT (HRCE)

Vice Principal (VP) Relief Positions

10.29 Up to thirty-five (35) schools with a teaching Vice Principal will be given the option to hire any term teacher with term rehire rights to fill the VP relief position without posting the position, provided the term teacher is qualified. If a term teacher accepts a position pursuant to this article the Regional Centre shall have met its obligation, pursuant to Article 10.14, to that term teacher. The Regional Centre will advise the Union of the term teacher's name, school and percentage of position awarded prior to the commencement of the meeting pursuant to Article 10.11.

10.30 If the Principal chooses not to fill the VP relief position pursuant to this article, the VP relief position shall be posted and filled in accordance with Article 10.

10.31 Selections shall occur after the Principal receives the staffing allocations for the upcoming school year and prior to the commencement of the meeting pursuant to Article 10.11. Specific dates will be communicated to Principals each year by Human Resource Services. Principals shall submit a VP Relief Application to the Human Resource Manager who will approve such application prior to the commencement of the meeting pursuant to Article 10.11. Approval will be given on a year by year basis.

Halifax County Retirement Event

SATURDAY

27

JUNE 2026

5:00 - 11:00 PM

DELTA HOTELS DARTMOUTH

240 BROWNLOW AVENUE



**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**

Retiree registration

Paying Guest Registration

FEES

Retiree &
One Guest
Complimentary

All Others
\$60.00

Spring 2026 media campaign

May 19, 2026

Issue 36

Dear Colleagues,

Over the next two weeks, you'll see NSTU TV and online ads. Last spring, six members shared candid stories about teaching and learning in Nova Scotia. We've re-cut that footage to spotlight new themes including public education's value, educators' work, and the need for government to deliver for students, families, and staff.

This campaign puts a spotlight on what teachers, specialists, and students are up against, and the reforms public education needs now: more resources and stronger supports for complex classrooms.

Enrolment is up. Violent incidents are up 60 per cent. But public education funding hasn't kept pace with inflation. Now the province is cutting more than 80 teaching positions across Nova Scotia and eliminating school social work positions in the HRCE.

We're asking Nova Scotians to tell their MLAs: students need more support. Please add your voice at <https://www.actforeducation.ca/action/>

The email is ready to go—just add a few personal details (and edit as you wish).

If you haven't seen the new 30-second ads yet, you can watch them here:

- Challenges 1: <https://youtu.be/2I8h-MMqcb4>
- Challenges 2: https://youtu.be/xs_gzfdOqxY

Check our channels often for these videos. They capture the skill and care you bring to schools every day.

Please share the videos on your social channels, and take a moment to write to your MLA. You can also find them on [actforeducation.ca](https://www.actforeducation.ca) and on [NSTU's YouTube channel](#).

The campaign runs until June 1 on TV, digital, and social media (including premium mobile, pre-roll, and Connected TV).

Thanks for your support.

Peter Day

****Communication sent via noreply@nstu.ca on May 19/26*



Three to Thrive

Three quick, practical tips to help us recharge, stay balanced, and thrive—each one takes just a few minutes!

-  Reflect on one thing you're proud of this week
-  Step outside and take in the sun for a few minutes
-  Eat at least one fruit or vegetable with every meal

Do you have any tips that work well???

If so, please feel free to send into halifaxcountylocal@nstu.ca to be included in an upcoming Check In.



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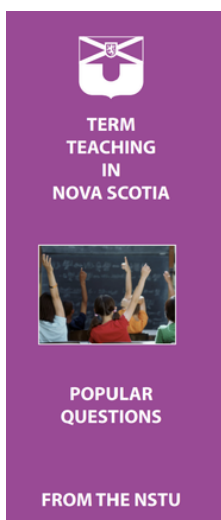
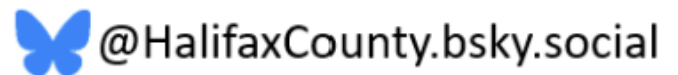
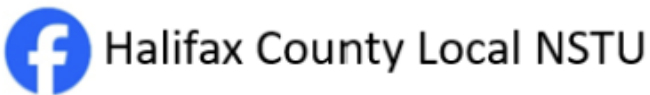
Pride Parade 2026



Are you interested in helping to plan the NSTU float in the Halifax Pride Parade? This year Halifax County, Halifax City and Dartmouth locals will work together to plan, and organize the NSTU's participation in the annual Pride Parade, taking place July 18th, 2026. **Please note our first meeting will be May 19th at 4:30** at 202 Brownlow Avenue (County office).

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/LFoWqWw3s9y5KgpS9>



Term Teacher Contract Information

Questions?

Please contact the Member Services Department at toll-free 1-800-565-6788 or email contractinfo@nstu.ca

Visit - <https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/early-career/term-contracts-q-a>

Local PD Opportunities for May

Halifax County Local Conference Fund

Amount: Up to \$800 CDN

Members can use to attend a conference, workshop, seminar, clinic, symposium, institute or other approved PD opportunity. Can receive once every 2 years.

Eligibility: Must be a permanent, probationary or term teacher of the Halifax County Local only. Please note: NSTU Professional Development Day (October Conference) and credit courses are not funded by this grant. For such funding, go to HRCE Internal Sharepoint for more information.

Deadline: Last Friday of each month – August to June

*If applying for a Halifax County Local Conference from August 2026 to July 2027, please use the current 25-26 application found on the website. Please note that the current \$800 may be different and approvals will be conditional provided that the applicant remains in Halifax County after the postings. The new application will be posted once the budget is approved.

Article 60 Upcoming Deadlines

The 2026-27 Article 60 Guidelines are available via Sharepoint. Members are responsible to read and follow guidelines. Members must ensure they have completed all sections/boxes of the Sharepoint applications when applying. Members are responsible to verify documents are attached and deadlines are met.

***All documents must be received electronically via Sharepoint by 4pm. All attachments should be visible so please ensure all documentation is attached.

Conference, In-service and Course Pre-approval:

The START DATE for Conferences and Courses must take place 10 Calendar days AFTER the committee meeting dates (first Wednesday of each month). In-services can take place 30 Calendar Days after.

Conference and In-Service Application Due Dates: **MAY 27**

Course Reimbursement Deadlines:

Course Completed During the Following Dates	Deadline Date via SharePoint. No Later than 4pm
April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026	July 31, 2026
July 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026	October 31, 2026
October 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026	January 31, 2027
January 1, 2027 – March 31, 2027	April 30, 2027

Local PD Opportunities for May

Continued...

HRCE has asked that when submitting documents for course reimbursements and use “snipping tool” from university websites, to please ensure members include their name in the snip to prove the receipt/course grade, etc belongs to the applicant.

Upcoming Provincial NSTU Deadline Dates 2025-26 (nstu.ca)**

All applications must be received at the NSTU Central Office by 4pm on the date specified. If the deadline falls on a holiday, applications will be accepted until 4pm the next business day.

<https://nstu.ca/nstu-members/professional-development/grants-opportunities/study-and-research-grants>

Program Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) - June 1, August 1

**These dates are a guide only. Members are responsible to reconfirm deadlines on the various websites. Halifax County Local is not responsible for incorrect/missed deadlines.

Social Gathering at Lefty's Restaurant & Lounge!

County members enjoyed a well-attended social last Friday, providing a great opportunity to connect with colleagues and friends ahead of the long weekend. Thank you to everyone who came out and helped make the late afternoon gathering a success.



<https://halifaxcountylocal.com>



NSTU STANDING & OTHER COMMITTEES

Would you like to serve the NSTU at the Provincial Level?

The NSTU needs input from the widest-possible cross section of its members to make the most effective contribution to education. Members serve on most provincial standing committees for a maximum of two years,* so we are constantly in search of skilled and interested persons to make our committee structure operate successfully. Committee membership is open to Active and Active Reserve Members.

**NSTU Operational Procedures state: Appointment to a committee will be for one defined term of two years. In extraordinary circumstances, an extension of one year is permissible.*

- COMITÉ DE PROGRAMMATION ACADIENNE:** studies the curriculum of Acadian public schools (those schools under the authority of the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial) and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive. **(Central Region)**
- CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:** studies the curriculum of public schools and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- DISTRIBUTED LEARNING COMMITTEE:** addresses distance education issues and is comprised of representatives from the NSTU, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and Regional Centres of Education (RCEs).
- EQUITY COMMITTEE:** assists in planning the biennial Equity Conference; studies matters pertaining to the current practices, attitudes, and research regarding diversity, equity, and social justice and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:** is concerned with the overall financial plans of the Union; presents regular financial statements to the Provincial Executive; costs resolutions to Council and prepares an annual budget for presentation to Council; makes appropriate recommendations regarding costed resolutions to Council; is responsible for the general oversight of properties held or leased by the Union; and considers requests respecting major purchases.
- MEMBER ECONOMIC WELFARE, HEALTH AND SAFETY, AND WORKING CONDITIONS COMMITTEE:** coordinates the Member Services and Health and Safety biennial Conferences; reviews programs aimed at educating leaders regarding working conditions and welfare; identifies and prepares background information on bargainable items; identifies trends and developments in teacher bargaining across Canada; reviews economic forecasts; considers Council resolutions; and reviews results of most recent Provincial and Regional contract bargaining.
- POLITICAL ACTION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE:** assists in planning the biennial Political Action and Public Relations Conference; recommends to the Provincial Executive opportunities for involvement in political action for NSTU members (and others) regarding government positions pertaining to public education and reviews NSTU public relations and communications programs and makes recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding same. **(Members appointed to the Committee shall represent each of the RRC's and the CSANE Local)**
- PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS COORDINATION COMMITTEE:** assists in planning the annual Professional Associations Leaders Conference; reviews resolutions put forward by professional associations, advises the Provincial Executive on matters pertaining to professional associations, assists associations in carrying out their mandates, monitors the activities of associations and provides a communication channel between the Provincial Executive and Professional Associations. **(Members appointed to the Committee shall be Members of a Professional Association Executive)**
- PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:** assists in planning the biennial Professional Development Conference for Local Leaders; makes recommendations to the Provincial Executive regarding recipients of Educational Research Awards, Travel Fellowship, Out-of-Province Conference Grants and Full Time Study Grants; and reviews and develops programs intended to improve the effectiveness of teachers as professionals.
- PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE (PDAF):** reviews applications for financial assistance to support innovative curriculum projects and awards grants to successful applicants.
- STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE:** assists in planning the biennial Status of Women Conference; studies matters pertaining to the current practices, attitudes, and research regarding the status of women in the teaching profession and in society in general and reports its findings to the Provincial Executive.
- SUBSTITUTE TEACHER COMMITTEE:** advises the Provincial Executive on issues affecting and of concern to substitute teachers.
- I would be willing to serve on any committee.

**Applications must be received in Central Office by
Wednesday, May 27, 2026**

You may download the NSTU Standing/Other Committees application form from the NSTU website or apply online by going to the following link (you do not require an NSTU webmail account to apply online):

<https://nstu.ca/the-nstu/structure/committees>

The NSTU reserves the right to re-advertise any position if a sufficient number of applications are not received by the deadline.