



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

As we enter the final week of the school year, I want to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate all that you've accomplished. From classroom instruction, concerts, field trips, complying with the Fire Marshall, managing exams, graduations, and final reports to supporting students through every challenge and success, your dedication has been nothing short of inspiring.

We're in the final full week with students—hang in there! You've come this far, and you can do it—summer is just around the corner!

## Switching emails?

Adding your preferred email to your online NSTU account (<https://nstucentral.ca/>) and experiencing difficulty?

Please email (from a non-employer email) [centraloffice@nstu.ca](mailto:centraloffice@nstu.ca) and include:

- what task you are attempting to accomplish ie. adding preferred email, reset username or password
- the error received
- your professional number (six digit) not your 400#

## Not located in the Member Registry?

You are not listed in the Member Registry(<https://nstucentral.ca/>)?

Fill out the following online form

- [English](#)
- [French](#)

Or complete the appropriate attached form and email to [centraloffice@nstu.ca](mailto:centraloffice@nstu.ca)

## IMPORTANT DATES

June 25	Summer term posting opens
June 26	High School Assessment and Evaluation Day - <i>no classes High School only</i>
June 27	Elementary/ Middle/Junior High/ High School Assessment and Evaluation Day - <i>no classes</i>
June 30	Last Day of School

“Dear Students,  
You're not the only ones counting the days..”  
~ Teachers”



## Nova Scotia Teachers Union Membership Information Form – Public Schools

**PLEASE NOTE:** Long term substitutes do NOT complete this form.

To activate your NSTU web account, simply follow the link on the NSTU website (select “NSTU Web Accounts” from the “Communications” dropdown menu) and enter the necessary information. **NOTE:** You must be entered in the Membership Registry in order to open an account; therefore, please allow time for your form to be processed.

<b>Professional Number:</b>			
<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Middle Initial(s)</b>	<b>Commonly Used Name</b>
<b>License Level:</b>			
<b>Mailing Address:</b>			
<b>City:</b>	<b>Province:</b>	<b>Postal Code:</b>	
<b>Home Telephone:</b>		<b>Cell:</b>	
<b>Date of Birth</b> (dd/mm/yyyy):			
<b>School/Home School:</b>			
<b>Contract Status:</b>	Permanent <input type="checkbox"/>	Probationary <input type="checkbox"/>	Term <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Position:</b>	Principal <input type="checkbox"/>	Vice-Principal <input type="checkbox"/>	Classroom <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist <input type="checkbox"/>

Can the NSTU share your cell phone number with a company contracted to contact you by text message on behalf of the NSTU?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If you responded yes to the question above, please indicate which phone number should be used for text messages:

Can the NSTU share your phone number with a company contracted to provide telephone town hall services on behalf of the NSTU?

Yes ☐

No ☐

If you responded yes to the question above, please indicate which phone number should be used for town hall services:

The information supplied on this form is for the sole purpose of enabling the Nova Scotia Teachers Union to communicate information directly related to the business of the NSTU and of interest to teachers. This information will not be shared with any other person or organization. By submitting this form you have authorized the NSTU to retain the above information for the described purposes.



## Nova Scotia Teachers Union

### Formulaire de renseignements d'adhésion - Écoles publiques

**N.B.** Les suppléants à long terme ne doivent pas remplir ce formulaire

Pour activer votre compte Web du NSTU, veuillez simplement suivre le lien sur le site Web du NSTU (sélectionnez « Comptes Web du NSTU » à partir du menu déroulant « Communications ») et entrer les renseignements demandés.

**NOTEZ BIEN :** Vous devez être inscrit au Registre des membres afin d'ouvrir un compte; par conséquent, veuillez allouer le temps pour le traitement de votre formulaire.

<b>Numéro professionnel:</b>			
<b>Nom de famille</b>	<b>Prénom(s)</b>	<b>Initiale(s) du second prénom utilisé</b>	<b>Nom couramment utilisé</b>
<b>Niveau de permis d'enseignement :</b> _____			
<b>Adresse :</b> _____			
<b>Ville :</b>	<b>Province :</b>	<b>Code postal :</b>	
<b>Téléphone :</b>	<b>Cellulaire :</b>		
<b>Date de naissance</b> (jj/mm/aaaa) :			
<b>École :</b> _____			
<b>Type de contrat :</b> Permanent <input type="checkbox"/> Stagiaire <input type="checkbox"/> Durée déterminée <input type="checkbox"/>			
<b>Poste :</b> Directeur/Directrice <input type="checkbox"/> Directeur/Directrice adjoint(e) <input type="checkbox"/> Titulaire de classe <input type="checkbox"/> Spécialiste <input type="checkbox"/>			
Les renseignements fournis sur ce formulaire ont uniquement pour but de permettre au Nova Scotia Teachers Union de communiquer des renseignements liés directement aux activités du NSTU et susceptibles d'intéresser les enseignants. Ces renseignements ne seront partagés avec aucune autre personne ou organisation. En soumettant ce formulaire, vous autorisez le NSTU à conserver les renseignements ci-dessus aux fins décrites.			

# NSTU Email Contest



June 23, 2025

Issue 40

To be entered in the next draw on June 27<sup>th</sup> for 25 Sobeys gift cards valued at \$50 each you must update your NSTU membership profile with your preferred (non @nstu and non-employer) email address. The sooner you update your information, the more chances you'll have to win.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS:

### 2025 - 2026 Dates

September 24, 2025

October 22, 2025

November 26, 2025

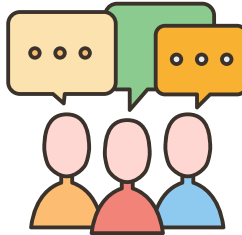
January 21, 2026

March 4, 2026

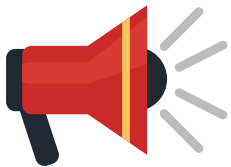
April 8, 2026

May 6, 2026

June 3, 2026



General Meetings are held at the Royal Canadian Legion located at 45 Sackville Cross Rd, Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2M2. **Arrival 5:30pm (dinner) for 6:00pm start.**



## NSTU Building Shutdown



Please be advised that the Annual NSTU building shutdown will take place from **July 21 to August 1, 2025**. Further details will be shared as they become available from NSTU Central Office.



## Asking Package Submissions?

The NSTU is always looking for ways to better represent you. If you have ideas, priorities, or suggestions you'd like to see reflected in future negotiations, the NSTU wants to hear them.

Send your thoughts to [askingpackage@nstu.ca](mailto:askingpackage@nstu.ca) — your input helps shape the path forward!

## NSTU Benefits at a glance...

### Trip Cancellation/Interruption

#### Cost Sharing:

Member pays 100% – Annual Plan – renews automatically each September 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Coverage:

Available to all members who are enrolled in the NSED Travel Out of Province/Canada Emergency Medical Insurance Plan.

**Trip Cancellation** – up to \$5,000 per insured person per annual coverage period

**Trip Interruption** – up to a maximum of \$5,000 per insured person for each covered trip

- Up to a maximum \$1,000 for baggage and personal effects during a covered trip
- Pre-existing medical conditions clause
- Worldwide Travel Assistance including a 24-hour emergency help line

Click here for the full policy wording of [NSED Travel Insurance Trip Cancellation/Interruption Plan](#).

**\*\*\*Above is an excerpt** - for more information:

902-453-9543 or 1-800-453-9543  
[insurance@nstu.ca](mailto:insurance@nstu.ca)/  
[GroupBenefitsNS@belairdirect.com](http://GroupBenefitsNS@belairdirect.com)

# Inspire Awards 2025

Last week, we proudly hosted our Inspire Award dinner to recognize this year's outstanding recipients. These awards celebrate the dedication and service of educators and school representatives, and are named in memory of two remarkable former members of the Halifax County local: Preman Edwards and Susan Noiles.

The Preman Edwards School Representative Award honors Preman's enduring commitment to advocacy and leadership within the NSTU, where he served in many roles, including as a staff officer until his passing. The Susan Noiles Educator Award commemorates Susan's lasting impact as a devoted school counselor at Lockview and a passionate supporter of her colleagues.



## Preman Edwards Award

Sue Horncastle  
Rebecca Taylor

## Susan Noiles Award

Amanda Pashkoski  
Jessica Redmond  
Dione Woodrow

### Sue Horncastle (Rocky Lake Jr. High)

Sue Horncastle consistently demonstrates leadership and dedication. As a role model for her colleagues, she leads by example within her Professional Learning Community (PLC) and the entire school. One of her most remarkable qualities is her ability to connect with students on a personal level, fostering a sense of trust and investment in their learning. Her students know that she genuinely cares about their well-being, which makes them more engaged and motivated academically. She is often their "go-to" person during challenging times, always offering support and guidance. It was heart-warming to see her sitting on the stairs comforting a distraught student with her only focus on their well-being. Sue exemplifies best practices in the classroom, seeking ways to improve her teaching. She is more than willing to share her knowledge and expertise with new teachers or veteran teachers. Her commitment to mentorship is evident in the way she supports her colleagues and mentoring student teachers, helping to create an environment of collaboration and growth. Sue stepped up as an alternate union rep for our school, taking on additional responsibilities to ensure that union-related activities ran smoothly. Sue Horncastle's contributions to educational leadership, mentorship, community building, and excellence in teaching makes her an ideal candidate for the Inspire Award.

## **Rebecca Taylor (Bedford South)**

Rebecca is deeply committed to the wellbeing of teachers, always prioritizing their concerns and advocating for their rights. She is consistently available to answer questions, provide support, and ensure that members have the resources they need. She has helped teachers write grievances, seek clarification on contract language, and has set up meetings with election candidates, our staff officer, and our local union president. Rebecca fosters an environment where work-life balance is encouraged and promotes overall wellness of the members on our staff. In our school union meetings, her approach is inclusive, ensuring all voices are heard, and she maintains a balanced perspective in decision-making, striving to create a fair and supportive atmosphere for everyone involved. As a teacher, Rebecca genuinely cares about the success and wellbeing of her students. She was my class resource teacher for many years, and she would always go above and beyond, to help my students thrive. Whether providing extra help, answering questions, or offering guidance, Rebecca is dedicated to ensuring that her students have the resources and encouragement they need to succeed.

## **Susan Noiles Award**

### **Amanda Pashkoski (Sycamore Lane)**

“Ms. P”, as she is known around Sycamore Lane, works tirelessly for her students and wants to see them succeed. Amanda has high expectations for her students and greets them with enthusiasm, energy and kindness each day. She has the ideal combination of firm and fair and she is very nurturing while teaching them to read and write, whether that is in small groups or while offering in-class support. I have watched her students seek her out to share their achievements, whether that is, “Look how much I wrote!” or “I finished this book and I’m ready for the next one!” I have also observed students come and show her their playground injuries and watched as she compassionately gave them a BandAid or offered a kind word. Amanda knows all the students in the school by name from Primary to Grade 5 and she volunteers her time during various recess and lunch times to meet with many of them to play basketball. She also attends some of their extracurricular sporting events to support them. On other days, she gives Professional Development to new teachers during “lunch and learns” to offer guidance on their literacy lessons. Recently, she took the lead on applying for a \$30,000 reading grant for the school. This involved many lunch hour meetings with colleagues and students to conduct interviews and filming as part of the application process. Ms. P provides a safe and inviting environment to learn and all of this is done for the love of her students and her passion for teaching.

## **Jessica Redmond (Rocky Lake Jr. High)**

If I were to describe Jessica in one phrase, it is "relentlessly positive". She greets the students at the Tech Ed entrance with a big smile, and a boisterous, friendly welcome. She is enthusiastic with everything they do, and incredibly encouraging. She makes each student feel she cares. She is helpful to everyone - colleagues and students - but also accepts nothing but your best. She will give her students all the tools and skills they need, but also encourage and fosters an environment of independence: she wants her students to do the wood lab work for themselves, when it is 100% safe for them to do it. She doesn't accept "I can't", but encourages and helps them discover "I can". She just has one of the best attitudes and outlooks I've ever encountered. She makes everyone welcome, everyone feel like they are special, and respects everyone's unique abilities. Jessica exudes everything a teacher should strive to be. Her students will remember her long after they have left public school.

## **Dione Woodrow (Georges P. Vanier Jr. High)**

Dione Woodrow is an educational leader in every sense of the word. She is a teacher, mentor, and coach to students, pre service teachers as well as to those who have been lucky enough to teach along side her at various schools in Nova Scotia. Her competitive spirit, her passion for being a life long learner, as well as her encouragement toward excellence makes her a true educational inspiration. Dione's competitive spirit is well known at Georges P Vanier and she has inspired many students over the years to show their school spirit. Whether it be in planning the most creative banner or winning a holiday competition, Ms. Woodrow, knows how to pump her students up and encourage them to get engaged in their school. Her good will knows no bounds particularly when her fellow staff is concerned. She has hosted many social events for staff over the past 15 years, such as meet and greets at the beginning of the school year to end of year get togethers. Ms. Woodrow understands how important having a staff being able to spend time together outside the classroom can really help to build connections and foster strong bonds. At George's P Vanier and at Prince Arthur before that, staff have benefited from having Dione on their staff. She is always the courageous Guinea pig taking on every new initiative that is introduced. Just recently she was the first teacher at our school to take on inquiry learning. As Dione retires this year, we as a staff will miss her immensely.

**We thank all who joined us in celebrating the spirit of excellence and service that these awards represent.**







## Be a Site Rep Next Year!

We encourage you to consider volunteering for one of the important positions at your school or site. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who stepped up this year — your dedication is truly appreciated and made a significant impact. Your ongoing support of both the Local and the NSTU as a whole makes a real difference.

As we approach the end of the school year, it's a great time to think about running for the School/Site Union Representative position in September. While many current Reps will continue in their roles, retirements and transfers often create openings that need to be filled. During Organization Day in September, NSTU members at your school/site can expect a call for nominations — a perfect opportunity to get involved and help shape our Local.

### C. NSTU REPRESENTATIVE

- I. A NSTU representative is an active member of the NSTU assigned to an educational site within the geographical or educational site boundaries of the Local.
- II. Each educational site shall elect a minimum of one (1) NSTU representative. Educational sites with up to twenty-five (25) members shall elect a maximum of one (1) NSTU representative. Educational sites with twenty-six (26) to fifty (50) members may elect a maximum of two (2) NSTU representatives. Educational sites with fifty-one (51) to one hundred (100) members may elect a maximum of three (3) NSTU representatives. Educational sites with over one hundred (100) members may elect a maximum of four (4) NSTU representatives. The educational site shall be entitled to an equal number of alternate representatives.
- III. Notwithstanding C II above, under exceptional circumstances, a Local may at a Local General Meeting approve additional NSTU representatives at an individual educational site for an academic year.

## Rep Roles and Responsibilities

- c. NSTU Representative – duties for NSTU representatives include, but are not limited to:
  - i. The timely distribution and posting of NSTU information received through the provincial NSTU representative network.
  - ii. The timely distribution and posting of information received from the NSTU Local.
  - iii. Directing members' requests to the appropriate Local or provincial support persons.
  - iv. Coordinating the collection of annual membership registry data in his/her educational site.
  - v. Requesting time on the staff meeting agenda for NSTU updates.
  - vi. Calling other meetings as necessary.
  - vii. Assisting new members to become informed NSTU members.
  - viii. Identifying themselves to all members new to their educational site.
  - ix. Ensuring all members understand the NSTU representatives' roles and duties.
  - x. Conducting other functions as outlined in these Operational Procedures.



Come Show Your  
Halifax County



At The 2025  
Pride Parade



&



Keep An Eye Out For More Details  
Via Email And On Social Media



July 19th, 2025



Gather at 11am



East End of Cogswell  
St. (At Roundabout)



Parade Starts  
At 12pm



# Labor Day RALLY '25

September 1st, 2025

Meet at:  
NS Labour Board,  
1601 Lower Water St.

March to:  
Peace and  
Friendship Park

More details to  
come - watch your  
email and Hfx  
County social media

Mark  
Your  
Calendar

# *Donut Forget!*

## **WE'RE ALMOST DONE!**

**JOIN HALIFAX COUNTY LOCAL NSTU  
FOR OUR YEAR END SOCIAL.**



**FRIDAY, JUNE 27 2025  
3:00 PM – 5:30 PM**



**DOOLY'S, BEDFORD  
1658 BEDFORD HIGHWAY**

**REGISTER HERE BY 4PM JUNE 25**



# Our Kids Can't Wait

## Our kids need more:

more time with teachers, more resources in the classroom, more support when they're struggling. These are urgent needs that require meaningful investment—now.

Write your MLA and ask they make public education a top priority.

Visit <https://www.actforeducation.ca/action/>



## KNOW YOUR CONTRACT(S)

### **REGIONAL AGREEMENT (HRCE) - ARTICLE 24 - TEACHER IN CHARGE**

**24.01** A teacher may be appointed by the Regional Centre or its agent as a Teacher in Charge in accordance with this Article.

**24.02** In the event that all administrative personnel assigned to the school are absent from the school, the Teacher in Charge may be requested to assume the duties specified in this clause. Teachers in the school will be informed when a teacher has been requested to be Teacher in Charge.

**24.03** The Teacher in Charge, when requested to act, shall attend to ensuring that routine supervision is adequate to secure the safety of students and security of the school is maintained, and shall deal only with emergent matters as they may arise, with required assistance from the Regional Centre Office.

**24.04** While acting as a Teacher in Charge, the teacher is covered by all terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**24.05** Where absences of administrative personnel continue for more than ten (10) consecutive school days, the Teacher in Charge will be advised that they will assume all administrative duties, excluding only formal evaluation of instruction and personnel, and that they will be working under the terms and conditions of employment for administrators.

**24.06** Whenever possible the Teacher in Charge shall be selected from those teachers who have expressed an interest in performing this function. Teacher application to be a Teacher in Charge must be made to the Principal by September 15 of each school year. A teacher has the right to refuse to act as a Teacher in Charge except in emergencies.