

# news



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N O V A S C O T I A T E A C H E R S U N I O N

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## **Laid-off Cape Breton teachers get jobs back**

Permanent Cape Breton teachers who had been terminated have been given their jobs back.

The Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board rescinded the layoff notices for the 14 permanent teachers in a meeting on June 27.

"It's been a very emotional experience for these teachers and we're pleased to see that their jobs will not be cut," says NSTU president Alexis Allen. "The loss of these teaching positions would have had a negative impact on students in the classroom."

The affected teachers have decades of combined experience with the Board and bring a high level of expertise and dedication to the classroom. All have strong roots in the community.

Allen reiterates the fact that there are still over 300 positions across Nova Scotia that will not be filled when educators retire this year. The loss of the positions comes after the Dexter government removed \$35 million from an already underfunded system.

"This will be felt in the classroom," says NSTU president Alexis Allen. "Class sizes will have to go up. In rural schools, accelerated classes will be combined with academic classes. More than 20 per cent of students already need individual lesson plans. This is putting more stress on a system already pushed to the limit."

"Nova Scotians do not support this because more than 3,600 people have signed a petition on our kidsnotcuts Facebook page," continues Allen. "Parents know that struggling students need more support not less. The government has a \$400 million surplus they could easily use to repair the damage this will cause to our excellent education system."

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union represents 10,900 public school teachers in Nova Scotia and Community College faculty and professional support staff. Organized in 1895, its programs are directed towards improving the quality of public education in Nova Scotia.

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