

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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Teachers approve tentative agreement

Nova Scotia's 10,000 public school teachers have endorsed a tentative agreement reached between the Nova Scotia Teachers Union and the provincial government on February 6.

In a province-wide electronic vote held Tuesday, February 24, 81 percent of teachers voted 79 percent in favour of the tentative deal.

The contract will see teachers receiving a 2.9 percent salary increase in each of the two years of the agreement. The contract will expire on July 31, 2010.

NSTU President Alexis Allen says the agreement addresses issues identified by teachers across the province, including a definition of the school day, increases in allowances paid to administrators, enhanced health plan benefits, and better pay for substitute teachers and beginning teachers.

"Bargaining teams for both sides were able to overcome their differences and work together to address concerns about the public school system," says Allen.

The previous teachers' contract expired on July 31, 2008. There have been 17 bargaining sessions held since April 2006 and three days of talks assisted by a conciliation officer earlier this month.