

NBTA News



September 9, 2004
Vol. XLVII, No. 1

New Brunswick Teachers' Association

Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow *The PD Event of the Decade!*

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The Power of
Learning



On November 12, 2004 we invite all educators in New Brunswick and surrounding areas to join us for a stimulating educational opportunity. The NBTA Elementary, Middle and High School Councils are combining for the first time in 12 years to offer *Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow*, a single conference for all teachers in the K-12 system. Join with us to learn today and be a better teacher tomorrow!

Keynote Format

The all keynote conference program includes some of the top educational speakers in North America presenting inspirational and informative messages that are relevant to all who are involved in teaching.

Dr. Crystal Kuykendall, sponsored by the New Brunswick Anglophone Superintendents, will open the conference and is guaranteed to make you realize the importance of the work you do and the impact you have on the lives of your students.

Sessions two and three will offer a choice of three renowned speakers. **Dr. David Sousa**, sponsored by the NB Department of Education, will share his insights on "How the Brain Learns" and later in the day on "How the Special Needs Brain Learns". Dr. Sousa is in great demand as a presenter and we are pleased to have him come to New Brunswick for the first time.

Murray Banks, former teacher of the year in Vermont, is sponsored by the NBTA Credit Union. He will inspire teacher leaders in his presentation on the "Challenge of Leadership" and after lunch will encourage all of us to consider our lifestyles in a motivating talk called: "If I'd Known It Would be Like This I'd Have Taken Better Care of Myself!".

Dr. Todd Whitaker will round out the options for the second and third sessions of the day. Dr. Whitaker recently addressed administrators at the Developing Successful Schools Institute and all were impressed with his engaging and thought-provoking style. His repeated session on "How to Deal With Difficult Parents (or Parents in Difficult Situations)" is sure to be a conference highlight. These sessions are co-sponsored by Johnson Incorporated and Harvey Studios.

The closing session of the day will see our own Canadian media personality, **Rex Murphy**, entertain, challenge and inspire us with his thoughts on "Canadian Education: What is It and Does It Matter?" Rex never fails to leave audiences laughing with his own unique brand of commentary.

Registration

This major conference is available to all NBTA members (both current and retired) for the amazingly low early registration fee of \$30 (add \$20 after October 8!).

For the first time, the NBTA Website www.nbta.ca is available for on-line registration and credit card payment. This is a new venture for your professional association and we encourage teachers to let us know if you value this service by using the on-line option. See the accompanying article for full details regarding registration. If you do not want to use a credit card, or register on-line, the registration form from the September 2004 issue of *NBTA News* or from the website may be printed and sent with payment to NBTA Central Office in a courier bag which your school rep has.

Register by October 8 for the early registration fee! All entrance materials will be couriered back to you. Bring them with you to ensure your speedy entrance the day of the conference!

Social Events

Of course, no conference would be complete without an opportunity to meet old and new friends from around the province. The conference organizers encourage teachers to pay their respects at their local cenotaphs on the morning of November 11, then travel to Moncton for the evening's pre-conference social events. ECMA nominated band **Barnacle** from Halifax will have everyone on the dance floor at the Delta Beausejour ballroom. If you want to chat in a more quiet venue, the Coffee House with home-grown teacher entertainment will be held in the Shediac Room at the Hotel.

Publisher Displays

The Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow conference will also be the sight of a major trade show featuring dozens of publishers, retailers, and displays of interest to teachers. Because of the size of the conference, we are attracting displayers who might not normally attend our smaller conferences. We are encouraging them to have materials for sale, so plan to bring

the credit card (or good old fashioned cash) to purchase some great materials for your classrooms.

Lunch time is the perfect time to visit the displays and take advantage of the many draws, prizes and products that will be available.



**Combined Council Conference
November 12, 2004
Moncton Coliseum and Agrena**

Lunch Options

We are encouraging teachers to stay on site during the lunch hour (which is actually an hour and a half!) There is no need to fight traffic or hassle with parking if you stay at the Coliseum. You may choose to pre-order a boxed lunch made specially for us by the Atlantic Superstore with sandwiches, fruit, dessert and beverage for \$7 or pre-purchase the hot and cold pasta buffet for \$12 (prepared by Gastons catering). If you prefer, the concession stands at the Coliseum will all be open for you to purchase lunch. If you wish to get in your car and go out to lunch, that choice is there for you.

Accommodations

Hotels have been booked in the Moncton region for months and they are going fast. See the accompanying list for names and

details. Not booked yet? Do it NOW!!! Many establishments have offered the conference rates for the Friday evening as well, so teachers may wish to stay on and enjoy a weekend of shopping or relaxation.

Parking

The Moncton Coliseum and Agrena complex is blessed with loads of parking space and parking attendants will be on duty. However, we do encourage you to car pool, and to leave enough time to get to the Coliseum early!

Local Committee

The organizing committee for *Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow* consists of Kim Carter, Robin Andersen, Derek Taggart, Carter Assels, Linda Maxwell, Kathy Prosser, Moira Armstrong and Fred Veysey. Many others are involved in the details required to coordinate the event. Special thanks to all those teachers dedicated to making the conference a success.

Conference logo was designed by Moncton High School student, Shamus Griffith.



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Conference Schedule

November 12, 2004, Moncton Coliseum and Agrena

7:45 am - 8:45 am	Registration and admission
8:45 am	Opening Remarks
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Crystal Kuykendall: <i>Ensuring That All Students Learn</i> (sponsored by the Anglophone School Districts)
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Nutrition Break
10:30 am - 11:30 am	Choice of Three Keynotes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Sousa: <i>How the Brain Learns</i> (sponsored by the NB Department of Education) • Murray Banks: <i>The Challenge of Leadership</i> (sponsored by the NBTA Credit Union) • Todd Whitaker: <i>How to Deal With Difficult Parents (or Parents in Difficult Situations)</i> (sponsored by Johnson Inc. and Harvey Studios)
11:30 am - 1:00 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Choice of Three Keynotes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Sousa: <i>How the Special Needs Brain Learns</i> • Murray Banks: <i>Performance and Lifestyle - Take Better Care of Yourself!</i> • Todd Whitaker: <i>How to Deal With Difficult Parents (or Parents in Difficult Situations)</i>
2:15 pm - 3:15 pm	Closing Keynote: Rex Murphy <i>Canadian Education: What is it and does it matter?</i>
3:15 pm	Prizes and Farewell

— REMINDER —

- as many as 90 publisher displays with merchandise for sale
- options for purchasing lunch on-site (avoid the traffic!)
- super social on Thursday evening at Delta Beausejour with East Coast Band: *Barnacle*

Registration both online (Credit card only) and manually through the *NBTA News*.

Registration Begins September 1, 2004!

Accommodations for Combined NBTA Councils Conference November 11 & 12, 2004

Hotel	Rate	Reservation
Hotel Moncton	89.00(standard)	1-800--563-2489
Delta Beausejour	119.00(sgl/dbl)	506-854-4344
Ramada Crystal Palace	109.95(sgl/dbl)	1-800-561-7108
Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel	89.00(sgl/dbl)	1-866-854-4656
	99.00(triple/quad)	
	109.00(Executive)	
Rodd Park House Inn	95.00(sgl/dbl)	506-382-1664
Chateau Moncton	99.00(sgl/dbl, bkfst incl)	1-800-576-4040
Holiday Inn Express	109.00(sgl/dbl, bkfst incl)	506-384-1050
	129.00(Executive)	
Super 8 Hotel & Suites	93.60(sgl) 102.60(dbl)	506-388-0888
	(bkfst incl)	
Amsterdam Inn	73.00(sgl) 83.00(dbl)	506-383-5050
	(bkfst incl)	
Coastal Inn	79.00(sgl) 92.00(dbl)	506-859-2486
Colonial Inn	79.00(sgl)	506-382-3395
Country Inn	76.00(sgl/dbl) 89.00(suite)	506-852-7000
Comfort Inn	75.00(sgl) 85.00(dbl)	506-384-3175

**PLEASE NOTE:
The Conference Hotel
for November 12, 2004
is the Delta Beausejour
(1-800-268-1133).
Delegates are advised
to indicate their group
affiliation when
making reservations.
Credit card numbers
are required.**



Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow

Keynote: Dr. Todd Whitaker

This is the third in a series of presenter profiles for the November 12, 2004 Combined NBTA Councils Conference. This month the Combined NBTA Councils would like to introduce you to **Dr. Todd Whitaker**, a Professor of Educational Leadership at Indiana State University.

Dr. Whitaker received his doctorate from the University of Missouri - Columbia. He taught math and business in Missouri and then served as a principal for eight years. In addition, Dr. Whitaker served as middle school coordinator in Jefferson City, Missouri, where he supervised all aspects of building

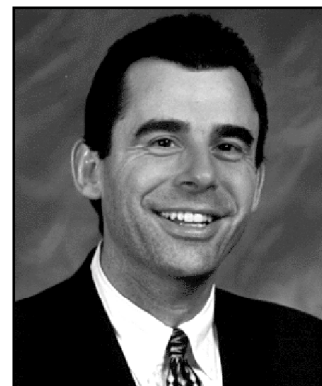
and staffing at two new middle schools.

Dr. Whitaker has written over thirty-five articles and eight books including: *Dealing With Difficult Teachers*; *Motivating & Inspiring Teachers*; *Dealing With Difficult Parents*; *Teaching Matters*, and *What Great Principals Do Differently*. His newest book is *What Great Teachers Do Differently*.

Dr. Whitaker does professional development and motivational speaking with educators, businesses, and organizations. He has made over 700 presentations at the state, national, and international levels.

He is married to Beth, a former teacher and principal, who is an associate professor in the Elementary Education Department at Indiana State University. They are the parents of three children — Katherine 14, Madeline 12, and Harrison, 5.

Dr. Todd Whitaker will be delivering two sessions during the November 12, 2004 Combined NBTA Councils Conference, both entitled *Dealing with Difficult Parents (or Parents in Difficult Situations)*. Dr. Whitaker's engaging and informative presentations have been inspiring teachers all over North



Dr. Todd Whitaker

America. Now it is our turn in New Brunswick to see what the rest of the world has been so enthusiastic about!

Here are some sample comments from teachers who have recently heard Dr. Whitaker speak:

- "Dr. Whitaker's enthusiasm is dynamic! I'm sure it makes as much of an impact on other audiences as it made on me."
- "The best professional development program I have attended in my 20-plus years of teaching."
- "Excellent. 5.0 out of 5.0."
- "Dynamic, high-quality presenter. I could listen to his insightful commentary all day long."



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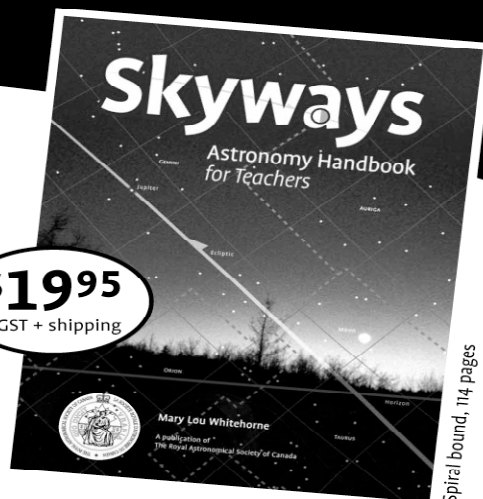
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Learning Today – Teaching Tomorrow

Important Information: Please read carefully before you register!

- On-line registration requires a credit card.
- If you do not wish to use a credit card, please refer to the September *NBTA News* or print the registration form from our NBTA site www.nbta.ca and send cheque or money order as instructed. (For your security, no credit cards will be accepted with the manual registration process.)
- Early registration has benefits! **Register before October 8** and your confirmation, receipt, bar coded entrance name card and lunch ticket (if selected) will be couriered to you. The day of the conference you will be in the fast lane for entrance!
- You must provide either a school name/district office name **OR** (if you do not work at a school or district office) an alternate address to ensure that your materials will reach you prior to the conference.
- Registration fees vary with preferred rates given to NBTA members (active and retired). Please read the descriptions carefully to ensure that you are selecting the appropriate category fee.
- All registrations received after October 8 will be considered late registrations. (Save \$\$: register early!) We cannot guarantee that you will receive your confirmation materials prior to the conference if you register after this date.
- **Registration fees:**

	early	late
NBTA Members	\$30	\$ 50
Non Members	\$40	\$ 60
(school-based)		
Others:	\$75	\$100
- **ALL** late or on-site registrations will be required to use a separate entrance procedure the day of the conference. (Save time: register early!)

- **Lunch Options:** There are 4 options for lunch. You will be required to select one when you register.
 - *Picnic Lunch:* 1 1/2 sandwiches, fruit, cookie and beverage (prepared fresh by Atlantic Superstore) - \$7.00
 - *Pasta Buffet:* hot and cold pasta buffet (and beverage) prepared and served on site by Gastons catering - \$12.00
 - *Concession Stands:* individual purchase of lunch from concession stands such as Tim Hortons, Pizza, etc.
 - *Lunch off site :* Moncton offers a range of restaurants if you wish to drive off site.
- NOTE: Lunch hour is the perfect time to visit the wide range of publisher displays to view, purchase, sample, or enter for prize draws.

REGISTRATION FORM ON FOLLOWING PAGE!

NBTA Sponsored Professional Courses

- Professional learning offered by teachers for teachers
- Check the Mustard-coloured brochure in your school or www.nbta.ca for full details
- All Courses accepted for credit towards certificate 5 (maximum 4 courses)
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- Register early to avoid disappointment

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Learning Today - Teaching Tomorrow

Moncton Coliseum & Agrena November 12, 2004

Personal Information

First Name _____ Initial _____ Last Name _____
 Phone No. _____ Work Location _____
(School Name or District Office)

Mailing Address

Street Address _____
 City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Registrant Type - MUST CHOOSE ONE

- NBTA Member - \$30.00 After October 8 - \$50.00 _____
Includes: Current and retired members
- School-based Non-NBTA Member - \$40.00 After October 8 - \$60.00 _____
Includes: supply teachers, B.Ed. students/interns, teacher assistants, intervention workers, librarians, etc.
- Other - \$75.00 After October 8 - \$100.00 _____
Includes: District Office staff, university staff, out-of-province, etc.

Lunch Options - MUST CHOOSE ONE

- Boxed Lunch - \$ 7.00
- Pasta Buffet - \$12.00
- Concessions - on your own
- Individual Purchase Off-Site - on your own

Lunch _____

Total _____

Payment Options

- Cheque
- Money Order
- Cash



Please complete form and return with payment by mail or courier bag (see your school rep) to:

Learning Today - Teaching Tomorrow
Att: Nancy Roach
P.O. Box 752, 650 Montgomery Street
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6

President's Message



Brian Bawn

Brian Bawn

Hello, and welcome new teachers and returning colleagues to the school year 2004-2005. Although the weather didn't feel like we had a real summer, I hope everyone had an opportunity to relax, read a good book or two, and recharge your batteries.

It certainly was a different summer for my family and me. My wife and I are both used to having our summers off together but in this job the routine is a little bit different. I was working every other week during July. I was representing you at the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) Meetings in Ottawa from July 7-11. There were a series of meetings which included a conference on inclusion, a meeting of provincial Presidents and General Secretaries (Executive Directors) of all teacher organizations in Canada which talked about the future of CTF, and a Board of Directors Meeting, and finally a one-day AGM for CTF.

Educational International is the organization of trade unions from all over the world. It meets every 3 years and this year's meeting was in Porto Alegre, Brazil. I had the privilege of representing NBTA as a member of the CTF delegation. There were issues and resolutions that were debated by the 1200 delegates from 156 countries ranging from HIV/AIDS, teacher retention and recruitment issues, outlawing of teacher unions, imprisonment of teacher leaders to the

rights for a free public education for all, no matter where they live in the world; to name but a few. My only attempt at describing the 5-day meeting was that it must be similar to attending a meeting of the UN. There were 4 official languages at the conference: English, French, Spanish and Japanese, and they included Portuguese because Brazil was hosting. To hear the trials and tribulations that some members face in their countries just because they are teachers made me really appreciate the rights and freedoms that we have in Canada. It was an awesome experience and one that I will never forget.

The fact remains that in most of the world free public education is not available to all children and the majority of these children are girls. We heard that in countries where HIV/AIDS is claiming the lives of millions of people that when both parents die, it is left up to the oldest daughter to stay home and care for the family, not allowing her a chance for an education. There are many reasons for the children not having access to education and Educational International is working worldwide to help bring education to all by 2114.

I also had the opportunity to have lunch with the President of the Uganda Teachers' Union. Three Atlantic Provinces teachers unions share a project with the teachers in Uganda (NBTA, NLTA and PEITF). I asked their president how many members were in their union and she said 100,000 with the potential to go to 200,000. Paulette Moore, a retired NBTA staff person, is our representative and will visit Uganda later this year to evaluate the program that was set up and to lend some of her accounting expertise to their union. This is a program that is coordinated by the CTF.

August 8-11, I attended CONTACT which was at St.FX in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. If you have never heard of it check out our NBTA website or talk to any of your colleagues who attended and hear of the wonderful professional development opportunity that you are missing out on. It is practical professional development done by classroom teachers from the region. Next year it will be hosted by PEITF and it will be held in

Charlottetown. Any teacher in New Brunswick can apply but there is limited enrollment.

We finished August off with our Executive Meeting on the 12-13 and had our Branch Presidents workshop on August 26-27. We are trying to have everyone in our leadership up to date with the latest information for when you return to school in September.

There will be a revised Policy 701 released early in the school year with appropriate training for everyone involved in the public education system in NB. It will reflect some of the changes that teachers have been seeking over the last number of years. Make sure that you are aware of the changes and that you attend the in-service that is offered.

You will be receiving a communiqué from NBTF, early in September, on the appointment of a Conciliation Board and the dates when it meets in an effort to keep you as informed as possible on negotiations as the process unfolds. Remember that we operate under our current collective agreement, which expired in February 2004, until we reach a new agreement.

I would like to encourage you to find out who your local NBTA representatives are. Every school has an NBTA representative, every branch has a president and executive committee and each branch has an NBTA director. Your branch presidents and directors are listed in the front few pages of your NBTA pocket calendar that every teacher will receive the first week of school. It is your professional responsibility to know who your representatives are. They are all willing to listen to your concerns and find out or direct you to the appropriate person to get the information to answer your concerns and questions. Your NBTA and NBTF staff are all listed in the front of the pocket calendar with their areas of responsibility. Remember that we are your employees and are willing to assist you in answering your questions and concerns.

I would like to remind all new teachers that you are invited to a Welcome to New Teachers Workshop Saturday, September 18th in Fredericton at the NBTF Building, 650 Montgomery Street. The workshop will be 10:00 to 2:30, lunch is provided.

(Continued on the following page...)

There will be prizes and giveaways but you have to be here to get them. Any teachers who are in their first couple of years and have not attended before are also welcome to attend. There will be information in all schools or check out the NBTA website at www.nbta.ca to find out more information. This is an excellent opportunity to receive information about NBTA staff and

services and get your questions answered. Make sure you register so that we will have an idea on how many to prepare for. I look forward to seeing you there.

A reminder to all teachers to start making plans for our Combined Conference Councils in Moncton November 11-12. Information is on our website and rooms will go quickly,

so book early. It will be a wonderful professional development opportunity with fantastic internationally known presenters. Hope to see you there.

Hello to all my friends at MGT. I plan to get down to say hello early in the school year. I trust everyone had a great summer and take it easy on the "old guy".

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Niel Cameron
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NBTF Labour Relations Officer

REMEMBER THESE DATES



Deadline Dates

Conference Grants — Five weeks prior to opening day

Certification Changes — October 31, 2004; March 31, 2005

Project Overseas — November 15, 2004

Branch Nominations for NBTA Vice-President — February 1, 2005

Educational Leave — November 5, 2004

Deferred Salary Leave Plan Application — January 31, 2005

Election Dates

- (a) Ballots mailed to Branch Presidents - On or before April 15, 2005
- (b) Voting to take place - April 25-29, 2005 inclusive
- (c) Ballots returned to Central Office by 5:00 pm - May 6, 2005
- (d) Counting of Ballots - May 11, 2005
- (e) Candidates notified - May 11, 2005

NBTA/Beaverbrook/Hagerman Interest-free Loans — March 31, 2005

Centennial Award Nominations — April 1, 2005

Aliant Award Nominations — April 1, 2005

Branch Resolutions for A.G.M. — April 1, 2005

A.G.M. Registration of Delegates — April 1, 2005

Employment Insurance Rebate Report — June 1, 2005

Registration of Branches — June 1, 2005

Report of Branch Meetings — June 1, 2005

Names of Branch Committee Chairpersons — June 1, 2005

NBTA Council Annual Reports — June 15, 2005

NOTE: Check with NBTA Personal Calendar for key activities within NBTA, NBTF and CTF.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

NBTA AGM — May 27-28, 2005

NBTA Credit Union A.G.M. — November 18, 2004

Retiring Teachers' Luncheon — May 28, 2005



Educational Leaves: 2005-2006

Deadline for applications:

November 5, 2004

**Application Forms:
Use Only Forms Marked
"For 2005-2006"**

General

In order to advise teacher applicants by January 14, 2005, the deadline date for applications has been established as November 5, 2004.

Special Information

- teachers are eligible for educational leave of less than one full year (although full-year leaves are still available). Please note that both short-term and full-year leaves are for the 2005-2006 school year only; leaves for January-June, 2005 cannot be considered.
- in keeping with the collective agreement, a teacher on educational leave shall receive seventy per cent of the salary he/she would have received had he/she been employed during the period of the educational leave in the position which he/she held at the time his/her application was submitted.
- a teacher who is granted an educational leave of six (6) months or more shall agree in writing to return to the field of public education in New Brunswick for a period of at least *one* year.
- no teacher shall be eligible for a subsequent educational leave until he/she has been employed as a teacher in New Brunswick for a further one (1) year for each two (2) months of educational leave previously taken.
- the purpose of the leave is stated as follows:
"Educational Leave may be granted to a teacher wishing to devote up to a year's study or study/travel for purposes of retraining, specialization or professional growth."

Administrative Information

- Application forms and detailed regulations may be obtained from your school district office.
- Teachers who have questions regarding educational leave should direct them to:

*Bob Fitzpatrick,
Executive Director,
NBTA, P.O. Box 752,
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6*

- Interested teachers should apply to the Secretary, Educational Leave Committee, and forward one copy to the School Board Office and one copy to the School Principal. **No applications for educational leave will be accepted by the**

Committee if post-marked after November 5, 2004.

- Applicants shall be advised of the decisions of the Committee by January 14, 2005 •

Factors Affecting Selection

Although an educational leave must fall into one of three purposes — retraining, specialization or professional growth — the Committee receives comments and recommendations from Principals and Superintendents. These comments usually are directed to the benefits of the leave to the school and district and are an important source of information to the Committee.

Other factors that are considered are:

1. distribution by district
2. male/female distribution
3. position distribution (teachers, department heads, subject coordinators, vice-principals and principals,
4. grade levels
5. past professional involvement
6. years of experience
7. number of times teacher has applied
8. benefit to the school/district of the proposed educational leave
9. certificate level of the teacher

Some priority will be given to members who have not previously been granted educational leave without automatically excluding members who have. Other factors such as the number of years since the previous leave, the total number of applications, the experience of the other applicants and the other criteria listed above shall be considered.

The composition of the Educational Leave Committee is as follows:

Department of Education: two representatives;
New Brunswick Teachers' Association: Brian Bawn;
Association des enseignantes et des enseignants francophones du Nouveau Brunswick: Gilberte Michaud;
New Brunswick School Districts: two representatives;
New Brunswick Teachers' Federation: Bob Fitzpatrick, Richard Caissie - Secretary.

This notice is designed to give information to teachers as early as possible. It is merely a synopsis of the more detailed regulations. Interested teachers should read carefully both Article 37 of the Collective Agreement and the regulations established by the Educational Leave Committee prior to applying.



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university_credit/faq.htm](http://www.montessoritraining.net/university_credit/faq.htm)



NAMC
North American
Montessori Center

2004-2005 NBTA PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINARS REGISTRATION FORM

Please accept my application to attend the NBTA Pre-Retirement Seminar to be held on (check one):

DATE OF SEMINAR _____

- _____ October 23 - Bathurst, Bathurst High School
- _____ November 6 - Moncton, Riverview Middle School
- _____ November 13 - Bristol, Carleton North Senior High
- _____ December 4 - Saint John, Simonds High
- _____ January 8 - Fredericton, NBTF Building
- _____ January 22- Chatham, Dr. Losier Middle School
- _____ February 5 - Sussex, Sussex High School

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION _____

- October 15
- October 29
- November 5
- November 26
- December 17
- January 14
- January 28

Name of Teacher: _____ S.I. No. _____

Mailing Address: _____ Dist. _____

_____ Name of Spouse (if attending) _____

No. of pension years you will have accumulated to June 2004 _____ Certificate Level: _____

Are you planning to buy back time? _____ If "yes", how much time? _____

Do you have Responsibility Allowance? Yes _____ No _____ (If "yes", contact your payroll officer at your District Office and have your last 5 years' salary history faxed to Karen Vautour, 453-9795)

I am enclosing a cheque in the amount of \$5.00 / \$10.00 (please circle one) to cover the cost of registration; nutrition break, and materials to be supplied. Please make cheque payable to *New Brunswick Teachers' Association*.

I hereby authorize the NBTA to obtain information from the Public Service Employee Benefits Division pertaining specifically to my pensionable service records. This information will be utilized to prepare my individual pension estimates for retirement purpose only.

YES NO

Signature: _____

SEMINAR GUIDELINES

The following guidelines should be noted for participation in these seminars:

1. All participants must pre-register.
2. A registration fee of \$5.00 for each participant must accompany the application; however, cheques will not be cashed until after the workshop.
3. Travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participant.
4. A nutrition break will be provided.
5. Questions relating to these seminars should be directed to:

Larry Jamieson
Director of Teacher Welfare Services
New Brunswick Teachers' Association
P.O. Box 752
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6 (Tel. 452-1722)

6. Any interested teachers are eligible to attend.
7. All workshops begin with registration at 8:30 am and sessions at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm.
8. Detach and return the registration form as soon as possible.

PROGRAM _____

- Teachers' Pension Act
- The Canada Pension Plan
- Pension Records (will be available at meeting if possible)
- Pension Calculations
- Old Age Security
- Retirement Allowance
- Pre-retirement Vacations
- Deferred Salary Leave Plans
- Financial Planning for Retirement:
 - RRSPs
 - Annuities
 - Registered Retirement Income Funds
- Individual Consultations



PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL RECEIVE CONFIRMATION WITHIN ONE WEEK OF CONFERENCE.



Volunteer Overseas with CTF!

Would you like to assist teachers in a developing country? Are you interested in learning more about global education issues? Can you see yourself volunteering in Africa, Asia, or the Caribbean?

If yes, Project Overseas (PO) might be for you!

Each year about 50 Canadian teachers are chosen to volunteer on CTF's Project Overseas. On PO, Canadian teachers give their time and talent to offer professional development in-service programs in partnership with teacher organizations in developing countries. Based on requests from CTF's partners overseas, teams of Canadian teachers are formed in January and in-service projects take place in July and August.

CTF needs English and French-

speaking Canadian teachers at the primary, elementary, and secondary levels who are interested in volunteering to offer in-services in a wide range of subjects in countries throughout Africa, Asia, and the Caribbean.

Application criteria include:

- membership in a provincial or territorial teacher organization which sponsors PO and is a member of CTF,
- an appropriate teacher's certificate,
- at least five years teaching experience in Canada,
- Canadian citizenship
- excellent health

PO is a volunteer experience. Administrative, travel, and living expenses are borne by CTF,

provincial and territorial teachers' organizations (which are CTF members), CIDA, and the Wild Rose Foundation. No salaries or honoraria are paid to participants in PO and the sponsors do not cover costs associated with substitute teachers or release time.

To apply:

Application forms and further information are available from the office of:

Mr. Bob Fitzpatrick
Executive Director, NBTA
P.O. Box 752
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 5R6
(506) 452-1721

Applications

Deadline date for applications:
November 7, 2004

Project Overseas' Orientation a Resounding Success!

(CTF News Service - Ottawa)
Forty-nine teachers from across Canada helped to celebrate the 42nd anniversary of Project Overseas at a four-day Orientation course given by the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) in Ottawa from July 2-5.

These Canadian volunteers make up twelve teams who will spend the summer helping teachers in developing nations in Africa, the Caribbean, Asia and the Middle East. The purpose of the Orientation was to provide opportunities for team building as well as information and material vital to the success of the projects.

Teachers who volunteer their time and talents assist in raising the

academic and professional qualifications of teachers in developing countries. In addition to



Ghislaine Wheaton, Dominica
Barbara MacDonald, Director, International Programs

raising the profile of the teacher organization in the developing country, Canadian teachers get to

share and to learn from their host country colleagues and each other.

Since 1962, 1,711 Canadian

teachers have participated in CTF's Project Overseas program, working with close to 100,000 teachers around the world. The ripple effect of their participation has touched approximately 3 million students!

Project Overseas is financed by CTF, its Member organizations, and special grants from the Canadian International Development Agency, and the Wildrose Foundation (an Alberta Agency for International Development).

CTF is the national voice of over 200,000 teachers across Canada.

New Brunswick Physical Education Society Hosts National Meeting of Physical Education Associations

The NBPES, with support from NBTA and the Department of Education, hosted the Presidents of Provincial Physical Education Associations as the CAHPERD Council of Provinces at Fundy National Park in June 2004. The four-day event allowed each province and territory to share initiatives from their respective regions and to work as a collective on Physical Education and Physical Activity projects.

It is interesting to note that during the sharing portion of the agenda, most provinces and territories are experiencing similar issues as host New Brunswick for Physical Education and Physical Activity. Key issues that arose included:

- Each provincial government needs to recognize the importance of Quality Physical Education as a prerequisite for Quality Physical Activity.
- The public school system needs to focus on the educational component first and not to confuse Quality Physical Education Instruction with Physical Activity events that are held in the schools.
- Physical Activity plays an important role in the public school system and the life of every school at all levels, but must not become a replacement for Quality Physical Education classes.
- A Quality Physical Education Program must be taught by professionals, who are qualified to teach Physical Education, and that these qualifications need to be identified.
- Curriculums that reflect an outcome-based program that reflects *doing, knowing and valuing*.
- School sport, physical activity and Intramural opportunities

need to be addressed to complement the total Physical Education Program.

- CAHPERD (Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) is the key national organization that



supports each province and territory in terms of resources, advocacy and professional development.

- 2005 – is named, "International Year of Physical Education and Sport" by the United Nations. This will become the theme for

activities for all provinces and territories.

All delegates also had the opportunity to enjoy the Park and surrounding activities. A group hiked Pt. Wolfe, Matthew's Head & Herring Cove, others seakayaked the Bay of Fundy, while others participated in golf. The group enjoyed Cape Enrage, and the Quality School Health group visited Riverside Albert Elementary School. Everyone left with energy to continue his/her work in promoting Quality Physical Education within their respective provinces and territories and newly-developed love for the east coast. The NBPES was very pleased to host; next year's

meeting will take place in Montreal, Quebec. If anyone would like to know more in detail of the Council of Provinces meeting, please contact Diane Hoyt, newly-elected President NBPES. Diane.hoyt@nbed.nb.ca

*Submitted by: Garth Wade, NBPES
Past-President*

"Making a Difference" Province of New Brunswick Grants to Improve Teaching and Learning in the High School Years (2004-05 phase)

Submission deadlines – September 30 and November 30, 2004

Electronic or paper copy of the school's learning team's proposal is submitted through your District Director of Education to be forwarded to the Department of Education.

Grants in the range of \$1000 to \$5000 are available to support collective inquiry characterized by a focus on student learning and high achievement.

Further information and proposal template were e-mailed to principals and vice-principals of high school years, June 14, 2004. Copies available from dawn.weatherbie@gnb.ca



Remember When?

Written for the Feb 3,4, 2005 "Remember When" Conference
on Health & Physical Education

Let's reminisce and turn back time;
And put our cares away

Let's take a trip down Memory Lane
To scenes of yesterday.

Remember many years ago
When all our chores were done?
We'd meet our friends just down the
street
And have all kinds of fun!

Remember when we'd play outside?
(No video games back then!)
And not come home 'til supper time?
Oh, yes, remember when?

What fun to play a game of catch
With tattered baseball mitt,
And "Simon says: Do this, do that"
And playing tag – "You're IT!"

Remember twirling hula hoops
And doing jumping jacks?

And hopscotch fun for many hours
And jumping sidewalk cracks?

"Go In and Out the Windows" too
And angels in the snow
And races run across the field,
"Get ready!" "Set!" "Go!"

The baseball games with splintered bat
–
No Ump? We didn't care!
Each base a stone or stick of wood
And special rule: "Play fair!"

And "Cops and Robbers" was such fun;
Our guns were never real!
Remember when the bad guys lost
How good it made us feel?

Remember when we'd scrape a knee
Or even break a bone?
We'd never think to sue the town;
The fault was all our own!
We'd never hear a friend complain,

"There's not a thing to do!"
For when we'd tire of "Hide-and-Seek",
We'd bike a mile or two.

Remember when a healthy snack
Was such a special treat?
No gummi worms or gummi bears
Or drugs from off the street!

Oh, we had our spats and argued long
About the final score
But somehow fights would fizzle out
And then we'd play some more.

Though years fly by and times will
change,
Oh, for one thing to stay!
The voice of children through the years,
"Come on outside and play!"

Remember When?

Kaye Lister (Remember When
Committee – June 2004)



American Institute for Creative Education

Professional Development Seminars

Fall 2004 — All Courses Earn 3 College Credits

**EDU295 Art Education for the Classroom
Teacher (K-5)**

Bathurst, Dates TBA

**EDU245 Breathing New Life Into Your Music
Curriculum (K-5)**

Moncton, Oct. 15/16 and Nov. 19/20

EDU283 Creating Literate Students (K-5)

Saint John, Sept. 24/25 and Oct. 15/16

EDU305 Differentiating Instruction (K-12)

Woodstock, Oct. 29/30 and Nov. 26/27

EDU323 Enrichment in the Classroom

Friedrieston, Oct. 1/2 and Oct. 22/23

EDU297 Exceptional Students in the Classroom

Plaster Rock, Oct. 22/23 and Nov. 19/20

EDU244 French for the Classroom Teacher (K-5)

Bristol, Oct. 15/16 and Oct. 29/30

**EDU243 Guidance for the Classroom Teacher
(K-12)**

Friedrieston, Sept. 24/25 and Oct. 15/16

EDU172 Hands-On Math in the Classroom (K-5)

Miramichi, Oct. 1/2 and Oct. 29/30

**EDU324 Health and Fitness: Teaching Ideas and
Strategies**

Sussex, Nov. 12/13 and Nov. 26/27

**EDU248 Inclusionary Practices in the Middle
School Classroom (6-8)**

Moncton, Oct. 1/2 and Oct. 29/30

EDU186 Music Across the Curriculum (K-5)

Plaster Rock, Nov. 5/6 and Dec. 3/4

**EDU285 Phonological Awareness: Through Music,
Rhyme and Games**

Plaster Rock, Sept. 24/25 and Oct. 15/16

**EDU225 Physical Education for the Classroom
Teacher (K-5)**

Bathurst, Sept. 17/18 and Oct. 15/16

EDU284 Using Brain Research in the Classroom

Woodstock, Sept. 24/25 and Oct. 15/16

**EDU281 Using Investigative Methodologies to
Teach Mathematics and Science (K-12)**

Miramichi, Sept. 10/11 and Oct. 15/16

EDU223 Writing: Developing Student Authors (K-8)

Sussex, Sept. 17/18 and Oct. 1/2

To Register or for more information, call (800) 448-5343
or visit our website: www.aiceonline.com

Marine Ecology Resource

Since the final version was released in spring, 2004, Lesson Plans for "By the Sea" has been distributed to all high schools in New Brunswick.

Developed, piloted and reviewed by teachers in Atlantic Canada, the resource is particularly applicable to exploration of local coastal ocean ecosystems.

This curriculum-based resource uses lesson plans to introduce a variety of topics related to marine and coastal ecological relationships. It has been designed as 5 core plans to introduce concepts that can be covered in a week of introductory material. An additional 6 lessons and an outline format field guide are also included. The additional material allows the instructor to have the capacity to expand the core unit over a longer time frame.

The resource was designed with students in mind; they can take the lessons and work independently or in groups. Suggested answer sheets

are provided for each section. Although each lesson is designed to be for one class, teachers can easily supplement the basic lesson to develop a more detailed examination of the concepts



depending on the background and experience of the teacher. To facilitate further exploration, this educational resource also includes the complete set of 13 modules (650 pages) known as "By the Sea". Both the lesson plans and the modular resource are available in both official languages.

The adobe format CD has targeted the grade 10 Science program, but other teachers have found it useful

in Environmental Studies, Biology, Geography, Technology and even 9 Science. Because each lesson plan is a one-class format the resource was designed so teacher preparation is minimal. After the process for the first lesson has been reviewed, students can be expected to continue on their own with minimal or maximum interaction with the teacher as facilitator. Being a coastal province, any information about the marine environment has been well received by students in the past and expanding their knowledge base in these areas has been popular.

At least one copy of this CD resource is in your school at the present time; ask your Science Department Head. Additional copies can be made by you or you can request one from Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). Send a request to weldonj@dfo-mpo.gc.ca or call (506) 851-3211. Any feed-back from the resource would be appreciated.

Mark your calendars – Feb 3 & 4, 2005 (Fredericton) NB PES "REMEMBER WHEN" Conference on Health & Physical Education

Keynote: Marshall Button (Lucien)

Sessions:

- Marion Rose – "Step Lively" Dance Resource
- Speed Stacks
- Icebox Inc. (Mental Training)
- Tchoukball
- Comprehensive School Health and many more.

Registration information will be distributed in mid fall (2004).

For additional information contact: Diane Hoyt (506) 444-3095 diane.hoyt@nbed.nb.ca or Garth Wade (506) 444-4403 garth.wade@nbed.nb.ca

Search Associates International Job Fair

Are YOU interested in teaching at a Private International School? There are several hundred job openings available to you around the world. Teach a North American curriculum to English-speaking students living abroad.

Some of the benefits include: • airfare (yearly) • housing and utilities • life insurance • retirement fund • free tuition for dependents • medical insurance • tax free salary (US\$) • Moving expenses • Settling in allowance • Contracts for 1 or 2 yrs.

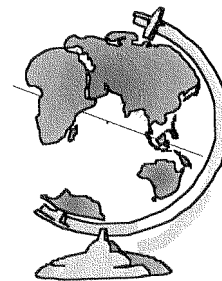
This is a great opportunity for those teachers who want to experience a new culture and teach with other colleagues from around the world.

Plan to attend the **SEARCH Associates** international job fair in Toronto Feb. 7-9 where over 50 schools from around the world will be recruiting teachers for the upcoming (Aug. 2005) school year.

To attend any SEARCH Associate fair is by invitation only. Please apply early.

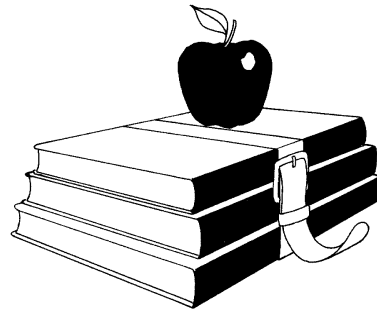
There will be a workshop for NB teachers and B.Ed. students in Fredericton in November. Details to follow.

For more information contact Ray Sparks: raysparks@eastlink.ca or visit our website: www.searchassociates.com



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WELCOME NEW TEACHERS!



Join your early career colleagues to find out more about the services & benefits offered by your professional association.

Talk to the experts about your contract, certification, legal matters and more!

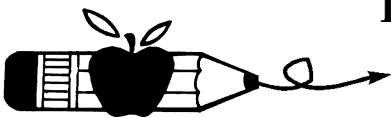
Saturday, September 18, 2004

NBTF Building
650 Montgomery Street
Fredericton, N.B.

10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Lunch and some compensation for travel costs will be provided.

Prizes and giveaways!!



To register, go online
at www.nbta.ca or call

Tina Banks at the NBTA, 452-1720.

Doors, Windows and Mirrors

By Nancy Roach
Director of Professional Development
roachn@nbnet.nb.ca

As the bustle of the new school year begins, everyone who works in a school is faced with a challenge (well, many challenges, but let's start with this one!). Whether you are in the 'here we go again' phase of your career, or the 'I can't wait to get started' phase, teachers know how difficult it is to maintain the fresh, positive attitudes of September all the way through to June.

As the months wear on, and fatigue threatens to overpower, it takes a conscious will to keep spirits on a staff high. There are some concrete strategies that can help.

Begin by opening the doors to your classrooms and welcoming your colleagues inside. Teaching can be lonely and isolated. In fact, some research suggests that this sense of isolation is one of the key factors that cause new teachers to pack it in and leave the profession. It is not just beginning teachers who will benefit from the chance to watch others teach. Experienced teachers can be energized by co-planning and co-teaching a unit, by working as a team to develop or improve new teaching strategies, by collaborating to meet the needs of exceptional learners, by establishing common routines for classroom management.

The point is, teachers who work with other teachers find it easier to cope with the demands of the job. They share strategies, conversations and laughter when they are most needed. Why not make this the year that you open your door to a colleague, either literally or figuratively.

Now, think about your windows. Rick DuFour, well known author and facilitator of Professional Learning Communities, tells of asking a school staff to identify the things that were needed to improve their

school and student achievement. (Leading Edge, JSD Summer 2004) As expected, the staff listed numerous items such as more financial support, smaller classes, more supportive parents, students with greater work ethics, more support staff....the same list that most of us would generate.

All of these things are needed, DuFour agrees, but he reminds teachers that none of these items is within the teachers' control. It is as if, he suggests, we look through a



window, and look for others to solve our problems. The view through the 'if only' window... 'if only the parents did this', 'if only the students from the Middle School were better prepared'.... brings us down. We soon experience the futility of yearning for those things that are beyond our sphere of influence.

Instead, DuFour recommends we stay away from the window of blame and turn to our mirrors. Look to yourself to develop strategies for improving student achievement. Reflect on what you do (because you have control over these things!) and how you do it. Look collectively at the practices in your school and discuss why you do things this way. Is it because this is how it has always been done? Have at least one conversation this year about something that has been done in your school 'forever'. Are there alternatives that might yield

different results?

Finally, use your mirror to celebrate success. I have suggested before in this column that all schools need to find ways to regularly acknowledge the many things that are going well. Begin your staff meetings with commendations and thank-you's, initiated by staff (and draw for a prize from the names of those who have vocalized/shared a success story). Write a colleague a note acknowledging his/her work in some way. Take a few minutes to commend a teacher or ask about a strategy he/she uses. Develop a Friday Focus newsletter that celebrates the week's successes.

If you open your door, stay away from the window and use your mirror; you will find that you are maintaining a positive and professional approach to your work. If you make it a priority, that outlook can last well beyond a year; in fact, it can permeate your career.

Adolescent Learners

I have always had a soft spot for the adolescent (except when I was parenting them, perhaps) and I appreciate articles that provide insight into how these students learn. The August 2004 issue of ASCD's *Education Update* has an enlightening article titled **Meeting the Needs of Adolescent Learners**. With ties to recent brain research, this is a great read for all middle and early high school teachers.

Standardized Tests

If you are looking for current research and stats related to the whole issue of the impact of standardized tests, read **Test Anxiety: Are Students Failing the Tests-Or Are Tests Failing the Students?** (Phi Delta Kappan June 2004). Despite the American references, the article points out some enduring lessons that are relevant to all systems. This is a

(PD Potpourri continued...)

thoughtful read and would be useful for sharing with parents as well.

Inner Balance for Leaders

I recommend a short article for principals and vice-principals which will help you reflect on what is really important in your job description. *Forum* (JSD Spring 2004) would be pinned on my bulletin board if I were still a school administrator!

Body Image Lesson

The Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO) has produced a unit of study called the Body Image Project. Intended for Grade 1-8, the curriculum has various themes that relate to the stages that our students go through as they learn to accept their bodies' changes. In the ETFO journal *Voice*,

Summer 2004, an outline of a Grade 3 lesson plan, complete with integration ideas for various subjects, is a great resource. Web links to other lesson plans are provided. It all looks great. As always, I would be pleased to send you copies of any of these articles.

Combined Councils Conference

The Elementary, Middle and High School Councils and the local organization committee for the **Learning Today: Teaching Tomorrow** Conference are very excited about the conference on November 12. Please read the articles in this issue and plan to join thousands of your colleagues at this great event!

Closing Quote

I have decided to end each of this year's columns with a quote that speaks to me. I hope some of them speak to you, too.

"Classroom teachers give young people what they sometimes get nowhere else in society – a sense that they have promise, that they have talents, that they are special. If you're a young person who is not quite sure that you are welcome in this society, one of the most important people in your life could be a teacher, a teacher who accepts you."
(Parker Palmer)

To speak, or not to speak? (The joy of choral speaking)

How do you spark an interest for poetry in the minds of children, young and old, when they are being influenced by so many outside distractions? By introducing them to "Choral Speaking"! You will be guaranteed in capturing their full attention, and interest, without a struggle. From the most shy child, to the boisterous, choral speaking allows children to relate a story to an audience by using voice and body language. This can be done in a variety of ways. With elementary children, I have found "actions often speak louder than words". Students learn the words much more quickly when actions are incorporated at the same time.

The only downside to this method is that the class *must* sound, and be as "one voice"! Even very young children can accomplish this, but it takes teamwork! Students must learn to listen to each other, and not try to be the "sole performer"! This promotes unity and co-operation as

a class, not as an individual.

When introducing a new poem, discuss with your students ways to interpret what the author is saying.



Music Festival 2004: Grade 2 FI Choral Speech "Ma mer à moi" - Mark 88; teacher, Cheryl McKillop and grade 2 FI H.E.S.

How can voice change the meaning of words? Will an audience be interested, or bored? Are there parts of the poem that could be *loud*? How about soft ... or even a whisper? A "voice sound effect" is often captivating to an audience as well. Relay to your students the

importance of facial expressions and gestures. This all adds momentum to the delivery of the poem. Being able to present the finished poem to an audience will further motivate your students. This could be done at an assembly or other function.

In our particular case, Choral Speaking has been a part of our Music Festival in Harvey for several decades. All classes at the elementary level participate and are graded with a mark by an adjudicator. (This, of course, helps motivate students to do their best.) I find it so amazing how even the most shy children "blossom" during this activity! In my experience of doing choral speaking over the past 12 years, I have found this literacy tool very effective when teaching poetry to children. It's a rewarding experience that I would recommend to all teachers!

Cheryl McKillop, Gr. 2 FI
Harvey Elementary School

To Stay or Not to Stay?

Factors Influencing Parents of Early French Immersion Students Experiencing Learning Difficulties

by Marguerite-May Noel

For the last three years, Marguerite-May Noel has been doing research about students in Early French Immersion who have learning difficulties. She completed her master's degree in Education in October 2003. She is particularly interested in these same students' parents and their lived experiences in their efforts to help their children succeed in school whether or not they remain in the French immersion program.

Over the past thirty years, Marguerite-May has taught in the French and English school systems. She has been both an immersion and a core French teacher.

This September, Marguerite-May will be teaching French as a second language to students from grades one to eight. Most of her teaching takes place in a multi-age setting.

ABSTRACT

This study explores and describes the decision-making process lived by parents of Early French immersion (EFI) students experiencing learning difficulties. The research centered on the crucial factors that influenced parents when deciding whether or not their child should stay in the EFI program.

A multiple case study approach guided the investigation into the experiences of seventeen parents whose children were having difficulty learning. The study involved two focus group discussions with parents (from two

New Brunswick school districts) and follow-up personal interviews. In order to get an accurate picture of the larger context in which the parents' stories unfolded, interviews were conducted with eleven educators and other professionals at the school, school district, and Department of Education levels. In addition, an in-depth descriptive analysis was conducted for two of the cases: one involving parents who decided to keep their child in the EFI program; the other involving a parent who decided to transfer her child out of the program.

Factors influencing parents'

decision-making emerged from the data in four main categories: choice of program, academic concerns, parent comfort, and child comfort. Parents underscored the lack of communication, empowerment, and resources for EFI students with learning difficulties. A model explaining the inter-relationship among the various factors is presented. The study concludes with recommendations for educators and parents.

The Executive Summary is available online at <http://www.unb.ca/slec/>

Students in District 16 are FIT



The University of New Brunswick in Fredericton's (UNBF) Fluency in Information Technology program (FITness) boosted students' FITness levels in School District 16 this past year.

District Superintendent Kathy Baldwin played a key role in introducing the FITness Program to her district. She developed an agreement between UNB's College of Extended Learning and School District 16 that gave students and teachers in several schools an opportunity to participate in the program.

North and South Esk Regional High School had the highest participation and completion rate of FITness within the district. Fred Holmes, principal of NSERHS, contributed to the success of his staff and students as he continued to support this initiative throughout

the year. "Computer skills are essential for educational, professional, and recreational pursuits and UNB's FITness program can help our students to develop the IT proficiency they require to function more efficiently," said Holmes.

"Our collective goals are to help raise IT literacy in the district, to better prepare graduating students to function in UNB's high tech environment, and ultimately to increase the number of District 16 students who go on to post secondary education at UNB," said Anne Higgins, program director at UNB's College of Extended Learning.

FITness is a fully web-based program, consisting of a series of modules in fundamental IT topics and three online tests. FITness modules provide a means to learn and maintain up-to-date computer

and Internet skills. The modules are designed to be a resource for independent learning and are available 24 hours a day. Once completing the modules, individuals work toward a Fitness certificate, which is awarded upon successful completion of the tests.

"The FITness program is interactive and fun, which makes learning these essential skills an enjoyable experience for young and old alike," said Higgins.

The program is available to all persons who want to improve their information technology skills. The only requirement is access to a computer with an Internet connection. For more information on FITness, or to enroll in the program, contact UNB's College of Extended Learning at 506-453-4646.

Elementary Council News



Welcome back! If you are anything like me, you've anticipated the return to class with anticipation for weeks. I love the smell of the clean school, the shiny floors, the total organization — just waiting for staff and students to make their mark. The students' wide-eyed return as they face the unknown ... that is how I feel, just now, too — the wide-eyed return. Having assumed the presidency of the Elementary Council, I'm breathless as I think about what I have undertaken. The good thing is I am not alone. With me are **Hazel Lane-Coates** who has served the Council well, and will be there to guide me as I call upon her expertise as past president. **Sandra Tingley**, from Sussex Corner Elementary, will be my first vice-president. **Connie Kavanaugh**, from John Caldwell School, Grand Falls, is the new secretary. **Arlene Pineo**, who teaches at Sunbury West, is taking over the treasurer's duties from John Thurber. John did an excellent job and I have every confidence that Arlene will watch over our books as if they are her own. Also returning to Council this year are: **Debbi Sloan** and

Natalie Richardson from Port Elgin Regional School, **Kim Carter** who has a new position as literacy mentor in District 2, and **Ralph Williston** from St. Andrews School,



Miramichi. I'd like to welcome two new members to Council: **Nathalie Graham** from St. Stephen Elementary and **Sandra Pentland** from Janeville Elementary School. Everyone is thrilled they have agreed to serve on Council this year.

We are already off to a running start as the joint Council Day is quickly approaching. I hope you have registered and booked your room in Moncton. This a fantastic professional growth opportunity that we can share with both Middle Level and High School Council members as well. The organizing committee has worked hard on the

behalf of our province's teachers and I am sure each of us will come away after November 12 with our ideas refocused and an invigorated attitude toward the valuable job we perform each day.

Again this year, we will be relying upon the expertise of Lisa Kerr to take care of the Council website. if you have anything you wish to share with other elementary teachers, please pass it along at kerrlisa@nbed.nb.ca.

Although this year will not have a May Council Day, we will still be holding our Annual General Meeting in May. The Elementary Council is also planning to offer several institutes in various locations this year, but more about those later.

Enclosed with the October issue of the *NBTA News* will be our Members' Handbook and a survey that our Curriculum Committee would like you to complete and bring with you to Council Day. If you give us your survey, we will give you a token of our appreciation.

With so much happening, and so much to look forward to, won't we all have a wonderful year?

*Rona Howald
Elementary Council President*

Middle Level Council News



Ben Zen and the Art of Media Maintenance...

Sometimes I overreact. Sometimes I think I'm obsessed. On very limited occasions, I think I'm actually dead on the money, but not that often... All I want to know is if I'm all by myself spending energy giving any credence to the *copious* amount of educational commentary floating about us. I don't really believe that I'm alone in this, but my preoccupation has begun to take on

a solitary nature after a long maternity leave that has left me to fend off the educational critics by myself—on the homefront—with a baby in tow who has already heard his share of colorful and derogatory mutterings about what the "experts" have to say.

My whole point is that, as an educator, I am in a continuous search for a balance in my reactions

to all of the abounding educational criticism. Every man and his dog have an opinion on our profession. And every man, woman, dog and cat *should* have an opinion. Each person has been touched by education and each person has a stake in what is probably the most effective and important mode of transferring the so-called wisdom of our culture.

Then there is the media. My

media of choice are the newspaper, magazines, and CBC radio. Thank God I do not watch television as I would probably be driven to madness. A day cannot go by without my falling prey to an article, or a documentary, or a letter to the editor which sheds yet *another* light on the *proper* approach to adequately educate the clients in our charge, i.e., the children.

Depending on my mood, my reaction to such reports can vary from muttering to myself, to damning the ignorance of the whole western world, to yelling at the radio and turning it off (with great gusto, I may add), or to even "amen-ing" the reporter's insightfulness (of course, when the coverage conveniently coincides with my own beliefs). And then, of course, is the infamous "letter to the editor" that I will undertake and put this and that and so and so in it and make sure that they are made fully aware of what proper education is after I'M done with them...

My suspicions are that my reactions are not unlike the reactions of many teachers. How else can we react when we are passionate about what we do and why we do it? The key to all of this is to discover a healthy way to wade through all of the commentary and opinion and yet maintain a healthy criticism of our profession as well. Enter Ben Zen: The ability to neither over nor under react at what's thrown at us. The ability to stay focused and become neither too defensive nor too offensive. The ability to put the real issues in proper perspective and save our energies for the battles that matter most to each of us in our own particular professional situations.

Ben Zen is the Maritime version of the sought-after buddhist state, named aptly after my country bumpkin brother-in-law who is much more balanced and focused in his life than I can ever hope to be. Ben is a picture of calm amongst any craziness and problems thrown his way. Ben built a house for my sister and their children on his own, part-time, three hours a night after work (no more, no less), eight hours on

Saturdays (no more, no less), and left Sunday free for the family. One year later, the house was finished, and Ben never lost his focus and never complained of the slow pace nor of the problems that imminently presented themselves.

Now, I still have lots of other things that I can use to make fun of my brother-in-law, but his balanced perspective is a trait that I should actually try to learn from. So, my mantra of late has been (you know, that positive self-dialogue stuff), "Everyone has a right to an opinion on education, everyone is going to continue sharing these opinions, and I will learn to use what is valuable and discard that which is not." I actually have another little

"Everyone has a right to an opinion on education, everyone is going to continue sharing these opinions, and I will learn to use what is valuable and discard that which is not."

word that I substitute for "not" but it isn't really professional nor polite.

I would like to make mention of recent media reports about two New Brunswick middle schools that were actually very positive and uplifting to read. The first was an article in the September issue of *Today's Parent* magazine that touted **Superior Middle School** of Bathurst as a shining example of teacher teamwork. This middle school succeeded in being included in the magazine's Parent Top 40 list, an achievement in consideration that over 150 schools were nominated nation-wide. Congratulations to this school, as well as the due encouragement to our many other NB middle schools which fall into the same category—thanks for representing us well.

I recently was also able to read a

"letter to the editor" of the *Telegraph Journal* which did not put me in an irate mood but rather a very proud and encouraged one. Dave MacMullin, principal of **Harvey High School** (grades 6-12), wrote in response to editorials on the notorious French Immersion debate. I was very impressed by Mr. MacMullin's professional and human approach to the issue. His case was made that the team of teachers and community members at Harvey High School are very proactive in finding creative answers to difficult questions in this often political and complicated issue. In this case, this educator used the media to further explain and promote an approach that was

working at his school. This was very positive and I am glad that he shared it publicly. His letter was published on August 5 and can be found online in the paper's archives (www.canadaeast.com) or at a public library.

Is there a lesson in all of this? I suppose that it is becoming aware that educational criticism is natural and will always be a force to be reckoned with. The answer is neither over nor under reacting to it—attempting to not let it derail us in our endeavor to provide the best education we can to the children we serve. It is also important to maintain a

balanced sense of healthy criticism so as to continue in the refinement of our profession.

Cheers to all teachers as you start another year full of possibilities.

Tanya Whitney
President of Middle Level Council



*** Communication is Key ***

??Have something great you'd like to share in the *NBTA News*??

We are looking for any stories, contributions, photos, successes (student, teacher, and school) that could be included in the Middle Level News section.

Don't second guess yourself—if it's worth something to you or your school, then it's worth sharing with everyone!!

If you have an idea, PLEASE contact our communications person: Tanya Murray, River Valley Middle School, 738-6500/738-6506(f)
email: tanya.murray@nbed.nb.ca
OR any member of Middle Level Council.



Middle Level Council Good-byes and Welcomes

Good-bye and *thank you* to committee members leaving this year:

Lynne Melanson, Dist. 15, Superior Middle School
Tammy Malley, Dist. 16, Harkins Middle School
Michael Gardner, Dist. 18, Albert Street Middle School (retired)

Welcome to new members joining this year:
Stacy Garland, Dist. 2, Queen Elizabeth School
Stacey Price, Dist. 18, George Street Middle School



Lit. Minute

Two great courses were offered at UNBSJ this summer by Jackie Seidel: ED4358 - Literacy, Language, Learning and ED4359 - Literacy for Struggling Readers in Grades 4-8.

Highlights

- Students will emerge as readers when they're ready, so it is important that they are continuously immersed in language.
- Reading aloud to students is very beneficial for them to learn language.
- Finding "talk" with students, in other words, conversations through read-alouds is a way to get students to make connections and find patterns

in novels. A resource to aid teachers in generating "book talks" is *Tell Me* by Aidan Chambers.

- Another resource well worth mentioning for beginning teachers as well as those more experienced is *Lessons That Change Writers* by Nancie Atwell. This resource provides teachers with ways to gather writing ideas from their students, mini-lessons, workshops, and valuable tips on writing conventions, genres, and principles.



Middle Level Council Executive

Br.	Name/Position	School	Tel.	Fax	E-Mail
0820	Tanya Whitney President	Brown's Flat	468-6000	468-6005	tanya.whitney@nbed.nb.ca
1538	Sandra MacCurdy Vice-President	Campbellton Middle	789-2120	759-7121	sandy.maccurdy@nbed.nb.ca
0618	Debbie Drury Treasurer	Sussex Middle	432-2022	432-2612	debbie.drury@nbed.nb.ca
1430	Marsha Cogle Secretary	Bath Middle	278-6000	278-6019	cougmars@nbed.nb.ca
0820	Tanya Murray Communications	River Valley Middle	738-6500	738-6506	tanya.murray@nbed.nb.ca
1429	John Irvine	Woodstock Middle	325-4436	325-4542	irvinjod@nbed.nb.ca
0215	Linda Maxwell	Queen Elizabeth	856-3447	856-2192	maxwelil@nbed.nb.ca
1826	Stacey Price	George Street Middle	453-5419	453-2593	wbrunt1943@rogers.com
0215	Stacy Garland	Queen Elizabeth	856-3447	856-2192	garlamel@nb.sympatico.ca

Students Write About Why the Miramichi is Special to Them

A book, *The Miramichi Is Special to Me Because*, was launched in Boiestown. It contains short stories written by 100 Upper Miramichi Elementary and Upper Miramichi Regional High students.

It is a project of the Boiestown Community Access Centre.

Jody O'Donnell, manager of the centre, co-ordinated with UMRHS principal Stephen Everett, UMES principal Barb Gilks, and teachers and students of Grades 4, 5, 6 and 7, giving them guidelines for the publication.

The stories were to be 100-200 words. Anyone who chose could include artwork.

Margaret Munn and Marlene McClements, steering committee members, complied and edited the publication along with Ashley Munn, a temporary employee of the access centre.

The book launch was held at the

UMES gymnasium. The young and excited authors were on hand to personally autograph their short story for those in attendance.

"The kids loved writing their stories. It brought back a lot of memories for them once they started



writing. They feel very proud of what they have written. People want their signatures on their story. In fact, the students were upset because they wanted time to practise their autographs," said Grades 6 and 7 language arts teacher, Tammy Gee.

Grade 4 student Tanner Colford

wrote about a canoe trip that the men in his family take every year down the Cains River.

Grade 5 student Abby Munn wrote about all the animals on the Miramichi, based on her personal experiences.

"I fed the deer myself once and I have seen a moose before from far away. I was very excited to write about it. I love stories and writing them," Munn said.

"I think this is a fantastic book. Children don't think about where they live very often. So when you get them to think about where they are and write it down, it becomes very neat for them," said Grade 4 and 5 literacy and social studies curriculum teacher, Carolyn Poirier.

The books are \$8.50 per copy and can be purchased by calling the access centre at 369-8907. The profit from the books will be used to maintain the centre.

The Social Vision of Jean Vanier



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In this challenging, fast-paced film essay, Vanier presents a vision of "a world in which every human being is important"

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Saint John Marigold Campaign a Tremendous Success



Over the last seven years, we have grown and planted over 1.1 million marigolds in the Greater Saint John area, thirty-five gardens in various locations from Westfield to Hampton to Maces Bay to St. Martins and all points in between.

The thousands of children, teachers, municipal staffs, sponsors, media and volunteers deserve enormous praise. Our marigold program has been copied and

recognized across Canada, in Japan, Germany, the UK, and the U.S.

Volunteers start organizing each year shortly after Christmas. The children start to grow the flowers in their schools after the March Break and they plant the flowers in June. The marigolds are cared for until November.

Over eighty sponsors and schools participated this year. A great sense of pride and accomplishment is created and our image, both from

our citizens and from visitors, is enhanced. The staffs from the various municipalities of Greater Saint John are paramount to the success of this campaign. The children have shown us that when we pull together, we grow and flourish.

Barry Ogden
Saint John High School

NBTA Annual Bowling Tournament

Where: Bathurst 

When: October 15,16 and 17,
2004

Organizer: Val D'Amours/
Atholville team

Cost: \$225 per team
(maximum 3 men out of 5 players)

Questions: Marcellin Lurette
(753-4114)

Pre-registration: \$45 by Sept. 25

To whom:

Ola Cormier, 77 Route 933
Grand Barachois, N.B. E4P 8K6
(532-0031)



Information will follow after
the registration of the team.



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1.800.563.0677 or www.johnson.ca/nbtf



CONTACT and DSS: Exceptional PD Opportunities

This summer many New Brunswick teachers took advantage of the opportunity to meet, learn and socialize with their Atlantic Canada counterparts in two summer programs .

Developing Successful Schools was held July 5-8 at Mt. A. Twenty-eight administrators from New Brunswick joined with principals, vice-principals and district staff from Nova Scotia, PEI and Newfoundland to work with Dr. Todd Whitaker from the University of Indiana. All 74 participants were engaged in the topic "What Great Principals Do Differently". They left with the book by the same name and a wealth of strategies which Dr. Whitaker shared for working with students, staff and parents to create school communities based on

respect and high expectations.

This was the first time that a waiting list for DSS was necessary. This attests to the importance and value that many participants place on this unique learning opportunity which is co-sponsored by NBTA, NB Department of Education and the three other Atlantic Provinces Teacher Organizations.

CONTACT (the Conference on New Techniques and Classroom Teaching) was held from August 8-11 at St. FX in Antigonish. Also sponsored by the Atlantic Provinces' Teacher Organizations (NBTA, PEITF, NLTA and NSTU), the event brings classroom teachers together to learn from their colleagues. The theme, *What Teachers Need*, saw sessions on Classroom Management, Motivating Disengaged Students, Authentic Assessment, Active Wellness and

Maintaining a Positive Staff Environment all presented by expert teachers from the region.

A healthy dose of fun is always part of this conference as pictured below when the provincial delegations 'compete' in the just-for-laughs Salt of the Earth competition. New Brunswick was represented by 28 delegates. We were also proud to have teachers Heather Neilson and Garth Wade from District 18 share their expertise in a session on Active Wellness.

Both these summer programs offer teachers a chance to grow, learn, laugh and make new connections with colleagues from Atlantic Canada. Information on next year's conferences will be available in the March issue of *NBTA News*. Why not apply to attend?



NB CONTACT delegates cheer the team.



"Active Wellness" at CONTACT



New Brunswick DSS delegates.



Atlantic Provinces' delegates to DSS.

Italian Campaign Victory in Europe D-Day Liberation of Holland



Over the next twelve months, Canadians will commemorate the 60th anniversaries of a series of events which defined who we are as a nation and what we can accomplish together.

There also represent one of the last opportunities for large numbers of WWII veterans to participate in the commemoration of the proud history they helped create.

Help celebrate these defining moments in the Story of Canada and honour our WWII veterans by hosting a Memory Project speaker to talk with your students about the anniversary, and share his or her own personal story of service and sacrifice during World War Two.

Participating schools and community groups can win great prizes - books, computers and more!

Call the Memory Project at 1-866-781-1267 or email memory@dominion.ca to host a veteran visitor in the weeks surrounding these important dates in our historical calendar.

www.thememoryproject.com

Canada



The Memory Project is a initiative of the Dominion Institute - a nationally registered charity dedicated to the promotion of Canadian history.
Le projet de la mémoire est une initiative de l'Institut du Dominion - une organisme enregistré nationalement dédié à la promotion de l'histoire canadienne.

Paid Advertisement



NBTA Golf Tournament

Saturday, September 25, 2004

"Shotgun" Start - 8:30am

Rockwood Park Golf Course, Saint John



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

All entries and **PAYMENTS** must be received by **Friday, September 17, 2004.**

Fee: \$50.00 per golfer (includes green fees, meal, gratuities, HST, prizes).

Make cheques payable to:

NBTA Golf Tournament and mail to:

Ed Lester
407 Molson Ave.,
Saint John, N.B.
E2M 5L9

Telephone (506) 674-1541
Fax (506) 635-8906

Entry Form

4 Person Scramble

Partners will be provided, if necessary.

All golf carts (23) reserved through **Ed Lester** (\$28.00 tax included)

Team _____

Captain _____

Telephone _____

Number of Golf Carts _____

Safe Travels for Youth: Passport to Safety

The Workplace Health, Safety and Compensation (WHSCC) is pleased to offer New Brunswick high school students FREE access to the national *Passport to Safety* program.

What is Passport to Safety?

Passport to Safety is a web-based health and safety test and transcript service, offering Canadian youth, 24 years and under, the opportunity to increase their health and safety knowledge. The program aims to support safety awareness and encourage training to eliminate needless workplace injuries and deaths.

The testing system makes the participant work through a series of questions and review online materials to reinforce topics they may not be familiar with until they come through with 100% pass. Participating in *Passport to Safety* provides youth with a "pre-work" foundation of the desired minimum health and safety knowledge prior to starting a job. This basic awareness level then becomes a foundation on which to build all the other essentials needed to be a safer and healthier worker.

Almost 2,000 youth, aged 15 to 24, report an injury at work each year in New Brunswick, and nine have died since 1998 from workplace accidents. Every opportunity needs to be taken to promote the importance of workplace safety, and *Passport to Safety* is an easy opportunity to do just that (and it's FREE)!

Personalized Safety Certificate & Transcript

Students completing the *Passport to Safety* test receive a nationally recognized safety certificate and a transcript documenting their achievement. The transcript can then be updated online by the participant, allowing them to add other completed safety-related courses or programs (e.g., first aid, CPR, babysitting, boater's safety, etc.). Students can add to or print off their transcript at any time to include with their portfolio or résumé.

Win Win for All!

Use of *Passport to Safety* in New Brunswick high schools provides benefits at many levels:

- Teachers can use it as an independent study, in-class assignment, as an evaluation tool or to help promote safety if there is insufficient class time to cover an entire unit.
- Students are recognized for their accomplishments (by the certificate) and the test reinforces the importance of workplace safety. The transcript encourages them to continue taking safety-related courses.
- We are ensured that our youth are receiving the foundations of workplace health and safety before entering the workforce.

How much time will it take?

The time required for teachers to organize and administer *Passport to Safety* is minimal. It takes less than 3 minutes for teachers to go online to order *Passport to Safety* for students. Within seconds of their order, teachers are e-mailed *Passport to Safety* access codes for each student. Self-directed and ready-made instructions developed by the WHSCC allow students to complete the test individually, which takes about 30 minutes to an hour. Once completed, students become lifetime members of *Passport to Safety* – a minimal amount of classroom time for a significant opportunity (and it's FREE)!

To See More!

To review the *Passport to Safety* main site or a sample of the test, log on to www.passporttosafety.com

To see the personalized *Passport to Safety* certificate or transcript, to order Passports for students, access the easy-to-follow student



instructions, or for more information, log on to the NB-teacher-based site: www.passporttosafety.com/NBteachers.

Have questions? Do not hesitate to contact: Silvy Moleman, WHSCC, Youth Programs Coordinator (1-800-442-9776) molemans@whsc.nb.ca

Getting involved in *Passport to Safety* can help future and new young workers understand the importance of safety on the job and prevent injuries to themselves and others. This is an amazing start for a whole new generation of safer, smarter workers in New Brunswick. Help reduce workplace accidents and inform young workers of the fundamentals of workplace health and safety by ordering *Passport to Safety* for your students today!





Poll Shows Canadians Favour More Resources for Special Needs Students in the Classroom

(CTF News Service Ottawa)
According to a recent national poll, Canadians believe in including special needs students in the classroom, but that more support, resources and experts should be provided to teachers to accommodate the needs of these students.

The results of the national public opinion poll were released at the conference on inclusion sponsored by the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) and entitled: "Reaching Potential: Making Inclusion Work". The conference was held July 7-8 preceding the Federation's Board of Directors meeting and Annual General Meeting.

"The poll tells us that 30 per cent

of Canadians believe that schools do not currently have enough experts and resources on hand to help teachers who have students with special needs in their classroom," says Terry Price, CTF President.

"The poll shows that the current lack of experts and resources to help teachers who have students with special needs was cited as the second reason why young and beginning teachers leave the profession." The top reason is large class sizes and the heavy workload.

When asked to indicate their preferences for spending priorities in education, Canadians ranked resources for special needs students third, after class size reductions and improvements to the curriculum.

Among parents with children in

the public schools, 18 per cent have a child who has been identified as a special needs student, or diagnosed with a specific physical, emotional or learning disability. In the public opinion poll, parents with special needs children split their spending priorities evenly between smaller classes (36 per cent) and services for special needs children (33 per cent).

The CTF National Issues Poll is conducted every two years by Vector Research Inc. This year's poll was based on telephone interviews conducted from May 6-11, 2004, with 1,001 adults throughout the country. In sampling theory, in 19 cases out of 20, the results based on such a sample will differ by no more than plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

CAHPERD PRESENTS AN ANTI-BULLYING INITIATIVE!

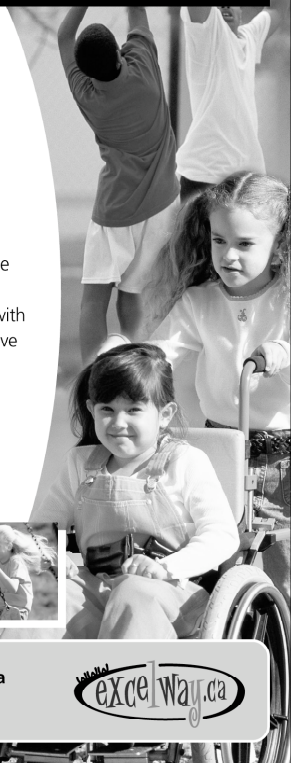
Playground Leadership Program Resource for Schools K-8

LOOKING FOR IDEAS ON:

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- Program Implementation
- Promotion, Recognition & Celebration
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24th Annual Terry Fox Run

"We need your help. The people in cancer clinics all over the world need people who believe in miracles. I am not a dreamer, and I am not saying that this will initiate any kind of definitive answer or cure to cancer. But I believe in miracles. I have to." So wrote Terry Fox in his October 1979 letter requesting support for his Marathon of Hope.

This September 19, the 24th Annual Terry Fox Run will take place in more than 60 N.B. communities. Schools can call toll-free at 1-888-TFOXRUN or visit online at www.terryfoxrun.org to find the Terry Fox Run closest to you. Register online to collect pledges electronically or to download your own pledge-sheets.

The Terry Fox Foundation also has for sale an exciting new book for young adults. *Run*, by acclaimed writer Eric Walters, tells the story of a troubled youth who eventually takes courage and inspiration from Terry's run. All royalties from the book will be donated to The Terry Fox Foundation and Penguin Group (Canada) is matching Eric Walter's royalties.

(See the brochure included with this issue of NBTA News.)



Wellness Highlights

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Betsy Colwell-Burley, Districts 6, 8, 10

1-800-563-3938

Niel Cameron, Districts 2, 15, 16

1-888-763-5050

Mind, Body, Spirit...

Welcome Back Teachers!

Thérèse Gallant, Counsellor/Consultant for School Districts 2, 15 and 16, has taken a leave of absence from her position effective the end of June 2004.

Niel Cameron has been appointed as the new teacher Counsellor/Consultant.

As part of the support services provided to teachers, we invite you to contact us about personal or professional issues.

We can assist you in coping with stress, developing a healthy lifestyle, and improving your general well-being.

Please do not hesitate to access our services at the numbers above.

Special Welcome to Niel Cameron

Niel comes to this position with an extensive amount of counselling background, having worked in several Canadian provinces and in numerous countries. She has several years of teaching and counselling experience with First Nations communities and at St. Thomas University, UNB and the Department of Education as a counsellor and consultant. She also has specialized training in reality therapy, groups, conflict resolution, grief and bereavement, etc.



Ann Kennedy
Coordinator



Betsy Colwell-Burley
Counsellor/Consultant



Niel Cameron
Counsellor/Consultant

Surviving Spouse's Pension Benefits Teachers' Pension Act

by Larry Jamieson

NBTA Director of Teacher Welfare Services

In mid-July, Rose May Poirier, Minister of the Office of Human Resources, announced that the Public Service Employees Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources (Pensions Branch) was now interpreting the pension legislation to recognize common law couples for the purpose of pension benefits. This change is retroactive to January 1, 2001.

This change means that pension benefits will be available to survivors who have lived in a common law relationship with contributors under the Teachers' Pension Act, as well as other New Brunswick pension acts. The criteria to be used to determine qualification as a common law couple will be based on those provided in the Family Services Act.

Thus "common law couple" will be interpreted to mean: two persons, not being married to each other, who have lived together:

a) continuously for a period of not less than three years in a family relationship, or

b) in a family relationship of some permanence where there is a child born of whom they are the natural parents, and have lived together in that relationship within the preceding year. The interpretation of a "common law couple" applies to couples of the same and opposite sex.

The effect of this change for teachers is that persons who are in a common law relationship as defined above, can:

a) benefit from the receipt of a

survivor pension from the Teachers' Pension Plan, and

b) choose to elect a more generous survivor benefit at the time of their retirement.

This is a significant change that represents a return to a previous interpretation of spouse under the Teachers' Pension Act that was in effect prior to 2001. Hence, the retroactivity of this change to January 1, 2001.

If you require further information about the implications of this change or if you believe that you may be due benefits as a result of this change, you should contact Public Service Employees Benefits Division, Office of Human Resources at 453-2296 or 1-800-561-4012.

Counselling Services

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Yvonne Vaughan

MA M.ED CCC

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or
1-506-461-8440
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Announcements

2004 Veterans Week Learning Materials

2004 marks the 60th anniversary of Canada's participation in the Italian Campaign during the Second World War. Our 2004 Veterans Week learning materials, which we will be distributing to schools across Canada "free of charge" this coming November, will have an Italian Campaign theme. In addition, this year our materials will be available primarily on line at www.vac-acc.gc.ca/youth/ under the "Youth and Educator" portion of Veterans Affairs Canada's (VAC) web site.

In addition to our Veterans Week learning materials, there is a wealth of other learning resources available through this site which will assist teachers in teaching Canada's military history.

Master of Educational Technology - University of British Columbia

Choose from a 10-course (30 credit) master's degree or a 5-course (15 credit) certificate program. All courses are completely online. No need to come to campus. Now accepting applications for a January, 2005 start (deadline: November 1, 2004).

Find out more at www.met.ubc.ca or contact David Roy (david.roy@ubc.ca) for more information.

"In the Know: Guide to Environmental Contacts in NB" - 3rd edition.

An indispensable resource for teachers, students and school libraries! This 70+ page bilingual directory includes environmental information and contacts from communities across the province.

Published by the NB Environmental Network, price: \$5.00 + shipping. Order online: www.nben.ca/order.htm

National School Library Day

October 25th is National School Library Day. The aim of this special day is to draw attention to the importance of school libraries in the education of our children. Across the country, teacher-librarians will be holding book fairs, celebrating excellence in school library programs, distributing newsletters, hosting guest

speakers, and linking up with community organizations to highlight the vital role school libraries have in the lives of Canada's children.

The Canadian Atlas

Canadian Geographic and Reader's Digest Canada have joined forces to produce the first comprehensive all-Canadian atlas of the new century. *The Canadian Atlas: Our Nation, Environment and People* is a 192-page atlas depicting every corner of Canada with 42 detailed reference maps, more than 32,000 place names, and an unprecedented compendium of information about Canada today.

For further information, contact: Canadian Geographic 1-800-267-0824, www.canadiangeographic.ca or Reader's Digest Canada 1-800-465-0780, www.rd.ca

Green Street Environmental Programs

Green Street is a standard of excellence for environmental learning and sustainability. Our programs are provided by the following Canadian environmental education organizations: Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Clean Drinking Water Foundation, The Green Environmental Group, Pembina Institute, Trout Unlimited, Evergreen Canada, Seeds Canada, Clean Nova Scotia, World Wildlife Fund, Club 2/3, Ducks Unlimited.

Green Street approved programs are curriculum aligned, credible, action-oriented, and require minimal teacher preparation. For more information, contact Allison Freeman, afreeman@green-street.ca or toll-free at 1-877-250-8201; Disponible en français • www.marueverte.ca. Visit the website: www.green-street.ca

McCord Museum Educational Program

EduWeb is a new on-line educational program for secondary school teachers and their students. It is based on a 90,000 images searchable database (all dating from 1840-1945) and proposing several activities (games and inquiries about past phenomena) linked to NB Canadian history grade 12 curriculum.

The McCord Museum provides

on-line support for users of its website. For further information, contact Marie-Claude Larouche, marie-claude.larouche@mccord.mcgill.ca, (514) 398-7100, ext. 228.

Healthy Interpersonal Relationships Kit

The Coalition Against Abuse in Relationships (C.A.A.R.) is a non-profit organization which attempts to improve awareness of services available to victims and perpetrators of abuse through educational and lobbying activities. One such program, *It's Up to Me*, is a tool for teaching and developing the skills and knowledge required to choose and maintain healthy interpersonal relationships and treat others with respect. It targets pre-teens and teens from grades 5 to 8. Six primary schools from the southeastern region of New Brunswick have already participated in this study. The results indicate that the pursuit of the *It's Up to Me* program should be encouraged and that the evaluation of its impact should be improved.

To inquire about ordering the kits, you can email caar@coalitionagainstabuse.com or mail at CARR, P.O. box 1660, Moncton, N.B. E1C 9X5.

Atlantic Canada Conference on Learning Disabilities "Cracking the Code"

Featuring America's top learning expert Dr. Mel Levine, October 15 & 16, 2004, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

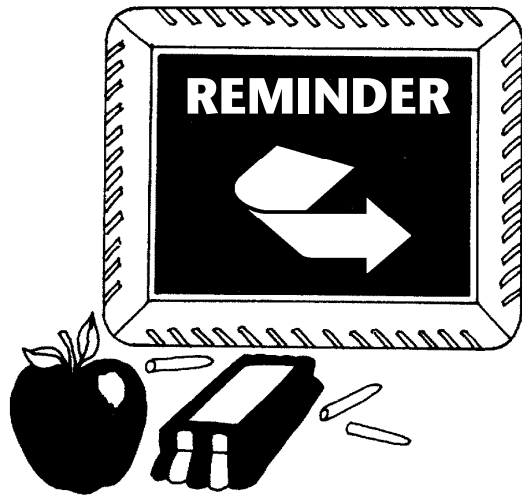
For registration materials and program, check the Website <http://ldans.nsnnet.org>.

Seminars for Educators

The Centre for Educational Leadership at McGill University has released its Distinguished Educators Seminar Series Calendar for 2004-2005. Three seminars scheduled for October are: *Creating Portfolios That Tell the Whole Story (Elementary)* - Oct. 20; *Expanding Partnerships In Science Education* - Oct. 21; *The Nuts & Bolts of School Leadership* - Oct. 27.

The complete calendar is available online at www.mcgill.ca/edu-integrated/cel

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• Jackie Jardine, Assistant Manager	452-1824
• Judy Jewett, General Manager	452-1744

You can still contact us @ 1-800-565-5626 or 452-1724

**Annual General Meeting is Thursday November 18, 2004,
7:30 p.m. NBTF Building**



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