

Teachers Make a Difference

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Teachers who make a difference

Cindie Collette Conrad



*NSTU president presented Cindie Colette Conrad with her **Teachers Make a Difference** Award on April 1 at the CSANE rep retreat in Halifax. From left to right: CSANE provincial executive representative Sue Larivière-Jenkins, CSANE Local president Renée Samson; École Bois-Joli NSTU rep Melissa Gordon; **Teachers Make a Difference** award recipient Cindie Collette Conrad, and NSTU president Shelley Morse.*

my day and after listening to what the person who nominated me wrote about me— my teaching habits, how students felt in my classroom—I really was touched. The fact that a parent took the time to nominate me was the best gift ever.”

The parent who nominated Colette Conrad had many great things to say about how she makes a difference for students—“*Her priority is to make sure all of her students feel that they belong in her classroom. They know that they will be respected and how to show respect. They feel special, valued and important, which will make them work to their fullest potential. She wants all of her students to understand the outcomes and will take the extra time to help those that are struggling. She is able to motivate those that need it too. Her students are always sad to leave her classroom at the end of the year. They feel loved, and can therefore concentrate on learning.*”

Based on the nomination it’s easy to see how she makes a difference for her students, school and community. She also sees great value in the program. “To be nominated and recognized as a teacher who has made a difference was an honour,” she beams. “I feel that I am surrounded by amazing teachers who love their jobs and who try every day to make an impact on their students and on their families.”

“We have a wonderful job but I think sometimes people don’t always realize all of the extra time we put in our work to make sure that every student feels special and receives a quality education. I think it is a wonderful initiative on behalf of the NSTU and hope that it will continue.”

Cindie Collette Conrad has been a teacher at École Bois-Joli since she graduated from the Université de Moncton in 2003. Since that time she also completed Master’s in Education Second Language from Université Sainte-Anne.

“I have taught Grade 2 and mostly Grade 5, which I absolutely love,” she says.

Collette Conrad is one of 10 recipients of this year’s *Teachers Make a Difference* campaign and is the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial representative for this year’s campaign.

“I’d heard about the *Teachers’ Make a Difference* program for the first time this year after seeing the promotion on TV,” she says. “I remember thinking that it was wonderful to recognize teachers and I was actually getting chills thinking how special it would be for a teacher to be nominated.”

She says the phone call that gave her the good news she was selected as one of this year’s recipients came at a very good time.

“When I got the call, it was at the end of October and I was working on my report cards, which is a very busy time of the year for all teachers,” she points out. “I was so surprised to hear the news! It really made

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