

Teachers Make a Difference

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Teachers who make a difference

James Wiseman



*Past president Shelley Morse is shown above with Teachers Make a Difference recipient for the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board James Wiseman. Morse visited the school on June 22 to present Wiseman with his award. **From left to right:** Morse, Wiseman, Kings Local president Natalie MacIsaac, West Kings District High vice-principal Donna Griffin and principal Barry Squires.*

While only in the early part of his teaching career, math teacher James Wiseman has been recognized as a teacher who makes a difference. Wiseman was one of ten recipients of the 2015-16 year's *Teachers Make a Difference* awards. A member of the Kings Local, he was the selected recipient for the Annapolis Valley Regional School Board. "I have been teaching for eight years," he says. "I have been actively involved in coaching for those eight years, coaching boys basketball and badminton. Any free time I have I am usually coaching or playing squash or playing with my new baby daughter Ava."

The new father started his teaching career in Australia teaching math and science, then moved back home to the valley and spent five years at Annapolis West Education Centre teaching math and O2. He is entering his third year teaching math at West Kings District High School.

"The NSTU did a great job advertising and getting the word out about the teachers make a difference program," continues Wiseman. "However, I was surprised and honoured to be nominated for this award."

The student who nominated him praised him for his patience and taking time to enable students to understand concepts—"He makes class worth going to and makes class a lot more interesting—he's a huge Blue Jays fan, which is pretty awesome. When he explains something, he won't move on until everyone understands. He's just a great teacher."

As part of the recognition, Wiseman's school received a cheque for \$300, intended for the school's breakfast program or library. Wiseman was happy to be giving the \$300 donation to his school's breakfast program and would like to see this initiative continue. "This is a great initiative. There are so many teachers that give extra time and work very hard and it's great to see teachers get acknowledged for this."