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NOVA SCOTIA TEACHERS UNION

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Teachers announce full work-to-rule to begin December 5

NSTU's 9,300 public school members, which includes classroom and specialist teachers, administrators, school psychologists, speech language pathologists, school board consultants, and other NSTU public school members who work for school boards, will begin Province-wide work-to-rule job action on Monday, December 5.

"Nova Scotia teachers will be focusing exclusively on teaching students and keeping them safe," says NSTU president Liette Doucet. "We recognize and appreciate that this may be an inconvenience to families in Nova Scotia however we believe this is a necessary first action to achieve better education for students in Nova Scotia for the long-term."

During work-to-rule, teachers will continue to carry out their instructional duties in classrooms with students. Teachers will focus exclusively on teaching students in a safe learning environment, preparing and implementing lesson plans, and maintaining contact with parents/guardians of students who are at risk and/or have special needs.

"The NSTU has determined that limiting our work will help to demonstrate the scope of activities that teachers do for students that go above and beyond, and those that prevent them from directly teaching students," continues Doucet. She also outlined the directives and details of the work-to-rule job action. "Voluntary extra-curricular activities and scheduled field trips will not continue during this job action," she says, adding, "In addition, public school members will not arrive early or stay late after the instructional day; complete clerical duties; complete data collection and entry; attend meetings non-essential to lesson planning and implementation."

"We remain committed to negotiating a new collective agreement at the bargaining table and hope that Government will want to engage in a real negotiation process."

More information is available at ActForEducation.ca

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Note to editors/reporters: NSTU president Liette Doucet is available at NSTU's Office, 3106 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax at 11:00 am for interviews.

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