

Spotlight on PL opportunities: DSS & CONTACT

by Amanda-O'Regan-Marchand, Executive Staff Officer, Professional Learning

Developing Successful Schools (DSS) is a conference hosted by the New Brunswick Teachers' Association along with the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development in July of each year. The conference is co-sponsored by the Nova Scotia Teachers Union, the Prince Edward Island Teachers Federation, the Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association, and the Public School Administrators Association of Nova Scotia,



The campus of Mount Allison University welcomes (aspiring) school administrators and central office staff to collaborate and engage in professional development aimed at supporting their professional growth.

The theme this year is *Leading with Heart: Enhancing and Refining Your Leadership Skills for Today's School Environment*, led by author and instructor in Educational Administration, Dr. Jen Schwankey

This year's DSS participants will engage in discussion, team-based collaboration to help brainstorm possible solutions to common situations they are facing at their schools and in their districts/ regional centres for education.

"Attendees will come away with confidence to lead their schools with their minds—and their hearts."

If you are interested in attending DSS, please contact your Local President. There are 12 spaces available for NSTU members. You can also apply through your article 60 committee. If you have



any questions, please reach out to your Local President or to Staff Officer, Amanda O'Regan-Marchand (amarchand@staff.nstu.ca).

The Conference on New Techniques and Classroom Teaching (CONTACT) is a collaboration among the teacher organizations of the Atlantic Provinces. Each organization takes turns hosting this three day conference during the first week in August each year. Teachers and specialists come together to learn from one another through the sharing of best practices in workshops developed by teachers and specialists from each of the respective provinces/territories.

This year's conference is hosted by the Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation from August 1-4th, 2023. Delegates will be welcomed to the campus of the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown. A full schedule will be published in *The Teacher* when registration opens in May. This is an exciting opportunity to meet new colleagues and develop new networks through participation in both learning activities as well as evening social activity options, all the while having the opportunity to explore what Charlottetown has to offer. If you are interested in learning more and possibly putting your name forward to attend, each of the Locals sponsors one delegate and there are nine spots available among our 21 professional associations. You may also apply to your regional article 60 committee for the opportunity to be one of the five additional delegates who will be chosen from a lottery at the close of registration. If you have any questions, please reach out to your Local President or to Staff Officer, Amanda O'Regan-Marchand (amarchand@staff.nstu.ca).