

news



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N O V A S C O T I A T E A C H E R S U N I O N

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Cape Breton permanent teacher layoffs confirmed

Fourteen permanent Cape Breton teachers that received layoff notices appeared in a hearing before the Cape Breton-Victoria Regional School Board last night to plead their case for reinstatement, and the Board confirmed the terminations. These teachers have over 80 years of combined experience with the Board and bring a high level of expertise and dedication to the classroom. All have strong roots in the community.

"It's a very emotional experience for these teachers to stand before their employer and to plead that their jobs not be cut," says NSTU president Alexis Allen. "The loss of these teaching positions and the other cuts at the Board will have a direct impact on students in the classroom."

Allen says she hopes that Education Minister Ramona Jennex will make good on her promise to "put children and learning first" when asking boards to cut funding for the next school year. The Minister has said that the budget cuts were to have "minimal impact."

"The "back to balance" strategy the government asked of school boards is decimating the system and the future of our students is severely jeopardized," Allen says. "Teachers, parents and students are looking to the Minister and this government to restore the balance of funding of education in favour of students and learning."

Forty-two probationary teachers from the Halifax Regional School Board will appear before their school board in a similar hearing this evening.

The Nova Scotia Teachers Union represents 10,900 public school teachers in Nova Scotia and Community College faculty and professional support staff. Organized in 1895, its programs are directed towards improving the quality of public education in Nova Scotia.

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