

# **Teachers with Administrative Responsibilities Committee**

## **Nova Scotia Teachers Union**

### **Annual Report**

#### **2012 – 2013**

##### **Mandate**

The mandate of the Teachers with Administrative Responsibilities (TWAR) Committee is to provide a voice for teachers in administrative positions. The committee reports to, and makes recommendations to, the Provincial Executive on matters affecting teachers with administrative responsibilities through various provincial committees. In addition, the committee considers resolutions for Annual Council and makes appropriate recommendations. The TWAR Committee has a close working relationship with the School Administrators Association (SAA).

##### **Committee Membership**

Mike Stewart (Committee Chair)

Paul Betuik

Stephanie Campbell

Daniel Stephenson

Jacinta Gracie (Provincial Executive)

Chris Nicholson (SAA Representative)

Danny Eddy & Grant MacLean (NSTU Staff Officer)

##### **Meeting Dates**

The TWAR Committee held meetings on the following dates:

November 16, 2012

February 1, 2013 (Joint meeting with SAA)

May 3, 2013

##### **Budget**

The budget for the committee was \$5,775. The actual expenses for the committee to conduct business was \$4,927.

##### **Activities and Accomplishments:**

- Staff provided a history of the formation of TWAR. Several documents over the past 11 years were reviewed and commented upon.
- Committee members volunteered to act as Regional reps to poll the different regions upon difficulties and successes of Administrators across the province.
- Council resolutions were discussed before forwarding to PEWC.
- Discussion took place regarding how to let administrators know that TWAR and how the Union supports members – particularly as it relates to administrators involved in discipline meetings with teachers and how the Union supports administrators when they are being disciplined. Suggestion to send “Make it Fit” article to school reps so they can forward it to

their administrators. Suggestion to develop a “handout” that explains that explains the role of staff in discipline issues affecting teachers and administrators.

- Discussed Administrators as agents of the Board and how this can lead to difficulties.
- Discussed “Make it Fit” article.
- Met with SAA Executive – discussed EIP, Power School and Tienet
- SAA have a feeling that they are unsupported by the union.
- Discussion took place in regards to Principal Workload and PD ideas.
- Discussion of the implications and workload issues surrounding changes in the Education Act. Any action that happens after school hours that drifts toward school will have to be acted upon. Huge workload and responsibility issues.
- Discussion on member engagement survey and its implications.
- Discussion of administrators Conference Video – honouring students and teachers.
- Noted about upcoming discussions related to transgendered students
- Discussion of information coming out of February’s meeting with the SAA. Concerns raised regarding perceptions of a lack of support for administrators. Discussion of the need for members to respect the role of administrators as messengers of board and department information.
- Discussion of proposed creation of a member engagement day to facilitate issues, such as communications, shared between members of the standing committees
- Review of the recent tentative agreement reached with the province: retro pay in last cheque of June, prep time, guaranteed 10%, improved pay scales for subs....tied to a %.
- Developing Successful schools Conference July 8-11, 2013.

### **Summation**

Upon completion of their term, the TWAR Committee wishes to thank Michael Stewart, Chris Nicholson and Jacinta Gracie for their commitment to the committee. The committee is most appreciative of Executive Staff Officer, Danny Eddy & Grant MacLean, for their assistance and guidance at our meetings.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Stewart (Chair TWAR 2012-2013)