



MEMORANDUM

Newfoundland and Labrador Teachers' Association

May 12, 2020

Update on Teacher Allocations for 2020-21

In a “normal” year, the Association would have provided members with a summary of the provincial budget in relation to education, including teacher allocations for the coming school year. But, 2020 has been anything but normal. The provincial budget has been delayed, and government is operating under an interim supply order, which has been extended to September 30, 2020 in light of ongoing COVID-19 response measures and restrictions.

While the NLTA is not able to provide a full education budget overview at this time, the following information regarding teacher allocations for 2020-21 has been confirmed by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development:

- The 3-year implementation of the Education Action Plan will continue. Resources introduced over the past two years for Phases I and II are maintained. The implementation of Phase III for the remaining 123 schools with K-6 student enrollment will start in September 2020, including:
 - 54 additional teaching units for Reading Specialists
 - 13 additional teaching units for Learning Resource Teachers (LRTs)
 - 4 additional teaching units for English as a Second Language Teachers (ESL)
 - 100 additional Teaching and Learning Assistants.
- No change to the current teacher allocation model/class size caps.
- No change to the overall allocation of teaching units for Instructional Resource Teachers (IRT).
- A reduction of 42 teaching units due to decline in student enrolment and application of the current allocation model.

While the NLTA welcomes the resources committed for Phase III of the Education Action Plan, **we continue to advocate for:**

- Measures to address issues around class size and composition.
- Increases to the administrative allocation.
- Additional supports to enable students with special needs and mental health issues to access the same opportunities as their peers, including Increases to allocations for guidance counsellors, educational psychologists and speech language pathologists.
- An independent review of the Teacher Allocation Model.
- Adjustments to the draft Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy to address workload and sustainability.
- An increase in the student assistant budget.

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Education Action Plan Implementation and the Draft Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy

With respect to the implementation of Phase III of the Education Action Plan, the Association has expressed concerns regarding the sustainability of the Draft Responsive Teaching and Learning Policy and continues to call for either increased resources to support the policy or changes that address teacher and administrator workload concerns.

Premier's Task Force – Education Action Plan Allocations			
	Phase 1 – 2018-19	Phase 2 – 2019-20	Phase 3 – 2020-21
	<i>40 schools</i>	<i>40 schools</i>	<i>123 schools</i>
Reading Specialists	21.5	26.5	54
Teacher Librarians	13	13	13
Teacher and Learning Assistants	54	46	100

The Association will keep members informed as further information regarding government funding for the K-12 system becomes available.