



October 15, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You may have heard about a provincial \$15 million investment to fund more inclusive education staff and other priorities to better support students in the classroom. This letter is to share with you that all the 190 new staff who were committed have now been hired, and to introduce to you a new resource for families – parent navigators.

These supports will support teaching and learning so more students reach higher levels of achievement, well-being and success. They will support our teachers so that all their students have the resources they need to succeed. These on-the-ground resources are in addition to the current complement of inclusive education specialists and supports in our schools, including the expanding SchoolsPlus Program.

First, let me highlight the new resources hired this year to support students. Chignecto Central Regional Centre for Education has welcomed 29 of the additional inclusive education specialists

Position Title	Allocation	Assigned School(s)
Behaviour Support Teachers	4	Spring Street Academy (60%), West Highlands Elementary (40%)
		Truro Elementary
Autism Support Teachers	2	Walter Duggan
		Rawdon District School
Specialists (Learning Centre Teachers, Learning Support Teachers, Program Planning)	4	Cobequid Family
		Chignecto Family
		Nova Family
		Celtic Family
Speech-Language Pathologists	1	Cobequid/Nova Family
Student Health Nurse	1	Regional Support
Parent Navigators	2	Cobequid Family (can be accessed by all parents in the region)
		Celtic Family (can be accessed by all parents in the region)
Child and Youth Care Practitioners	6	Pictou Academy (40%), Scotsburn 30%) and Salt Springs (30%)
		Trenton Elementary (40%) and Alternate High (60%)
		EB Chandler (100%)
		Uniacke District School (100%)
		Redcliff Middle and Harmony Heights
		Valley Elem (30%), Bible Hill Consolidated (30%) and North River Elem (40%)

Educational Assistants	8	Cobequid Family - 2.3 full-time positions
		Chignecto Family - 1.6 full-time positions
		Nova Family - 1.7 full-time positions
		Celtic Family - 2.4 full-time positions

I also want to introduce our new parent navigators – Marcia Gamble (Cobequid Family) and Carol Ann Parsons (Celtic Family). As part of the SchoolsPlus teams, our parent navigators work closely with other schools and community-based agencies to ensure that students and families are aware of the services available to them and know how to access them. This includes services beyond education, such as health, justice and other community services.

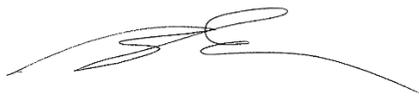
We have also opened a new Alternative Education Program in Trenton that engages and teaches students in ways that meet their unique needs. This is one of four Alternative Education Programs in our region (Trenton Alternative High School, Springhill Junior/Senior High School, South Colchester Academy, and Central Colchester Junior High Alternative Classrooms).

In addition to these inclusive education supports by government, there was also a commitment from the Council to Improve Classroom Conditions, to invest \$5.2 million this year for 57 new high school teachers. I am pleased to advise you that schools in our Regional Centre for Education have received 16 of these new high school teachers.

Beyond the additional staff and programs, we are collectively focused on ways to support the success of all students through inclusive practices and support. I encourage you to visit ednet.ns.ca/inclusiveeducation to learn more.

If you have any questions, you can reach out by emailing GeddesAM@ccrce.ca or calling (902) 897-8900.

Sincerely,



Gary Adams
Regional Executive Director