

Teachers have diverse political views, so the NBTA encourages its 6,400 members to become actively engaged in the political process.

Individual teachers may choose to align directly with specific political parties, but the Association works to educate and influence all parties, legislators, and community leaders about issues impacting publicly funded public education and the teaching profession in New Brunswick. Teachers can help with this important work.

There are many ways to get involved in political action, both individually and collectively as local branches, in ways that are consistent with the Code of Professional Conduct.

That said, teachers must not be political or doctrinaire within the classroom or use students to gain political interest.

Here are some actions that the NBTA recommends.

Individual Action: How can I get involved?

Educate Yourself



Access NBTA's recent messaging on [key issues](#).



[Find out who your MLA is](#), who else is running in your riding during an election, and who are the opposition critics for education.

Engage and Educate Political Leaders



Contact your MLA and other parties' representatives (by phone, email, social media, at town halls, events, or visiting the constituency office).



Ask them what their views are on education and on the specific policies being proposed by the NBTA. Don't be afraid to share your personal, first-hand experiences with your MLA — these are the most powerful!



Follow up in writing after a meeting or conversation, and stay in regular contact with your MLA (or other parties' representatives/candidates) to educate them on issues, clarify facts, and provide feedback.



Attend in-person or virtual town halls/engagement sessions hosted by local political leaders. If given the opportunity to share your thoughts, don't be afraid to do so!

Join a Party



Voice your solutions for education issues from within a political party of your choosing.



Promote resolutions within political parties that focus on education.



Support a candidate in your riding in the next election.



Become a candidate in your riding in the next election.

Model Active Citizenship



Be a role model for active citizenship in your community.



Initiate opportunities for teacher voice(s) to be heard in the democratic process in your community.

Remember, you don't need to be an expert on every NBTA policy position. Share your own experiences, and if someone asks a question you don't know the answer for, tell them you'll get back to them with an answer.

Collective Action: How can you help the NBTA get involved?

Lead Your Community Conversation



Watch what your MLAs (or candidates) are saying and doing to support education.



Share NBTA-endorsed public messaging, in any of the following ways, to the extent you are comfortable. Combine that messaging with your own personal experience on the job:

- a. In person, one community member and one conversation at a time, with a focus on your personal experiences.
- b. On your personal social media.
- c. In conversations with elected representatives.
- d. At community gatherings.

Lobby Political Leaders and Elected Community Members



Help host or attend networking opportunities and invite local MLAs, riding association representatives, or candidates to meet with teachers.



Invite members of your local Parent-School Support Committees (PSSC), District Education Councils, and Home and School Associations to participate in networking opportunities.



Clarify the facts and propose solutions that will positively impact schools.



Suggest a visit to schools for some experiential learning.



Keep the conversation going by pressing for change and follow up on commitments or actions promised.

Protect Public Education
Stop the Distractions
Trust and Respect School Communities

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