

Contacts: Kurt Praschak / kpraschak@successcomgroup.com / 973.992-7800, x.289
Erin Ford / eford@successcomgroup.com / 973.992-7800, x.171

Life-saving actions of six New Brunswick Public Schools staff members recognized by district BOE

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ (November 19, 2015) -- Six New Brunswick Public Schools staff members have been honored by the district board of education for playing crucial roles in saving a colleague's life.

When a staff member at Paul Robeson School experienced a seizure and quickly became non-responsive during the morning of November 9, Claudette Grant, the school nurse, and classroom teachers Lisa Stine and Nydia Adorno took immediate action. As Grant performed CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), Stine and Adorno activated the school's AED (automated external defibrillator) device and delivered two shocks.

Meanwhile, substitute teacher Karin Kanaris called 911 to summon emergency assistance, as guidance counselor Rocky Lockhart -- who'd brought the AED to the classroom -- worked with social worker Astrid Corcelles to keep students who were on hand calm and organized.

"In 45 years as a nurse, I've never been in a situation where I needed to start CPR," says New Brunswick Public Schools Board of Education President Pat Sadowski. "I am so proud of our staff members. They worked as a team, and thanks to their quick thinking, their coworker is alive."

When the emergency medical services crew arrived at the school, the patient's heart was judged to have returned to a rhythm that required no further shocking. She was awake and talking just a few hours later after admittance to [Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital](#), and is expected to make a full recovery.

"The actions of these staff members were nothing short of inspirational," says Aubrey Johnson, superintendent of New Brunswick Public Schools. "In the face of an extremely frightening, stressful situation, there was no hesitation. They followed the training they'd received, and as a result, one of our colleagues is still alive today."

Note: A high-resolution, digital image of the six New Brunswick Public Schools staff members being recognized by the board of education is available at <https://goo.gl/i7B8aw>

About New Brunswick Public Schools

The New Brunswick, NJ public school district consists of two high schools (New Brunswick High School and Health Sciences Technology High School), a middle school (New Brunswick Middle School) and eight elementary schools (Lincoln, Livingston, Lord Stirling, McKinley, Redshaw, Roosevelt, Paul Robeson, and Woodrow Wilson schools). The New Brunswick Public School District offers a comprehensive educational program for students in grades pre-kindergarten through twelve and serves more than 10,000 students.

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