



Tom Cleary

Principal

**Hammonds Plains Consolidated
School**



Halifax

Regional Centre for Education

Previous Roles as an Educational Leader or other recent leadership experience:

Currently Principal of Hammonds Plains Consolidated School, previous roles of Vice Principal, Principal and School Supervisor (acting)

Experiences (governance, committees, negotiations, prior Board involvement):

As an active member of PSAANS, I regularly participate in association activities, conferences, and learning opportunities, staying closely connected to organizational updates and policy decisions. Before PSAANS was formed, I served as an NSTU Staff Representative, building a strong foundation in educator advocacy and collaborative problem-solving. In my role as school administrator and school supervisor, I have been able to further professional learning by designing, implementing and facilitating a variety of professional development for staff and students and supporting our communities.

Skills & Qualities (what prepares you for Board service):

I have over 13 years of administrative experience; including 9 as Principal across diverse school communities. I bring proven system-level thinking, instructional leadership, and a strong understanding of school-based realities. My leadership is based in ensuring equitable learning experiences are deeply ingrained across our school communities by fostering culturally responsive instruction, and relational collaboration with staff, families, and community members. These relationships are the foundation to long-term academic and well-being growth and success. I am ready to advocate for and support educational leaders across the province.

Leadership Philosophy: One key value or principle that guides your leadership:

The foundation of my leadership is belief that academic growth, equity, and school culture are based upon trust and transparent communication with all members of our school communities. Building genuine connections with staff, families, and students is necessary for growth, success and wellbeing. When leaders keep communication open and listen with intent, all school goals become a shared responsibility.

Top 2–3 key issues facing administrators that you would address on the Board:

1. Supporting students who display complex behaviors as well as school safety
 2. Leader retention and Administrative Workload
 3. Translating system-wide mandates into school-based reality
-

Contributions to your school, RCE/CSAP, or the broader education community:

Having served in the education system in a wide variety of ways - as a volunteer, EPA, teacher, administrator, and school supervisor, I bring experience from a variety of perspectives. Across the schools I have led, I have fostered long-term student growth in literacy, math, and well-being. I ensure equitable learning experiences are not just implemented but deeply ingrained in our school communities by embedding them into everyday school culture, and actively deepening connections with our community. Additionally, I have used my leadership experience to support my professional peers in any way that I can, finding solutions together.

Final Thoughts:

I will bring a calm, relational, communication-first philosophy to our board of directors, championing leader wellness, cutting through initiative fatigue, and ensuring administrators feel genuinely supported. When leaders feel safe, heard, and valued, entire communities experience success.