



National Boards & Advocacy

By Shelly Moore Krajacic, NEA Executive Committee, AYA ELA 2008

I vividly remember the March day in 2008 when I released my all-important National Board box to the US Post Office. My friend Lisa, who had certified in 2006, was with me, helping me double and triple check the box before I sent it off.

Then we got drinks.

Although I still had the test ahead of me, I will never forget the feeling when I completed the process that day. It wasn't relief, it was accomplishment. And, honestly, I didn't care whether or not I certified. I knew that I had already completed the most amazing, career-changing professional development imaginable.

From that day forward, those guiding questions and the five core propositions were in my head everyday as I faced my students. They were with me as I mentored new teachers, as I bargained contracts, as I advocated for the profession.

I know for certain that becoming a National Board Certified Teacher changed my teaching for the better, but it also changed my advocacy. Sure, those four little letters

after my name help get me in to offices that might otherwise not meet with a public school teacher, but they also change how I approach and understand my colleagues. We often talk about how the National Boards positively impact our teaching, but they also impact how we interact with each other. I am able to use those guiding questions and core propositions to help my colleagues and to improve education for all.

So it was a no-brainer to attempt recertification this year. Although I'm on leave to serve the NEA, I am still deeply connected to my school district. In December, I was able to teach for a couple of weeks in my classroom with my syllabus and my curriculum. It was amazing.

The technology world allowed me to interact with students and student work electronically from Las Vegas and San Diego while on NEA assignment throughout January. Thanks Google. Every step of the way, I was reminded of the incredible importance of this amazing process.

While I won't know for a while if I recertified, it was once again incredible simply to go through the process which continues to inform my advocacy work for educators and students. Also, as the first NBCT elected at the national level, I take very seriously my responsibility to the National Boards and my fellow NBCTs.



Teacher Leadership Initiative

By Doug Lea, NBCT

The Teacher Leadership Initiative (TLI) is a collaboration among the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the Center for Teacher Quality, and the National Education Association. This initiative supports emerging teacher leaders as they examine overarching teacher leadership competencies in addition to competencies in association leadership, instructional leadership, and policy leadership. All TLI candidates complete a capstone project, in which they examine their growth on the competencies they select as they address a real issue in their educational context. The initiative opened in 2013 as a pilot with cohorts across the country. There are 457

NBCT Webinars

As an education professional invested in National Board Certification, you are invited to network with other like-minded individuals. The following Webinars may be of interest to you.

Webinar Opportunities: The first webinar took place Tuesday, October 17. The title was: Awareness Campaign Materials. Other Webinars will take place in November.

Please register for any webinars you'd like to attend:

Webcast Title: **Professional Learning Facilitator Materials**

Webcast Date: **Tuesday, November 07, 2017 at 08:00 PM**

Eastern Standard Time

Use this link to

register: <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1520538/7FAB709BA4C833461EBA6068B71F8158>

Webcast Title: **NBConnect Data- Beginners**

Webcast Date: **Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 08:00 PM**

Eastern Standard Time

Use this link to

register: <https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1520549/CB57971431901A0D4D5A1983CCF0E15A>

teachers who have completed the program and another 204 are current TLI Fellows. NBCTs serve in many capacities in TLI, many as coaches or virtual community organizers (VCOs).

Take a look at their website:
<http://www.teacherleadershipinitiative.org>

Webcast Title: **NBConnect Data- Advanced**

Webcast Date: **Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 08:00 PM**

Eastern Standard Time

Use this link to

register:

<https://event.on24.com/wcc/r/1520569/C8E58A474BB3C49D135175825DCA3565>

For Teachers, By Teachers

You might be wondering what has taken so long to get to this point! Thousands of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) and other practicing educators contributed to the design, development, scoring, and standard setting for the redesigned National Board Certification assessment. The rigorous process of setting the performance standard for certification involves examining candidate work on all four components of the assessment, something that couldn't happen until this summer when we had scored submissions for *Component 4: Effective and Reflective Practitioner*.

As part of this process, we conducted 38 standard setting studies with 271 Board-certified teachers across the United States to help set the National Board performance standards across 25 certificate areas and the specialties within them. With careful planning and execution by our psychometric and assessment team, and with close and careful stewardship by our Technical Advisory Group, this was a tremendous undertaking that required and has since received full review and approval by the Certification Council and NBPTS Board of Directors. As a result, we're pleased to share that the assessment results have established evidence of reliability, validity, and fairness. We're proud of this feat, one we've been working towards for more than three years!

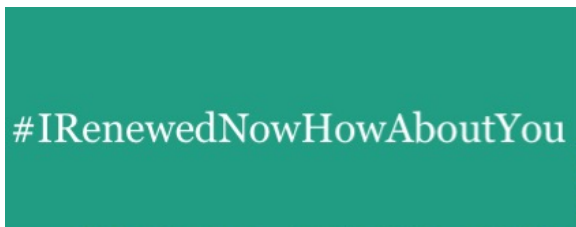
While waiting for more information on the performance standard for certification, we encourage you to re-review the scoring rubrics (found in the [certificate-specific instructions](#)), which describe the quality of evidence required for accomplishment.

As mentioned earlier, we plan to provide an update on the total weighted scaled score by November 6. Work is currently underway to update the Scoring Guide with new information and sample score reports. The updated Scoring Guide and other resources will be available by early December. Similar to previous years, we can only say at this point that scores will be released on or before December 31, but we commit to notifying you as soon as we can confirm the score release date.

In closing, we thank you again for your patience as we near the end of the redesign process. It's been a long process, but one tended to with the highest quality and greatest expertise. As a result, we are excited and confident that soon, we will successfully certify the first class of NBCTs in the redesigned process. Until then, expect us to provide new information as it becomes available, with the next communication scheduled for November 6.

April Jones | Director, Outreach and Engagement

National Board for Professional Teaching Standards



More National Board Resources

Toolkit for School and System Leaders- We've developed a thorough set of tools designed to help expand Board certification in an intentional way. The toolkit, focusing on the "cohort model" includes two separate (extensive) pieces (The Case for Change and Tools for Implementation), a new video from Clark County and about 30 documents that are resources to help implement these programs. The toolkit can be found at: <http://www.nbpts.org/cohort-toolkit>. Thanks to the many staff members and colleagues in Hillsborough, Wake County, Clark County and Illinois who supported this work.

Awareness Campaign for Teachers- NBConnect houses materials developed to (re)introduce Board certification to teachers. [Download](#) media such as [posters, social media graphics, and other resources](#) to build awareness of Board certification. Watch the [ACT Video Tutorial](#) to learn more about these exciting materials!

NBCTs have been sharing on the NB website- Here are the latest blogs (and podcasts) from NBCTs. The blog page is updated several times a week. [Read it here](#). Please share these on social media to keep NBCTs in the news. If you or teachers in your networks have a great story/blog to share, please reach out to me or Richard Klein, rklein@nbpts.org.

📧 [Click here](#)