

SUSD Celebrates Its National Board Certified Teachers

Receiving the National Board Certification credential is one of the highest achievements in the teaching profession. Recently, 13 Scottsdale Unified School District teachers earned the distinction by completing the rigorous National Board Certification process. They are: Mary Trent, DCMS; Sue Mc Auslan, Tavan; Cathy Weise, Tavan; Pat Collofello, Navajo; Dedra Cannon, Tavan; Stacey Greene, Hopi; Alicia Majercin, Navajo; Donna Sheber, Zuni; Susie Baldwin, Hopi; Wes Wagner, Ingleside; Jennifer MacColl, Chaparral; Megan Kraatz, Aztec and Diane Murphy, Coronado District Annex.

These teachers have joined 12 other educators in the District who have earned the distinction. They are: Joani Share, Arcadia; Malcomb Leinwohl, Chaparral ; John Andrews, DMHS; Sharon Guttell, Cochise; Mary Zongolowicz, Career Ladder Peer Evaluator; Debbie Voris, Hopi; Christine Hawes, Ingleside; Susan Vairo, Pueblo; Bobbie Faulkner, Career Ladder Peer Evaluator; Alison Bosworth, Hopi; Laurie Ritt, Aztec and Dr. Barbara McLoone, Special Education.

National Board Certification is an advanced teaching credential that signifies excellence and demonstrates that a teacher has met the rigorous standards through intensive study, self-assessment and evaluation. This voluntary program is designed to identify, recognize and reward accomplished teachers who meet high standards based on what teachers should know and be able to do. Developed by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), National Board Certification strengthens and reaffirms teaching strategies, adds credibility to the teaching profession and represents the profession's highest standards.

Teachers are certified in each state according to state-defined criteria. National Board Certification complements, but does not replace, a state's teacher licensing requirements. In most states, it meets the NCLB definition of "highly qualified teachers."

To be eligible for the National Board Certification, teachers must have three years experience, a valid teaching license and a baccalaureate degree. After teachers have become eligible to become a National Board, they will take a Pre-Candidacy class to prepare for the certification process. Then, teachers can pursue candidacy through Career Ladder Cohorts to support them through the process, which takes between one and three years depending on the pathway a teacher chooses. SUSD teachers receive funding assistance from the District and the Arizona State Department of Education.

For more information about National Board Certification, please visit the [Career Ladder](#) Web page and the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards Web site at www.nbpts.org.