

Title of Session: National Board Certification Support Group

Moderator: Gayle Britt

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Room: National Board Certification Group

BJB2: Welcome to tonight's NBC discussion. Gayle is the discussion leader. We usually start all Tapped In discussions with introductions

BJB2: please tell Gayle where you are located, what you teach, and what interests you about NBC.

GayleB: Hi All. I'm in the San Francisco Bay Area.

GayleB: I teach 7/8 history, English, technology mornings

HeatherBu: I teach Tech in a rural Texas middle school

ErinWi: Hi. I'm Erin. I'm new to Tapped In. I'm in Louisville, KY. 2nd grade

GayleB: And in the afternoons I am associate director curriculum instruction at a high school I helped start.

GayleB: Wow! We are from all over!

JeffC: I'm Jeff Cooper, on Helpdesk here, in Forest Grove Oregon. I'm wondering if national certification will eventually mean that educators may teach in all 50 states.

GayleB: I received NB certification in social studies in 2000 and work at Stanford one Saturday a month helping candidates

GayleB: Are you all interested in becoming candidates?

HeatherBu: Yes, at least I think I am.

ErinWi: Yes--I have signed up but haven't really gotten started yet.

HeatherBu: . o O (a little nervous about the prospect)

GayleB: Jeff, the certificate is recognized by most of the states.

GayleB: Heather, NB has something now called "Take ONE" where a person can submit one entry for scoring

HeatherBu listens eagerly

GayleB: It can then be "banked" for three years

GayleB: Some people are interested in doing that because they are very busy and want to ease into it

ErinWi: Does the Take ONE only allow you to do one entry like that?

GayleB: It is new, but yes, I think so.

HeatherBu: I was also wondering about applying to be a scorer, to get an idea of what all is involved.

GayleB: Oh Heather, that is a good idea.

GayleB: I worked with a teacher last year who had done that

GayleB: He seemed to know very well what was expected

GayleB: The write up for each of the portfolio entries has three parts

GayleB: Describe, Analyze, and Reflect

GayleB: Many times teachers spend most of their write-up describing...

ErinWi: Heather--have you looked at the portfolio and scoring guides on the NBCT website? They are very helpful.

HeatherBu: I've just taken a quick look, but I'm going to look more closely.

HeatherBu: Gayle, I'm not certain which category I would fall into.

HeatherBu: I'm not a "Career and Tech Ed" certified teacher, but instead a Technology Applications certified.

HeatherBu . o O (also secondary English)

GayleB: Yes, Heather, I, too, have felt that there isn't one that fits the technology teaching we do.

GayleB: You could do English. You'll need a class for your English lessons

HeatherBu: I haven't taught English for a while, and am the sole Tech teacher on my campus, so it's not likely I'll be back in English soon.

GayleB: There is a middle school generalist, but then you have to know every subject!

HeatherBu: Do you think NBC might be adding a Tech area for us?

GayleB: I don't know, but I think you should email NB and ask if the Career one is a fit.

HeatherBu: Will do. Thanks Gayle

GayleB: Erin, what about you? Have you gotten your box?

ErinWi: Yes--But I haven't really started anything. I do have a mentor but she doesn't get trained until next month. I was going to start by reading the standards to internalize them more.

JeffC: Once someone gets nbc... the site says it doesn't replace state credentialing... so... that means that teachers still have to enter a state and go through each individual state's licensing requirement... is there something in the works to change that?

HeatherBu: Jeff, Texas will accept NBC for out of state teachers

SherryLC: Most states won't though

HeatherBu: They don't have to take the dreaded ExCet tests

GayleB: Erin, this is a good time to start because you have the summer. I have one person who is starting now and will take the assessment part in June.

JeffC: My feeling is that the amount of testing teachers take has a tremendous chilling effect on the profession.

JeffC: Indeed, I don't even know if I'm willing to jump through a bunch more hoops to get my license reinstated anywhere (it lapsed a few years ago).

ErinWi: Some have told me to wait to take the test until after my portfolio. Any thoughts?

SherryLC: I am not concerned about the testing. I feel like I will be a better teacher because of the process.

HeatherBu nods

GayleB: Jeff, it is state by state, but I have been told that most will accept it. I wonder if NCLB changed things.

GayleB: I agree Sherry. It was the best staff development I ever did.

SherryLC: You have to want to be Nationally Board Certified and then not mind the work.

GayleB: NB is promoting "Take One" as staff development.

GayleB: I like the way I was required to self-evaluate against national standards

JeffC: Is there going to be a tech standard, perhaps based upon ISTE standards?

HeatherBu: Gayle, do you happen to have a link for the Take One? I can't seem to find it...

JeffC: I mean tech certification

SherryLC: There is. Career and technical

SherryLC: It is the one I am applying for

GayleB: Yes, here comes a link

GayleB: <http://www.nbpts.org/takeone/>

GayleB: Oh, Sherry, tell us more about the Career and technical

HeatherBu: Sherry, we were talking about that. I'm not a CATE teacher, but a Tech Apps teacher.

HeatherBu . o O (Thanks, Gayle)

SherryLC: I was told that that is where I need to be looking

SherryLC: I was talking to a teacher from SD that is a computer teacher and that is what her NBC is in.

GayleB: Did she give any details about what the entries entail?

SherryLC: No. She is going to meet with me this summer and help me get everything laid out for the school year.

SherryLC: She said she would mentor me through the process

GayleB: Are you in the SD area?

SherryLC: South Dakota

GayleB: Oh, duh, I was thinking San Diego!

SherryLC: That happens a lot.

SherryLC: Sorry, I should have been more specific!

JeffC: how many teachers are now NBC certified nationwide... and how many teachers are there nationwide?

GayleB: Jeff, here comes the website

GayleB: http://www.nbpts.org/nbct/nbctdir_bystate.cfm

GayleB: This gives the number by state.

GayleB: I see that Oregon has very few.

JeffC: Interesting to see that North Carolina and Florida have over 1/3 of the 47,000 nationwide.

GayleB: Heather, do you know anyone who can give you info about the Career and Tech cert.

HeatherBu: No, I'm afraid I don't.

SherryLC: Oregon is great compared to South Dakota!

HeatherBu: I see that we've got 233 nbcts in Texas, but none that I've ever met.

HeatherBu: I'm hoping I'll find someone through this group in TI

GayleB: I'm really surprised that I have never met anyone going for that cert. area

JeffC: I'm kind of curious about what is going on in Florida and North Carolina.

HeatherBu: If you do run across someone, I would love to get in touch with them.

JeffC: In Oregon, almost all teachers have to go for a Masters degree.

GayleB: Sherry, I think we want to hear more from your friend.

JeffC: That's the step they go through either after graduation, or getting their initial license. Anything about National Certification would have to come after that.

HeatherBu: Yes, definitely!

SherryLC: I am at a conference right now. I will see if I can track her down tomorrow.

GayleB: My email is: gbritt@smcoe.k12.ca.us

SherryLC: got it!

GayleB: Heather and Sherry, do you mind giving me your emails

GayleB: But, I'd like to find out more about the Career and Tech cert and send you some info.

HeatherBu: It would be greatly appreciated.

SherryLC: Great!

SherryLC: I will track Mary down and pick her brain. Since this is her field, I am assuming she knows a lot

GayleB: Jeff, perhaps those states give monetary incentives

GayleB: California did when we had money!

JeffC: good point Gayle

SherryLC: Do you get no extra money?

GayleB: California will still give \$20,000 to a NB teacher who teaches at a low scoring school

JeffC: either that and/or they actually paid teachers to go through the process...

HeatherBu: Not a drop from Texas, although about 6 districts offer incentives.

GayleB: My district paid for me to go through the process.

HeatherBu: WOW, Gayle! That's impressive!

HeatherBu . o O (the 20K)

JeffC: how much was the whole thing? I saw a figure of \$500... but I haven't gone through the whole site.

GayleB: My salary was also increased as it would if I had gotten a second masters

SherryLC: Here, there is a scholarship for part of the cost and then you are reimbursed when you are certified. We get \$2000 a year for the first five years and could get that much for years 6 - 10 IF our districts pay half.

SherryLC: \$2500

HeatherBu . o O (trying not to turn green with envy)

SherryLC: 2nd masters doesn't count here

GayleB: My chat isn't working anymore

SherryLC: Masters + 45 is max

SherryLC: Or the Ed Specialist is the same as that

JeffC: looks like it is to me Gayle! so... I'm still a little confused... how much does it cost to get NBCed?

SherryLC: \$2500

SherryLC: \$500 now and the rest due in January or something like that

JeffC: ok

JeffC: well... if school districts bump your pay as though you got a masters, that sounds like a good investment then. and I imagine the work you have to do for it isn't as much as what you'd have to do for a masters.

SherryLC: I don't know about that

JeffC: personally... it's moot to me... I haven't been in a k-12 classroom for over 5 years.

SherryLC: This looks like a very lot of work to me!

JeffC: you think the work is equivalent to a masters?

GayleB: Oh, I think it is just as much work as a masters

SherryLC: Yes, I agree

JeffC: ok... I stand corrected... well... at least it's a lot cheaper than a masters.

SherryLC: So does my advisor for the Masters I am working on now

GayleB smiles

HeatherBu: I'm wondering if I could get my district to agree to accept NBC for a master's pay.

GayleB: Heather, you should try.

SherryLC: Or you could enroll at USD with me, Heather!

SherryLC: Summer classes are starting in June!

HeatherBu: I hate to always be factoring in the \$\$, but that's the reality of life.

GayleB: Collect some data and present it to them. I believe there may be some info on the NB site

HeatherBu: I know, Sherry. I've still got the info.

SherryLC: Try teaching in SD. Money IS a factor!

SherryLC smiles

HeatherBu: I'll search the site, Gayle, thanks.

SherryLC: Gayle, I added you to my buddy list. I hope that's OK

HeatherBu: Gayle, other than this room, does NBC have a presence here at TI? Or something similar, for support and learning.

GayleB: Sherry, sure!

HeatherBu . o O (me, too)

GayleB: No, Heather.

HeatherBu: Oh. That could be problematic for some teachers (like me) who aren't close to an urban center.

GayleB: I do this the last Monday, but it has been a different group each time...nothing ongoing

GayleB: I'd love for it to be ongoing

HeatherBu nods in agreement

DavidWe agrees with Heather's nodding

SherryLC: Well, since I am sending in my application, you can count me in.

BJB2: we have this group room...if you join the group you can use the threaded discussion board

SherryLC: I am going to need all the support I can get!

HeatherBu: Jeff, is this something that might work with the festival?

GayleB: Ok. Let's do it!

HeatherBu: I'm in!

DavidWe smiles

SherryLC: Heather's always in!

GayleB: I'm not doing these Mondays during the summer, but we can have meetings here if we need to.

HeatherBu . o O (in trouble...thanks to Sherry!)

BJB2: good idea about the festival, Heather

GayleB: BJ, how about starting up the last Monday in August.

SherryLC . o O (Not trying to get you in trouble...just like your enthusiasm!)

SherryLC: I can be here then!

DavidWe . o O (Monday, 28 August)

BJB2 nods and makes a note

GayleB: We can email to set up other meetings.

HeatherBu: Sounds great.

BJB2: Gayle, the theme of the festival is professional development

SherryLC: Have I mentioned that I love TI?

GayleB: Starting this adventure is very exciting

DavidWe: Thanks for mentioning that, Sherry

GayleB: BJ that works perfect since NB process is really staff dev

GayleB: When is your next festival

DavidWe: July

HeatherBu wonders if Gayle can attend part of the next planning meeting

GayleB: I'm teaching in China in July

DavidWe: Where, Gayle?

GayleB: Western China - Xinjiang

GayleB: the Silk Road

DavidWe: Wow, very cool - western end of the Silk Road

GayleB: I went there during Spring break as well and I'm afraid it is difficult to have a reliable access to specific websites.

DavidWe: I can imagine

DavidWe: Who are you teaching, Gayle?

GayleB: Chinese teachers who teach English

DavidWe: Very cool...how did this come about? Do you know any Chinese?

GayleB: Taking lessons...but pronunciation is killing me

GayleB: Went well a group a couple of years ago and have been four times since.

GayleB: Anyway...

GayleB: It is almost time to go home...so...next steps...

GayleB: We'll all meet again Aug. 28.

HeatherBu: Great.

HeatherBu: Thank you, Gayle.

SherryLC: I have homework to do so I need to scoot

SherryLC: Thanks for the info

DavidWe waves

GayleB: We'll email if we want to have an unscheduled discussion....like when you get your boxes

HeatherBu: Ok

SherryLC: I will email you when I do!

SherryLC: Thanks and take care!

HeatherBu waves bye to all

SherryLC left the room.

HeatherBu left the room.

GayleB: Thank you all. See you next time....

DavidWe: Thanks, Gayle

GayleB smiles