

Title of Session: National Board Certification Support Group

Moderator: Gayle Britt

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Room: National Board Certification Group

GayleB: Suzanne, are you here to learn more about NBC?

SuzanneP: Yes, I'm all signed up and taking the test on Dec 22. I was hoping to listen in on the conversation to see how/what others are doing

GayleB: Wow...What is your area?

BJB2: wow! Good for you, Suzanne!

SuzanneP: ELA-AYA

SuzanneP: I'm from WI but teaching overseas

GayleB: Is there a testing center you must go to?

SuzanneP: I'm back in WI over Xmas, so I'm taking it then

GayleB: Let's do quick introductions. I'm Gayle Britt and I teach middle school in CA. I certified in Social Studies

BJB2: I'm a communications teacher in Pennsylvania

BJB2: David is in New Jersey. He teaches teachers how to use technology

BJB2: . o O (and he's the master of multitasking)

GayleB smiles

SuzanneP: I'm a WI K-9 LA and K-12 Reading Teacher, but currently teaching grades 7-12 English in Aruba

GayleB: How exciting!

SuzanneP: Hot!

GayleB: Have you turned in your portfolio?

GayleB: Yes, I imagine the weather is different than WI!

DavidWe: I'm a teacher education working mostly with math teachers. I'm also a HelpDesk volunteer for Tapped In. I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

GayleB: Thanks, David.

SuzanneP: I have two classes in which the parents do not want their kids video taped. How have you dealt with that? For one class, I'm going to be starting Socratic Circles and I'm not sure how to situate the student.

SuzanneP: I haven't turned in the port. I'm going to have to focus on that in Jan/Feb

GayleB: I had the student who didn't have the permission turned in be my video taper

NormaSp joined the room.

BJB2: Welcome, Norma. We've just started

NormaSp: thanks.

GayleB: Others have just made sure the video never included that group

GayleB: Hi Norma

NormaSp: hi everyone

SuzanneP: I don't have large enough classes to have several small groups.

GayleB: Norma please introduce yourself.

GayleB: We are discussing how to video tape when we don't have permission from all the students.

SuzanneP: I'm teaching AP English at the same time - in the same room, as Regular English. So that isn't technically a small group - it is two different classes.

GayleB: I see.

NormaSp: Hi I am from Mission, TX and I teach Business Computer Information Systems Course, A career Connections course and keyboarding. I am pursuing a doctorate degree in educational leadership from TX A&M Kingsville

GayleB: Are you interested in National Board?

NormaSp: I teach at an Alternative Center for Education

NormaSp: Actually I was wondering what this was all about

GayleB: Suzanne, I wonder if that might qualify as one class. You might call the NB.

SuzanneP: Well, it is two different curriculums.

GayleB: Norma, Today nearly 50,000 teachers are National Board Certified. As leaders in their schools, they are in a unique position to transform teaching and learning. National Board Certification is supported in every state by school districts, principals and community and political leaders who believe that quality teaching leads to improved student learning

NormaSp: How does one get certified?

GayleB: To become NBC teachers must go through a rigorous examination of their own teaching against national standards

SuzanneP: I appreciate the thought and effort that went into the 5 Core standards from NBPTS. I hope that these standards are being used at the teacher-prep level.

NormaSp: Is it for all courses or only the core courses

GayleB: They must submit a portfolio and take an exam in their subject area

NormaSp: What are they looking for? What type of experience?

NormaSp: What type of credentials?

GayleB: There are 5 Core Teaching Standards that they feel make an exemplary teacher

NormaSp: What are those standards?

GayleB: The web site is:

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

NormaSp: thx I will read up on it

JeffC: http://www.nbpts.org/the_standards/the_five_core_propositio

GayleB: Proposition 1: Teachers are Committed to Students and Learning

GayleB: Proposition 2: Teachers Know the Subjects They Teach and How to Teach Those Subjects to Students.

GayleB: Proposition 3: Teachers are Responsible for Managing and Monitoring Student Learning.

GayleB: Proposition 4: Teachers Think Systematically about Their Practice and Learn from Experience.

GayleB: Proposition 5: Teachers are Members of Learning Communities.

SuzanneP: I downloaded all the instructions and standards and read through them all before I decided to spend the 2,500USD on the process.

GayleB: The portfolio is evidence of meeting all the standards

NormaSp: Suzanne what made you decide to proceed with the process?

GayleB: The portfolio entries involve collecting student work, video taping your teaching, etc.

GayleB: Examining my teaching against national teaching standards was the best staff development I've ever done.

NormaSp: How were your standards different from the national standards?

GayleB: After getting past watching myself on the video I was able to look at myself and see where I could improve my teaching

SuzanneP: Well, I have been in this school for 2 years, and I have to move at the end of the year, so now was a bit more settled time for me. Plus, I have to renew my license and NB satisfied the prof. dev. requirements. I've also considered working on my PhD. but am finding it difficult/expensive being overseas. This seemed like a good option.

GayleB: NB certification is recognized by almost all the states

NormaSp: Wow..it does sound like a better option Suzanne

NormaSp: That is always an advantage-Gayle

GayleB: Suzanne, have you done the practice tests

SuzanneP: 'No - is it in the tutorial section?

GayleB: We recommend that you actually practice taking it.

GayleB: Yes.

NormaSp: Gayle why did you decide on the NB Certification

NormaSp: Any recommendations for those of us still debating on NBC

GayleB: I mentor social studies teachers, so we look at AP tests. You might look at those too.

SuzanneP: Is it set up just like the testing situation?

GayleB: Yes, it is.

GayleB: Norma, I'm an over achiever always looking to improve myself and NB seemed like a good way. I certified in 2000.

GayleB: Norma, it takes a lot of time...maybe 200+ hours

NormaSp: Great!..What could you advise a teacher like me that is considering it?

GayleB: But, well worth it.

GayleB: Many teachers decide they'll take two years to complete it.

NormaSp: what was the hardest part of the certification?

GayleB: NB has a new option called "Take One"

NormaSp: which means?

GayleB: A teacher can do just one portfolio entry and have it scored

GayleB: The score will be banked (if it is high)

NormaSp: what do you mean by one portfolio entry?

GayleB: and the next year the teacher just has to complete the 3 other entries.

GayleB: The portfolio has 4 entries.

NormaSp: the entries consist of what?

GayleB: there's small group and large group

GayleB: For social studies one was "teaching reasoning through writing"

GayleB: For the two group entries video tapes and student work must be submitted

NormaSp: ok so you video tape the lesson and then send it off to them for review

GayleB: For the other student work is submitted

GayleB: Actually you do a 12 page write-up analyzing your video

NormaSp: So you analyze the good the bad and the ugly

GayleB: You describe what the lesson was and your goals; you analyze what happened; and you reflect on what you could improve.

NormaSp: I see where one would learn a lot from such analyzation

GayleB: Your portfolio is evidence of your meeting the national teaching standards.

NormaSp: Very interesting and challenging it seems

GayleB: "Take One" might be something to consider

GayleB: It will cost \$350-\$400

NormaSp: yes definitely it is always better to take it a step at a time

GayleB: Some school districts will pay it. My school district paid the whole amount for me.

NormaSp: is anyone else in this chat room certified?

GayleB: NB has a very good reputation and many school districts provide incentives for their teachers to go through it.

GayleB: Suzanne is well on her way!

SuzanneP: Hee, hee - I haven't put fingers to keyboard yet on the write ups!

GayleB: Well, you have until March 30?

NormaSp: This is all great and something I will consider.

SuzanneP: Yeah - I just need to keep collecting work and pondering about it.

GayleB: I remember really getting down to it in January.

GayleB: I did the same thing.

GayleB: Video-taping and collecting work

NormaSp: I want to read more about this on the website you emailed me Gayle

GayleB: Great!

NormaSp: I don't have any more questions..

NormaSp: I am sure I will have more after I read up on it.

GayleB: Suzanne, have your questions been answered?

NormaSp: You all meet the last Monday of every month right?

GayleB: Yes, please come again.

NormaSp: I sure will. Thanks.

NormaSp: bye:)

GayleB: Bye, Norma.

SuzanneP: I don't have too many questions, yet. I'm sure I will in Jan/Feb

GayleB: Please come back. I think some more support providers are planning to join us.

BJB2: This NBC support group meets on the last Monday of the month, Suzanne...

BJB2: and you should join this group so you're subscribed to the discussion board

BJB2: that way if you have a question you can post to the group

SuzanneP: Okay

GayleB: Yes, I'll check in in Dec. to see if anyone is here. Maybe all will be on vacation, but maybe some will be doing NB

BJB2: to join the group go to the welcome note on the screen above this chat window

BJB2: click on the green i next to This is the group room for National Board Certification

BJB2: that will show you the group ID page...at the top of the page is join this group

SuzanneP: I am joined.

BJB2 cheers. Good job, Suzanne!

GayleB: Great. You can always email me there.

SuzanneP: Okay - I'm off to watch the Packer Game!!!!

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Go Packers!

GayleB: See you next time.

SuzanneP left the room (signed off).

GayleB: Bye, BJ, David, Jeff. Thanks for your help.

BJB2: next NBC is January?

DavidWe: Thanks, Gayle

GayleB: I'll check in in Dec.

BJB2 nods

GayleB: Teachers always use holidays to work

DavidWe smiles

BJB2 . o O (last Monday is Christmas day!)

GayleB: No, I won't be here Christmas Day.

BJB2: whew! Glad to hear that!

GayleB: So, Jan. it is.

BJB2 nods