

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:40 p.m. on March 8, 2005, in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Barbara Allen- excused

Committee staff present: Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes  
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Linda Sobieski, Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification, Emporia State University  
Terry Forsyth, Kansas National Education Association

**SB 11–National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification Incentive Program**

Deb Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department, explained that **SB 11** amends the statutes governing the National Board Certification Program. Under current law, board certified teachers receive a salary bonus of \$1,000 for each year of the ten year certification. In addition, teachers who are pursuing certification receive a scholarship of \$1,000 to cover some of the costs of the certification process. These two items apply only to individuals who are in an initial certification period. Some of those individuals who have gone through the ten year period are now renewing their certification. The Legislative Educational Planning Committee chose to introduce **SB 11** to eliminate the ten-year time limitation. With the bill, recertified teachers would receive the salary bonus. The bill would also codify the scholarship. The bill would authorize \$1,100 scholarships for teachers who are accepted in the program for initial certification and \$500 for teachers who are renewing their certification. Ms. Hollon noted that Division of Budget estimated that the fiscal impact of the bill at \$8,000 for FY 2006. However, several years later the costs would grow to approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 as the recent influx of teachers who have gained certification come to the end of their ten-year certification.

Linda Sobieski, Director, Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification in the Jones Institute at Emporia State University, testified in support of **SB 11**. She outlined National Board Certification facts relevant to the bill and discussed the National Board certification renewal process. In addition, she called attention to a chart attached to her written testimony showing the scoring rubric that the National Board uses when they evaluate the renewal process. (Attachment 1)

Terry Forsyth, Kansas National Education Association (KNEA), testified in support of **SB 11**. He noted that KNEA is very supportive of teacher participation in the National Board Certification process, and KNEA has worked with the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence to promote participation in the program. He pointed out that the process is rigorous and time consuming, and the assessment is based on high standards set by the National Board. (Attachment 2)

Following brief committee questions regarding the certification process, the hearing on **SB 11** was closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2005.



Prepared for  
Senator Jean Schodorf, Chair  
Senate Education Committee

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March 8, 2005

Senate Education Committee  
3-8-05  
Attachment 1

## **National Board Certification Facts relevant to SB 11**

- National Board Certification was developed by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS). NBPTS was first established in 1987, and the first certificates were field tested during the 1993-94 academic year.
- Nation-wide field-testing lasted from 1993-95. In 1995, the certificates became operational.
- When teachers achieve the NBPTS National Board Certification, the certificate is valid for 10 years.
- The first group of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) achieved this advanced certification in November 1994, thereby making the first expiration date November 2004.
- The first group of NBCTs in **our state** achieved this advanced certification in November 1995, thereby making the first expiration date for NBCTs in Kansas November 2005.
- In the spring of **2004**, NBPTS field tested its **first Renewal certification process**.
- One Kansas NBCT participated in the Renewal field test—**Susan Gronquist** from Alma, KS. She was successful. That means that when her National Board Certification expiration date comes up in November 2005, her certification will be extended another 10 years to 2015.

### **The National Board Certification Renewal Process**

- Though the process is not a duplication of the original performance-based assessment, **it is rigorous**, does include a performance-based component, and is designed to measure how, and in what way(s), the NBCT has grown professionally since first achieving National Board Certification.
- Teachers must demonstrate they **are still meeting high and rigorous standards**. The Renewal process has 3 major components that, taken together, measure growth and impact in 8 specific areas: 1. Identification of need, 2. Acquisition or deepening of content knowledge, 3. Acquisition or deepening of current or certificate-specific pedagogical knowledge, 4. Acquisition and/or effective and appropriate use of current technology, 5. Involvement of others, 6. Demonstration of standards-based relevant and meaningful instruction, 7. Equity of access and appreciation of diversity, and 8. Impact on student learning.
- Component #3 is the one that focuses heavily on a featured instructional-based learning experience where NBCTs must document significant impact on student learning.
- As within initial certification process, Renewal requires teachers to submit compelling evidence in support of each of the 3 components.

Attached is a graphic organizer created by Linda Sobieski in the Jones Institute at Emporia State University. Its design is a simple grid-type rubric. The content, details, and wording of this “Organization/Planning/Self-Evaluation Rubric for the NBPTS Renewal” process are taken directly from the NBPTS “Renewed” level rubric descriptors. The rubric is a part of the support materials the Jones Institute provides for NBCTs in Kansas who are seeking renewal.

**Organizational/Planning/Self-Evaluation Rubric for NBPTS *Renewal***  
 (Based on the NBPTS “Renewed” level rubric descriptors)

<i>Categories of Evaluation</i>	<i>Specific examples I believe are evidence of meeting this category</i>	<i>Specific documentation I believe supports my examples of evidence</i>	<i>OK</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>
1. Identification of important needs in my professional context.				
2. Professional growth in areas which address the identified needs in #1.				
3. Needs identified in #1 are addressed in a variety of rich and powerful contexts, including content and/or pedagogical knowledge.				
4. Application of professional growth that resulted in meaningful impact on student learning in the areas of need identified in #1.				

5. Acquisition of knowledge of current technology and/or effective and appropriate incorporation of technology into teaching and learning.				
6. Explanation of how and when I acquired the current technology.				
7. Have drawn on or contributed to the technology resources of the school, district and/or community.				
8. Evidence of teaching practice in my certificated-specific area that 1) recognizes the needs of students, 2) ensures equity of access, 3) promotes appreciation of diversity, and 4) provides relevant and meaningful instruction for students.				
9. Varied and/or multifaceted professional growth that has evolved since certification.				

10. Though there may be some unevenness in the level of evidence, when taken as a whole, the evidence I have provided demonstrates sufficient evidence of professional growth since certification.





Terry Forsyth Testimony  
Senate Education Committee  
March 8, 2005

Madam Chairperson, members of the committee, my name is Terry Forsyth and I represent Kansas NEA. I would like to talk with you today in support of Senate Bill 11 and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Kansas NEA is very supportive of participation in the National Board Certification process. We have worked hard with the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence to promote teacher participation in this program. We believe that this performance-based system of assessing teachers gets to the heart of what teaching is all about. It demonstrates how skilled a teacher is at assessing the needs of students, reflecting on how his or her own work guides students in learning and contributing to the overall performance of the school.

The process is rigorous and time consuming. It is not sitting for a paper and pencil, multiple choice test. Teachers create a portfolio to show their level of practice and then sit for an assessment that measures their ability to meet challenges placed before them. The assessment is based on high standards set by the National Board which consists of teachers, school administrators, higher education faculty, and representatives of the business community.

The National Board Certification process is now 10 years old. This means that teachers are beginning the renewal process for recertification. Senate Bill 11 continues the support for teachers seeking initial National Board Certification and extends that support to those who are now in the recertification process through fee subsidies. Additionally, SB 11 takes care of ensuring that teachers who successfully renew their board certification continue to receive the \$1000/year stipend. KNEA supports both of these measures.

We urge you to pass Senate Bill 11 and continue to support the great work involved in the National Board Certification process.

*Senate Education Committee  
3-8-05*