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HAWAII TEACHER
STANDARDS BOARD

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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Hawaii Gets 40 More National Board Certified Teachers

Honolulu, December 16, 2009:

40 more Hawaii teachers have achieved National Board Certification after undergoing a rigorous process of demonstrating highly accomplished teaching that meets the standards of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. All except three teach in Hawaii public schools.

According to the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, this is the second year that Hawaii has achieved this number of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs). Hawaii was one of 15 states that had at least a 20% increase in Hawaii's total number of NBCTs.

Dr. Jonathan Gillentine, Chairperson of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) and a National Board Certified Teacher, said he is extremely thrilled about the teachers' success because the HTSB has been a strong proponent of National Board Certification and has provided candidate support sessions for more than 10 years at no charge to teachers who are pursuing National Board Certification. "The process is rigorous and requires at least 400 hours of preparation," he said. "Candidates submit a portfolio of 4 entries—two require videotapes of the candidates' teaching, one requires student work samples, and one requires the teacher's documentation of professional accomplishments that impacted student learning. In addition, the teacher must complete 6 exercises at an assessment center. These exercises assess the depth and breadth of a teacher's knowledge of subject matter taught."

"Hawaii not only has 243 NBCTs, the vast majority of whom are employed by the DOE, but we also have 6 previously certified teachers who have now successfully renewed their National Board Certification," said Dr. Gillentine. "Most of our NBCTs teach in schools that serve large numbers of disadvantaged students." According to Gillentine, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board lobbied for incentives to encourage our many outstanding teachers to undergo this rigorous assessment and it's clear that we are making solid progress. Incentives include a \$5000 annual salary bonus for as long as the NBCT continues to teach and remains board certified. The \$5000 annual bonus for teaching in a restructured school or a school that has not made annual yearly progress (AYP) under the No Child Left Behind requirements is no longer offered due to budget cuts made by the Legislature. He also expressed concern that "with further budget cuts being discussed, funding for the candidate support program may be critically hurt and future candidates will not have the support needed to achieve certification."

The following are Hawaii's 2009 National Board Certified Teachers: (See attached list.)