Sub: COVID-19 and National Board Renewal - March 30 Update

Like many of you, we have spent the past week thinking about students, teachers and communities and how the COVID-19 crisis has affected people around the world. We also know your National Board journey has been affected. Today, we are announcing updates on deadlines and confirming that we are developing options for NBCTs who are unable to complete the Profile for Professional Growth (PPG) during this school year.

Update on Dates and Deadlines
The ePortfolio submission window will open on April 1 as planned and has been extended to June 12, 2020.

Option for Deferral
We understand there are circumstances that may make it impossible for you to meet the extended deadline. Deferral options will be available for any candidate who needs one. More information about deferral options for completing the 10-year Renewal process will be shared as soon as possible, including how to take action if you need to request a deferral.

Clarification on PPG Submission Requirements and Forms
In light of the unique instructional situations that so many teachers are experiencing, we are reviewing the PPG submission requirements for the evidence that must be provided.

We must ensure that any changes will uphold the quality standards that you and the teaching profession demand. We are convening our Technical Advisory Group (TAG) – an advisory board that provides guidance on best practices related to validity, reliability, accuracy, and fairness – to review potential changes and provide this assurance. As always, every aspect of the governance of National Board Certification is by teachers, for teachers.

Once the TAG has met, more details will be made available. In the meantime, you can read clarifications on portfolio submission requirements and forms online. We will post additional guidance as it becomes available.

National Board’s Resources and Upcoming Webinar
The National Board has created a dedicated page addressing the COVID-19 situation, highlighting recent announcements as well as virtual events, resources, and supports for teachers. The transition to virtual learning -- including learning some of the many available tools -- is a challenge. We are committed to providing support for this transition, especially in the context of the Board certification. See here for a full list of previous and upcoming webinars.

Notably, on Thursday, April 2 at 4:30pm ET, we will host a webinar specifically for first time and Renewal candidates that will be delivered by expert candidate support providers. Free
registration required -- or watch on Facebook Live. All replay materials will also be published here. We encourage you to share this information with colleagues -- even if they are not engaged in the National Board process.

Finally, we want to reiterate our commitment to being fair and flexible. Given the rapidly evolving situation, we will provide details and answers to your questions as quickly as possible. Our next update will be on April 6.

Know that we stand with you and all teachers across the country.

Together,

Peggy Brookins, NBCT, President and CEO, and the full National Board Team