



April 2016

Greetings!

In the Boardroom, we look to share news on the teaching profession, from teacher preparation to Board certification and teacher leadership. Often, we celebrate teachers and their significant accomplishments. It's mid-April and we are looking ahead just two short weeks to the designated time that many Americans will celebrate teaching: Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2-6). President Obama will celebrate teachers as will children, their parents and many other Americans.

What do we appreciate in teachers? We urge you to visit Facebook and Twitter and tell us by describing a [#teacherin3words](#).

Building the Teaching Continuum

A Pathway to Accomplished Practice

At the National Board we talk a lot about building a pipeline of teaching excellence so that all teachers are on a trajectory to Board certification. What would that look like? The structures and supports would be in place from day one so that by the time teachers begin the Board certification process they are already comfortable basing their practice on accomplished teaching standards, including analyzing their own instruction with video, collaborating and reflecting on the impact they are having on students.



Peggy Brookins, NBCT and President and CEO of the National Board, presented to hundreds of deans from institutions of higher education in late March to connect the dots between teacher assessments taken during teacher preparation, specifically the edTPA and National Board Certification. The [edTPA™](#) is a content-specific performance assessment for pre-service teachers modeled after the National Board Certification process. It requires teachers to videotape their practice and demonstrate they can plan appropriate instruction, evaluate student learning and reflect

on how to improve student outcomes by continuing to refine teaching plans and strategies. More than 54,000 teachers have taken the edTPA and will be eligible to begin the National Board process within the next few years.

One of the best ways we can build the bridge between pre-service teachers and Board certification is by making sure pre-service teachers have access to the classrooms of Board-certified teachers and that they have access to [ATLAS](#) - the National Board's library of [video case studies](#). Teacher educators are reporting that ATLAS has been an invaluable resource in teacher preparation, providing a clear image of accomplished teaching.

Spreading Your Expertise

Agents for Learning

The National Board is excited to be a sponsor of the [Agents for Learning](#) Competition along with Learning Forward, National Commission on Teaching & America's Future (NCTAF) and 11 other national education organizations. The goal is to engage educator teams in advocating for the best use of federal funding for professional learning under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Read our recommendations for states and districts in implementing Title II of ESSA [here](#) and get involved!

Opportunities:

- What should aspiring teachers know/do to become great? Teachers: [Share your feedback on Educators Rising Standards!](#) *Deadline: April 24.*
- [Apply](#) for a **Postdoctoral Fellowship** at TeachingWorks. *Deadline: May 23.*
- [Apply](#) to the **America Achieves Fellowship** - available positions open to Colorado and New York teachers and principals.
- [Apply](#) to **DreamWakers** to connect 4th-12th grade students in high-need schools with speakers from well-known companies and organizations through 30-45 minute video "flashchats."

VIDEO: National Board Certification and the Value for Students

"As a Board-certified teacher, I know that no matter what kind of mandates come at me from the district, my priority is to be a child advocate and say, 'what is best for children?'" - Michael de la Torre, NBCT



What We're Reading

Teacher Leadership: Are We Getting a Realistic Picture in the Media?

Lately we've been seeing some buzz about teacher leadership programs in regards to their progress. The resulting question is: how do we determine success and why are we seeing mixed reviews? Megan Allen, NBCT, shares some thoughts on this, pointing out that these results can't be determined in just one year and, "we need to focus on the slow play, not the quick turn around." She also mentions that we're not yet living in a society that truly values the teaching profession, which is clear in the [portrayal of teachers on television](#). Read more on [her Education Week blog](#) and share your thoughts with us by Tweeting [@NBPTS](#)!

You'll Want to Bookmark These...

- [Hollywood Got it Wrong...But Washington Gets it Right](#) by Joanna Schimizzi, NBCT
The Standard
- [The Benefits of Adding Video to Teacher Evaluations](#) by Miriam Greenberg
EschoolNews
- [A Simple Cure for Education's Jargonitis](#) by Anya Kamenetz
NPRed
- [NOW is the Right Time to Consider National Board Certification](#) by Patrick Ledesma, NBCT
The Standard
- [What Accomplished Teachers Really Think about Federal Education Policy](#) by Katherine Bassett
Teacher-Leader Voices blog, Education Week
- [Reflecting on Teacher Leadership Through a Lens of Stewardship](#) by Jennifer Dines, NBCT
The Standard
- [It's Time to Make the Magic Happen!](#) By Sally Brothers, NBCT
The Standard

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