

NATIONAL BOARD

for Professional Teaching Standards®

January 12, 2021

Re: National Board-Certified Teachers – Support for Increased Funding

We respectfully urge that the funding to support, encourage, and incentivize teachers to achieve and maintain Board certification be maintained and expanded.

Decades of research have demonstrated that students of National Board-Certified Teachers (NBCTs) learn more [Impact Brief](#). NBCTs can provide the additional support that the highest need students require in order to achieve at levels equal to their less challenged peers.

Despite the finding that NBCTs provide a remarkable return on investment for our students and communities, North Dakota has a total of only 65 NBCTs statewide. There are currently only an additional 10 teachers working to attain NBCT status. We encourage you to consider expanding the existing funding to increase student access to NBCTs and allow students in our community to benefit from learning experiences that prepare them for the workforce and social challenges of the future.

NBCTs bring an especially high return on investment when serving in Early childhood classrooms as demonstrated in this [Mississippi Report](#) NBCTs can significantly boost grade level reading by 3rd grade. Providing fee supports, stipends and other incentives for teachers in critical need areas would support North Dakota learning goals.

Should you require additional information or wish to discuss specific aspects of the certification process, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,



Michelle Accardi, NBCT
Director Policy and Advocacy
National Board for Professional Teaching Standards