



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 29, 2016  
**TO:** State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Brian J. Whiston, Chairman   
**SUBJECT:** Presentation of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT)

National Board Certification is the most respected professional certification available in education and provides numerous benefits to teachers, students, and schools. It was designed to develop, retain, and recognize accomplished teachers and to generate ongoing improvement in schools nationwide.

While teacher licensure systems set the basic requirements to teach in each state, completion of National Board Certification signifies that teachers have voluntarily gone much further. NBCTs have developed and demonstrated the advanced knowledge, skills, and practices required of an outstanding educator.

For each of the 25 certificate subject areas, National Board Standards are developed by outstanding educators in that field who draw upon their expertise, research on best practices, and feedback from their professional peers and the education community. Once adopted by National Board's teacher-led Board of Directors, these standards form the foundation for National Board Certification.

Alisha Byrd of Southfield Public Schools and Arterra Barnes of Detroit Public Schools are the most recent teachers from the State of Michigan to become National Board Certified educators.

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