

JANUARY 2011

Director, Debra Kasperski, NBCT
Co-Director, Dr. Lynn Gaddis, NBCT

TAKE NOTE!

⇒ **IT IS CRITICAL** for NBCTs to keep their personal information current. Update Illinois NBCT's [Information](#).

⇒ **NBPTS CONFERENCE**

Registration is now open for the 2011 NBPTS Conference. It will be held July 28, 2011 at the Washington Hilton in Washington, DC. [More Info](#).

⇒ **FY2010 ANNUAL STIPEND**

The Comptroller released funds to districts on December 8, 2010. If you have not received your payment please follow up with your district. Refer to the [ISBE website](#) for more information.

⇒ The [NBRC White Paper](#) provides resources for school wide participation in the NBPTS *Take One!* experience to build community and improve student achievement. It includes research, what to do, and narratives from four Illinois schools.

Chicago Candidate Support

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CANDIDATE FEE SUBSIDY APPLICATION **Opens on February 15**

The 2011 Spring window for **600** first-time candidates will open on **February 15, 2011**. At that time, the fee subsidy application and instructions will be available on the [NBRC website](#) for National Board Certification. It's important to note that this will be the **LAST candidate subsidy application available to Illinois teachers over the next few years**. With 4,692 Illinois NBCT's and funding to support 600 candidates, we have the opportunity to build a community, continuing the growth and impact of NBCTs in Illinois. It is important that NBCTs demonstrate their dedication to NBPTS by continuing to grow the program. NBCTs can support and recruit candidates through Illinois' tough financial situation.

FY2011 NBCT Stipend Applications

The [Application for Master Certificate](#) and the [2010-2011 Verification of Eligibility for the Annual Stipend](#) forms have been posted on the ISBE website. Please apply for your Master Certificate no later than **March 31, 2011**. You cannot apply for the annual stipend until your Illinois Master Certificate has been issued. Monitor the status of your certificate at [Educator Certification System \(ECS\)](#). Those seeking to apply for stipends should continue to check the [ISBE website](#) for further information and for updates.

Do NOT contact the NBRC at ISU about stipend applications.

CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT

You are one of our most powerful recruiters for National Board Certification. We encourage you to share the impact of your experience with other teachers, your principal and the entire school community because you can attest to the values of the process.

[Use Various Recruiting Strategies](#)

Virtual Candidate Support In addition to the 50 face-to-face Candidate Cohort Facilitators (CCFs) strategically located throughout Illinois, the National Board Resource Center at Illinois State University is piloting a VIRTUAL support system for candidates in outlying areas and in areas of low incidence certificates. The 12 virtual



Ann Min, Denise Gibbons, Sara Oehlert, Carole Allert

Illinois Teacher of the Year Annice Brave, NBCT, nominated for national award. Annice Brave, an English and journalism teacher at Alton High School was named one of four finalists for National Teacher of the Year. Brave was chosen for 2011 Illinois Teacher of the Year in October, and was the first teacher in Alton Community Unit District 11 to earn National Board Certification. "I am honored and humbled to be named among these four finalists for this prestigious award," Brave said. "*Being named Teacher of the Year in Illinois has already provided an extraordinary opportunity to share the stories of educators and students.*"

As Illinois Teacher of the Year, she was automatically in the running for National Teacher of the Year. A panel of educators, representing the 14 largest national education organizations, chose the finalists and will select the national honoree. According to The Illinois Board of Education, it has been more than 40 years since a teacher from Illinois has been chosen for this honor. Illinois NBCTs are excited for Annice Brave and wish her the best.

PAY IT FORWARD

Many NBCTs have benefited from the mentoring services which have been offered through the Illinois Comprehensive Support System in the past. Now is the time to pay it forward by volunteering as a mentor. Add your name to the [list of NBCT Mentor Volunteers](#)

CCF's met on January 22nd to further develop coaching skills used in supporting a virtual adult learning community. The CCFs provide candidates with resources, mentoring, coaching, guidance and technical assistance. They offer intellectual, logistical and emotional support while maintaining the [NBPTS Guidelines for Ethical Candidate Support](#). Using a variety of online tools, the virtual CCFs encourage independence in the candidates they support. Sara Oehlert, NBCT, facilitated the group in Building an Effective Virtual Learning Community. Oehlert noted that, "Mentors have the opportunity to influence the culture of schools and the professional norms that we know can sustain our passion and improve our practice over time."