**TAKE NOTE!**

- **IT IS CRITICAL** for NBCTs to keep their personal information current. [Update Illinois NBCT’s Information](mailto:NBRC@illinoisstate.edu)
- **NBPTS CONFERENCE** Registration is now open for the 2011 NBPTS Conference. Last day for Early Bird Registration is May 31, 2011.
- **NBCT MENTORS**—Help candidates pack. [Video on Assembling, Packing & Shipping](mailto:daglowacki@cps.k12.il.us)
- **Power Point** for Illinois National Board Certification Awareness Building.
- **NBPTS Get Involved Action Center.** Stay informed about legislative issues facing schools and educators.
- **NBPTS offers** a variety of support for Recruitment including an Outreach Toolkit.

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**CANDIDATE FEE SUBSIDY APPLICATION REMAINS OPEN UNTIL MAY 15**

Currently 500 applications have been processed for the Illinois NBPTS Candidate Fee Subsidy that is currently available to 800 first-time Illinois candidates. The approved list of these candidates is continually increasing. For instructions and the fee subsidy application, go to the [NBRC website](http://www.isbe.net/profprep/nbpts.htm). Represent NBPTS and help to encourage and convey the significance of certification through NBPTS Recruitment.

**Become an Assessor**—Assessing for NBPTS is a great option for professional development and an invaluable part of the National Board Certification process. As part of the NBPTS scoring staff, assessors participate in rigorous training so that they can score candidate responses to portfolio or assessment center exercises. Scoring is conducted throughout weeklong scoring sessions that typically occur during the summer months. APPLY NOW! [Click here](http://www.isbe.net/profprep/nbpts.htm) for new information on scoring opportunities.

**SUPPORTING CANDIDATES**

**NBRC Podcasts for Candidate Assessment Center Preparation**

Podcasts, scripts and handouts created to support candidates to ethically prepare for the Assessment Center.

**Assessment Center Cohorts**

Cohorts are located throughout the state to help prepare candidates for the Assessment Center.

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**ICE 21 TRAINING FOR NBCTS** The I-KAN Regional Office of Education is offering ‘Induction for the 21st Century Educator (ICE 21) Training’ for NBCTs. Space is limited for the June 20-23 training. Please PRINT the registration form and mail it with a $50 deposit by June 6 to: Michelle ZumMallen, 189 E. Court St. Suite 6000, Kankakee, IL 60901.

*The deposit will be returned to you on the first day of training or if cancelled before June 6.*

All questions are to be directed to Michelle ZumMallen at mzummallen@i-kan.org

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**NBCTs ON THE MOVE**

2004 NBCT, Rena Pate will be presenting at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Annual Conference in Indianapolis on April 14. Her presentation is based on her recently published book "Primary Problem Solving Made Easy".

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**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS—NBPTS Support Program** will be hosting two additional information sessions on April 12 and April 27 at 4:30 pm—5:30 pm. The sessions are taking place at Talcott Academy, 1840 W. Ohio Street. For more information, please contact Debbie Glowacki at daglowacki@cps.k12.il.us or call 773.534.0741. Please encourage your colleagues!

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**PAY IT FORWARD**

Many NBCTs have benefited from mentoring services that have been offered through the Illinois Comprehensive Support System. Now is the time to pay it forward. Add your name to the list of NBCT Volunteer Mentors. Names of mentors will not be posted on the website. Volunteer Mentors will be monitored through the NBRC office.

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**Share Stories about NBCTs!**

Know an NBCT making a difference? Email us at nbrc@illinoisstate.edu and your story may be included in a future newsletter. Be sure to include your contact information along with your submission.

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**NBCTS Making a Difference—2002 NBCT, Frank Tomaszkiewicz**

After serving active duty in the Navy and upon the completion of his undergraduate work on the GI Bill in 1974, Tomaszkiewicz began teaching at William Hadley Junior High School in Glen Ellyn, IL. While there, he designed an Art Technology instructional program that became the first Career and Technical Education program in Illinois used for middle school students to focus on the Communications and Arts industry cluster. This Visual Arts program has gone on to become the longest continuing annual touring exhibition of middle school student art in the nation and overseas. Applying technologies used by Hadley Art Technology students, Tomaszkiewicz designed and taught eight different professional development graduate classes at Benedictine University. His courses contained strands connecting student learning with Accomplished Teaching and information about NBPTS standards and candidacy. Published abstracts of his work can be found in the American Journal of Art Education and the Journal of the International Society of Optical Engineers. As an NBPTS provider for high-need schools in the West 40 area of Cook County, Tomaszkiewicz testified in support of NB as improved student learning for the Illinois State Board of Education. He was certified in 2002 and is currently renewing his NBPTS certification.