

Merrett R. Stierheim, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2003
NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS**

**COMMITTEE: LEGISLATIVE RELATIONS, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PERSONNEL
SERVICES**

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) is an organization of teachers and other education stakeholders working to advance the teaching profession and to improve student learning. The National Board is governed by a 63-member board of directors, the majority of whom are classroom teachers.

In 1987, the National Board was created as a nonpartisan, independent, and nonprofit organization. Its mission is to establish high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do, develop and operate a national voluntary system to assess and certify teachers who meet those standards, and to advance related education reform for the purpose of improving student learning in American schools.

National Board Certified Teachers, having received the highest honor the profession has to bestow, serve as role models and spokespersons in the effort to build and strengthen the teaching profession. They are examples of what it means to be accomplished teachers, and they encourage others to complete the process.

As a participant in the NBPTS certification process, teachers are expected to complete the NBPTS Certification Portfolio, which requires a minimum of 120 to 200 hours of videotaping classroom instruction as well as intensive, reflective, and analytical writing activities; and undergo a rigorous written assessment, structured as six 30-minute essay responses on effective teaching practices and content knowledge.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools now has 198 new National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT), giving the district a total of 618 NBCTs. A list of the 2003 NBCTs will be forwarded to the Board under separate cover, and will be placed on file in the Citizen Information Center, the Office of the Board Recording Secretary, and the School Board Members office prior to the School Board Meeting of February 11, 2004.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, congratulate and acknowledge the accomplishments of the 2003 National Board Certified Teachers.

MRS/MHA:ldc