

National Board Update – Jane Baars

I want to congratulate Georgia's 8 newest NBCT art teachers:

Early and Middle Childhood –

Emily Barba Rome, Georgia

Lisa Casey Marietta, GA

Carol Mohor Gayetteville, GA

Deborah Wilson Roswell, GA

Early Adolescence/ Young Adult –

Kathleen Diggs Atlanta, GA

Betsy Eppes Atlanta, Ga

Donna Holder Springfield, Ga

Marsha Parm Tunnel Hill, GA

If you know or work with any of these ladies give them a pat on the back the next time you see them. Way to GO!!!

Now for the bad news:

As of May when the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 34 the benefits for new National Board Certified Teachers has changed. This bill addresses the “Georgia Master Teacher Program” which will establish criteria for Master

Teacher certification, or teacher coaches. Any person who had enrolled in the National Board process prior to March 1, 2005 and who obtains initial certification and subsequent renewals after July 1, 2006, shall be eligible for salary increases as stated in original NBCT rules. (10% state subsidy increase). (This is the grandfather clause for those already eligible)

The law goes on to states that the benefits are still available for new NBCT who teach in “Needs Improvement” schools as outlined as a Georgia public school that has received an unacceptable rating for a period of 2 or more consecutive years. The reimbursement procedures appear to be the same.

The next question then comes to mind as to how do we achieve Master Teacher Certification? Well, as of this point it has been turned over to a certification committee and I cannot find that requirements have been established as of now. Will give updates when this info becomes available. GAEA members have always been leaders in the state and intend to stay this way.