

Title of Session: National Board Certification Support Group

Moderator: Gayle Britt

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Room: National Board Certification Group

GayleB: Welcome to the National Board Certification discussion group. I'm Gayle Britt and I'll be your facilitator. Let's start by stating our names, location, grade/subject taught, and why we came to the discussion today.

GaryML: cool

GaryML: My name is Gary Livingston, and I teach 7th grade Texas History in San Antonio

BJB2: I'm a remedial communications teacher in Pennsylvania

GaryML: I'm also working on my Masters of info tech

GayleB: I teach 7th grad history and English in San Carlos, CA

GayleB: My NB certification is in history/social studies

GaryML: what does 7th grade history entail in cali

GayleB: It's world history from the fall of Rome to the Industrial Revolution

GaryML: wow, that's a lot to cover

GayleB: Teaching Texas history in San Antonio must be interesting.

GaryML: yes it is great, I'm trying to plan a field trip to the Alamo and other missions

GayleB: I want to make sure your questions are answered, Gary.

GayleB: Concerning National Board...

GaryML: Well, what's the primary duty of the NBC?

GayleB: By going through the process teachers can be nationally certified to teach in their field

GayleB: 48 of the 50 states, I think, accept the credential

GayleB: Mine is in history so if I move to Texas I would not have to get a Texas teaching credential to teach history

GaryML: Do most states have similar criteria?

JeffC: Is there any concurrent program that gets teachers NBC+Masters?

GayleB: The process is rigorous and based on national teaching standards

JeffC: Some states have reciprocity Gary, but not all.

GayleB: Yes to both.

GaryML: It seems some subjects like math would be more universal than others

GaryML: In history you have so many different state histories, that I could see there being problems

GayleB: It's based on teaching standards which include content, of course.

GayleB: For the exam I had to know American and world history

GayleB: I've never taught American so I had to study more for that part

GayleB: If you go to the website you can download the standards.

GayleB: Gary, have you been teaching long?

GaryML: this is only my second year

GayleB: A requirement is that one has to have taught for three years, but you can go for it while doing your third year.

GaryML: how long does the process take?

GayleB: Some people do it in one year; others take two.

GayleB: I did it in one, but it was difficult. It is like getting a masters I think.

GayleB: It was well worth it...the best staff development I've ever done.

GaryML: Well, if things go to plan hopefully I'll have my masters by Dec of 07 or may 08, then maybe I could look into this

JeffC: that's why I asked about concurrent programs for NBC and Masters... which universities have that Gayle?

GayleB: Jeff, I don't know which ones.

GayleB: Particularly in Texas, but I'll look into it

GayleB: Gary, where are you working on your masters?

BJB2 . o O (Jeff is in Oregon)

GayleB smiles

GaryML: online courses from A&M-Kingsville, which is a branch of the Texas A&M system

JeffC: doesn't matter where the university is, as long as they have an online program for a concurrent Masters + NBC certification. My guess is that it doesn't currently exist, but wow... what a marketing bonanza that would be.

GayleB: I agree.

GayleB: I wasn't thinking online, but that would be great.

GayleB: Pepperdine uses TI for some of their classes, doesn't it?

JeffC: the only masters I'll ever take at this point in my life would have to be online, and might as well have the NBC alongside it.

JeffC: Yes Gayle.

GayleB: Jeff, you've got a great idea there.

GaryML: My masters program requires us to use TI

GayleB: It is a great place for equity.

GayleB: I mean it isn't like the classroom where only a few raise their hands

JeffC: what program are you in Gary?

GaryML: Information Tech

JeffC: online ed will continue to get much bigger and gain more prestige as time goes on. as you say Gayle, you can't *not* participate in an online class. I'm teaching two now at Concordia University, and using Tapped In as well.

GayleB: Does Concordia offer a degree program?

JeffC: In Alan November's book that we're using as a text, he makes a comment that I flat out don't agree with. He says that online classes can't be synchronous... although certainly a program must include asynchronous, there's no reason synchronous meetings can't be part, and mandated, in an online class.

JeffC: Yes... Concordia has one, I'm teaching MAT Education students right now... the class started yesterday.

GayleB: I agree with you!

JeffC: It's like saying a brick and mortar university can't hold regular class times because some of the students can't make it.

GayleB: I did Pepperdine's online Masters in Educational Technology in 2002 and I well remember those early mornings in TI.

GayleB: And everyone in my cohort was there!

JeffC: I'm holding sessions here on Saturday and Sunday from 5-7 Pacific. Right now the meetings are "optional" but will soon be required to make one of those sessions... if students can't make it, then they'll have to arrange another time to meet with me (and others) online.

GayleB: Jeff, maybe Concordia would consider a masters + NBC program?

JeffC: I will certainly suggest it to them.

JeffC: I think that online MAT programs should be really less expensive than irl courses.

GayleB: Good point.

JeffC: Personally Gayle, and please don't take offense at this, but I'm really tired of jumping through academic hoops, whether it's for a MAT or NBC.

GayleB: Yes, I know what you mean. Have you heard of BTSA

JeffC: I'd really like to see things structured differently... for example, with online ed taking off... why not be able to structure your own course of professional study and get accredited? Why have to stick with one (virtual) university?

GayleB: I am an advisor to a beginning teacher and am astounded at the amount of paperwork that has to be done...more hoops...

JeffC: Please tell me about BTSA, no, haven't heard.

JeffC: <http://www.btsa.ca.gov/>

GayleB: It is the state of California's way of getting teachers from a temporary or preliminary credential to a credential.

JeffC is looking at the website.

JeffC: Well... I had a Professional Clear Credential in English when I was in California, renewed it once and then moved to Oregon. I've been here 6 years and am now credential-less.

GayleB: I wonder if you could get into the BTSA program to get it renewed? It might be worth looking into.

JeffC: hmm

JeffC: Well... being in Oregon might put a damper on things...

JeffC: Hi Nancy

GayleB: Yeah. But maybe it will be online one of these days.

GayleB: Gary, we've gone from NB to discussion about education programs. Are you getting your questions answered?

GaryML: yes, I am, thank you

GaryML: does the program cost money?

GayleB: Yes, it costs 2500.

GayleB: But my school district paid my fee and many do.

EriaC: yes 2500 dollars

GayleB: What state are you in?

GayleB: Yes, \$2500.00

GayleB: Sorry, my typing is getting sloppy.

GayleB: There are also scholarships.

EriaC: in the state of Wisconsin you get a 1250 scholarship if you work for Milwaukee public schools

GayleB: Washington Mutual gives one.

EriaC: does Washington Mutual give one to any teacher any where

GayleB: I don't know. I'll check that out.

GayleB: Are you applying for NB?

EriaC: thanks because I still owe 750

BJB2: if you are not a member of this group, I recommend that you join. Then Gayle can post answers to your questions to the discussion board

GayleB: Good idea.

BJB2: above this chat window is a welcome note

BJB2: . o O (if you have detached your chat, please attach)

BJB2: scroll down on the welcome note to This is the group room for NBC

BJB2: there is a green i next to the group name

BJB2: click on the green i

BJB2: at the top of the screen you will see a green link to join this group

BJB2: do you see that, Gary and Eria?

EriaC: yes I see it

GaryML: yep

EriaC: I should be in now

BJB2: once you've joined the group you are automatically subscribed to the discussion board

GayleB: I just found an old news article which says that Washington Mutual gave scholarships to teachers across the country. But I haven't found current info yet.

EriaC: have you started any of the entries?

GayleB: I certified in 2000 and now I am a support provider helping candidates who are in the support program at Stanford.

GayleB: Have you started?

GayleB: Many start with entry 4 to get it out of the way.

EriaC: yes, what did you certify in? I am doing middle child

GayleB: But it is good to start video taping right away.

EriaC: yeah I need two more accomplishments I also meet with other candidates once a month

GayleB: History/Social studies

GayleB: Middle child covers a lot of content!

EriaC: I haven't figured out what to video tape we have to do science and correlate it to math but what we are currently doing in science (ecosystems) it is difficult to find anything that I can video tape. Do you have any ideas?

EriaC: what state are you in

GayleB: I'm in California. Everyone finds that entry challenging

GayleB: In history the video entries are either small group or whole class. Which one is yours?

EriaC: can I just choose an experiment that is not related to the current topic for the sake of video taping

GayleB: Have you looked over the written questions? Does it ask where the lesson fits into the sequence of your curriculum?

EriaC: yes, but I'll check again because I don't recall seeing anything about where it fits in

GayleB: If you can answer all the questions and meet the standards then video tape it and have your group look at it in light of the standards

GayleB: The write-up which goes along with the video is very important.

EriaC: thanks I appreciate the help

GayleB: You can explain what happened and why and reflect on any changes you would make.

BJB2: before we run out of time, a reminder that the next NBC support group meeting will be November 27

EriaC: yeah I know I typed all the questions in to the computer so I can know what points to cover and not miss any

GayleB: Video tape often.

GayleB: I didn't use the first one I video taped.

EriaC: I'll see you than hopefully when you say video tape often does that mean do the same experiment several times or do several different experiments

GayleB: Thanks, BJ. I hope you'll all come again.

GaryML: Thanks for the discussion Gayle

GayleB: No. I mean video several different lessons.

GayleB: Gary, good luck.

GaryML: thanks, same to you

GayleB: Jeff and BJ, see you again soon.

BJB2 waves goodnight

GayleB: Eria, join us again next month and let us know how it is going.

GayleB waves bye