



MASBO

Montana Association of  
School Business Officials

MEA-MFT

Montana Education Association-  
Montana Federation of Teachers

MQEC

Montana Quality  
Education Coalition

MREA

Montana Rural  
Education Association

MTSBA

Montana School Boards  
Association

SAM

School Administrators  
of Montana

Montana School Educators,

As you know, recruiting and retaining highly qualified educators is of critical concern to Montana schools. Recent polling by the Montana Public Education Center (MT PEC) has shown that recruitment and retention of staff is the number one issue for many of our districts.

MT PEC brought this concern to the 2017 legislature. Because of our efforts two bills drafted to address this critical issue, HB 119 and SB 115, passed out of the session. HB 119 was a bill that expanded the Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program to include rural and isolated schools. However, it passed without the requisite funding necessary to implement the program. SB 115 was a bill that increased and annualized the state stipend for teachers that achieve or renew National Board Certification after July 1, 2017. It passed the session with funding attached.

The passage of SB 115 has raised the awareness of National Board Certification with teachers and administrators across Montana. However, more work needs to be done to inform educators about the NBC process. We would like to offer your district's teachers and administrators the opportunity to learn about National Board Certification process and the opportunities for candidate facilitation and mentorship.

The Montana Professional Teaching Foundation and MEA-MFT have been recruiting and facilitating NBC candidates since 1997. Currently, Montana has just over 100 active National Board Certified Teachers (NBCT). Our goal is to increase this number, especially in our rural schools. One of the ways we intend to do this is by presenting informational workshops. We have a cadre of trained NBCTS that are willing to come to your district and present information about NBC to your teachers and/or administrators.

If you wish to schedule a presentation or have questions regarding NBC, please contact Marco Ferro, MEA-MFT Director of Public Policy and Professional Development at (406) 447-1462 or [mferro@mea-mft.org](mailto:mferro@mea-mft.org).

Finally, you can learn more about National Board Certification at [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org).

Thank you!

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