

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 7, 2004

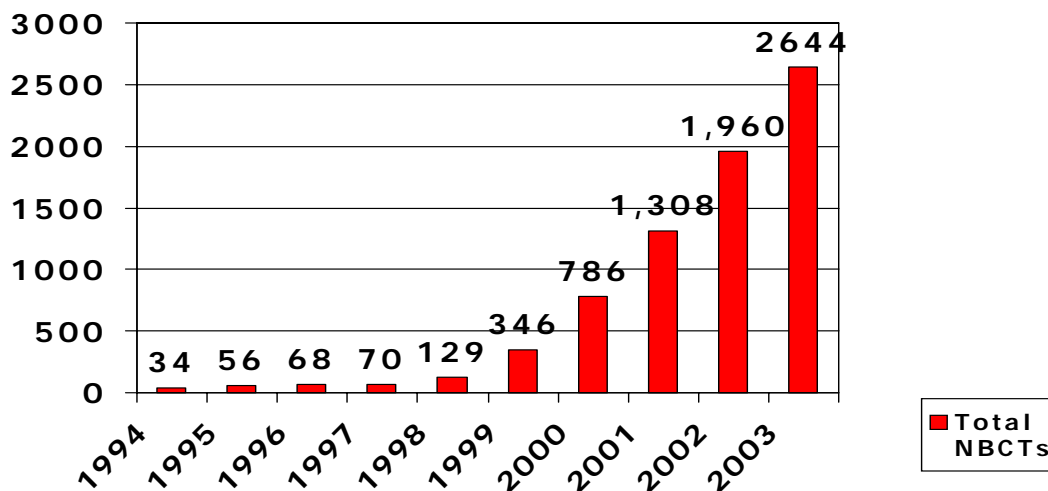
TO: MEMBERS, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: Sue Stickel, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction Branch

SUBJECT: National Board Certified Teachers: Distribution of California Teachers

With the announcement of 689 new National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) in November 2003, the number of NBCTs in California grew to 2,644. A directory of these exemplary teachers is available at *[Note: Invalid link removed.]* California is fourth in the nation in the number of teachers holding national certification. The following graph illustrates the growth in the number of NBCTs since 1994, when the first group of teachers earned certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

California NBCTs



The following table indicates the geographic distribution of NBCTs in California.

REGION	COUNTIES	NUMBER OF NBCTs	PERCENT OF STATE TOTAL
Far North	Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity	13	0.5%
North Coast	Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, and Sonoma	44	1.7%
Gold Country	Alpine, Colusa, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba	97	3.7%
Bay Area	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Solano	270	10.2%
Northern San Joaquin Valley	Amador, Calaveras, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne	23	0.9%
Central Coast	Monterey, San Benito, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz	163	6.1%
Southern San Joaquin Valley	Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare	30	1.1%
Inland Empire	Riverside, Inyo, Mono, and San Bernardino	154	5.8%
Coastal-Valley	Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura	70	2.6%
Los Angeles	Los Angeles	1,327	49.9%
South	Imperial, Orange, and San Diego	466	17.5%

The next table shows that more than half (approximately 54%) of California's NBCTs teach in high-priority schools and are eligible to receive an annual \$5,000 incentive. The chart on the next page shows the disbursement of these teachers in high-priority schools. For purposes of the incentive a "high-priority school" is defined by law (*Education Code* sections 44395-44399) as a school in the bottom half of all schools based on the Academic Performance Index (API) rankings. It is encouraging to note that so many of these accomplished teachers are found in schools with great need.

API Statewide Rank	Number of NBCTs
5	194
4	190
3	297
2	332
1	420
Total	1,433

A National Board certificate attests that a teacher was judged by his or her peers as one who is accomplished, makes sound professional judgments about students, and acts effectively on those judgments. It allows teachers to gauge their skills and knowledge against objective standards of advanced practice. National Board certification complements, but does not replace, state licensing. While state-licensing systems set entry-level standards for novice teachers, National Board certification establishes *advanced* standards for experienced teachers. The table below shows the distribution of NBCTs in California by subject area. The total differs from the total on the graph because several teachers have earned more than one National Board certification.

Number of NBCTs by Subject Area

■ Art	65	■ Mathematics	205
■ Careers/Tech	14	■ Music	15
■ English	401	■ Physical Ed.	28
■ Eng/New Lang	129	■ Science	179
■ Exc. Needs	111	■ History	115
■ Generalists	1322	■ World Languages	52
■ Library/Media	13		
TOTAL		2,649	

For each of the 27 certificate areas, the NBPTs offers a performance-based assessment that takes approximately one year to complete. Approximately 1,200 California teachers are currently in the process to achieve national certification and will learn the results in November 2004. The assessment process includes two components:

1. Candidates submit a portfolio comprised of three classroom-based entries, including videos, to document the candidate's teaching practice. The fourth entry documents the teacher's work with students' families and the community as well as the teacher's professional growth.
2. Candidates are also required to sit for an assessment appointment to demonstrate their content knowledge.

National Board certification raises the quality of the teaching profession. It creates a high standard for the profession and the process leading to national certification offers high quality professional development. Accomplished teachers form the core of the teaching profession. Their knowledge and leadership are central to any effort to educate each of our students to high academic standards.

Additional information regarding National Board certification for California teachers is available at *[Note: Invalid link removed.]*