



NEWS RELEASE

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Baltimore Highlands, Bear Creek, and Padonia International elementary and Deep Creek Middle teachers receive National Board Certification

BCPS now claims 67 teachers recognized at national level

TOWSON, MD – Five Baltimore County Public Schools teachers achieved National Board Certification during the 2020-2021 school year, bringing the total number of National Board-certified teachers in the school system to 67.

The teachers whose certification was announced by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards are:

- Marie Carberry, Baltimore Highlands Elementary School
- Erin Francis, Deep Creek Middle School
- Nancy Kreitz, Bear Creek Elementary School
- Lisa Smith, Baltimore Highlands Elementary School
- Lisa Weaver, Padonia International Elementary School

In addition, three BCPS teachers successfully renewed their certification in 2020. They are:

- Ralph Causarano, Hereford High School
- Sara Ockenhouse, Franklin Middle School
- Sandra Skordalos, Patapsco High School and Center for the Arts

To achieve National Board Certification, teachers must successfully complete a rigorous, performance-based, peer-review process, demonstrating their proven impact on student learning and achievement.

“Becoming Board-certified is just one of many ways that our teachers continually advance their skills and understanding,” said BCPS Superintendent Dr. Darryl L. Williams. “Through professional development activities and continued education, Board-certified teachers bring additional expertise to our schools and enrich the academic progress of our students. We are proud of these teachers for serving as role models to both their students and fellow educators.”

More than 128,000 teachers in the nation have achieved National Board Certification; of these teachers, 2,405 teach in Maryland. BCPS teachers are supported during the Board-certification process by BCPS Board-certified teachers Sandra Skordalos and Melissa Chandler, who provide group and individualized coaching and feedback sessions.

“I’m thrilled to celebrate our new National Board-Certified Teachers (NBCTs),” said Peggy Brookins, NBCT, president and CEO of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. “This is a great personal accomplishment, but it’s more than that – this accomplishment is reason to celebrate the impact Board-certified teachers have on millions of students nationwide and on the teaching profession at-large. School principals and systems leaders from across the country regularly tell me that NBCTs are making a difference in their students’ learning, strengthening their schools and their communities,”

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[Baltimore County Public Schools](#), the nation’s 25th largest school system, is focused on raising the bar and closing gaps to prepare our students for the future. Thanks to innovative and talented leaders, teachers, staff, and students, BCPS celebrates [many honors](#).