



Normal Community West High School

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GOOD NEWS REPORT

To: Dr. Chapman and Unit 5 Board of Education
From: Tom Eder, Principal
Re: National Board Certification
Date: December 20, 2006

I am very excited to recognize Amy Smith, Tracy Freeman, and Trena Loomans for their achievement of National Board certification status.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is a measure of excellence in teaching. Teachers show evidence of meeting NBPTS standards through a very challenging process that involves an extensive series of performance-based assessments. These include portfolios of their work and student work samples. They also complete a series of written tests that explore the depth of their teaching skills and curriculum knowledge.

Each of these faculty members is a leader at Normal West. Amy Smith is one of the leaders of our special education department. She is an active class sponsor and is leading a "Gap Attack" Title V tutoring program this year. Tracy Freeman is our social studies building chair and has led our Standards Aligned Classroom initiative and our teaching strategies to meet the needs of low-income students program. Trena Loomans is in her first year as a counselor at West after being a part-time counselor and art teacher at KJHS for three years. Trena has already begun to develop a peer mediation program at Normal West. Each of these outstanding professionals can be counted on to go "above and beyond" for each of our students.

Amy, Trena, and Tracy's achievement of this recognition brings to ten the number of Normal West faculty members to gain National Board certification. This concentration of NBPTS teachers continue to set high standards of performance for Normal West teachers and students. On behalf of our staff, I want to thank them for being wonderful colleagues who bring out the best in us and for their contributions to West and Unit 5. Personally, I am proud to work with each of them and congratulate them on this professional accomplishment.