



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Board Certified Teachers to Be Recognized

U-46 Board of Education honors teachers with Accent on Achievement

ELGIN - The U-46 Board of Education Monday will honor five teachers who have recently renewed their National Board Certification with an "Accent on Achievement" at Monday night's Board of Education meeting.

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards oversees the process for National Board Certification, the highest credential in the teaching profession. The initial certification can take a teacher one to three years to complete; a teacher must go through a process to maintain their certificate every five years to keep it active.

National Board Certification is a self-reflective form of professional learning that defines and recognizes accomplished teaching. Candidates must demonstrate their understanding of content knowledge in their chosen certificate area; design and implement instruction to advance student learning and achievement; describe, analyze and reflect on their teaching and interactions with students; and highlight their abilities as an effective and reflective practitioner in developing and applying their knowledge of their students.

"Being a Nationally Board Certified Teacher for the past five years has added so much to my professional development," said Brooke McGrath, an instructional special education teacher leader in U-46 who also is a coach and coordinator for the District's Special Olympics team, the Blue Stars.



“It continues to push me to seek out continued professional development on culturally relevant teaching, engaging families and communities, and the importance of positive relationships, especially during a pandemic,” she said. “The skills I have learned from even just the initial process to become certified are what made me commit to the maintenance process, which helped me understand how to reach my students best during some of the most challenging times for our students academically and social-emotionally.”

The five teachers maintaining their certification are:

Marzena Anderson - 1st Grade Teacher, Liberty Elementary School

Denise Bourgoin - English Teacher, South Elgin High School

Juan Fernandez - World Languages Teacher, Elgin High School

Brooke McGrath - Instructional Special Education Teacher Leader

Cheryl Romeo - Exceptional Needs II Teacher, Special Education, Canton Middle School

The Accent on Achievement certificates will be presented at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 24 in room 140 of the Educational Services Center. The U-46 Board of Education meeting will also be streamed live on the District’s [YouTube channel](#) and be available for the public to participate via a Zoom webinar at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830675043> as well.

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School District U-46 serves families in 11 communities: Bartlett, Elgin, Hanover Park, South Elgin, Streamwood and Wayne, as well as portions of Carol Stream, Hoffman Estates, St. Charles, Schaumburg, and West Chicago. In total, the District encompasses 90 square miles within the Fox River Valley, approximately 45 minutes west of downtown Chicago, and includes communities within Cook, DuPage and Kane counties. More than 36,000 pre-K through twelfth graders attend the 57 District schools and



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