

March 19, 2026

**RESOLUTION RE: NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS RECOGNITION  
NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS CLASS OF 2025 AND  
2025 MAINTAINED NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS**

**WHEREAS**, the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), organized in 1987, is comprised of teachers, school policymakers, union leaders, teacher educators, and other scholars and legislators whose goal is to maintain high and rigorous standards for accomplished teachers; and

**WHEREAS**, the NBPTS has developed and operates a national voluntary system to assess and certify teachers, counselors, and librarians who meet these standards, and to recognize those who demonstrate the highest levels of competency; and

**WHEREAS**, teachers, counselors, and librarians who voluntarily submit to and complete the rigorous multi-year National Board Certification process earn the Illinois NBPTS Endorsement, a nationally recognized credential, symbolizing that the teacher, counselor, or librarian has exceeded standard expectations; and

**WHEREAS**, National Board Certified Teachers have gone through a rigorous renewal process to maintain their certification after 5 years of service as an NBCT, and

**WHEREAS**, in partnership with the *Nurturing Teacher Leadership* program of the Chicago Teachers Union that provides candidate support, NBCT program management, mentoring, cohort facilitation, and professional development for CPS teachers, counselors, and librarians seeking National Board Certification, and for NBCTs who seek to renew their NBCT credential; and

**WHEREAS**, a total of 63 Chicago Public Schools teachers, counselors, or librarians earned this certificate in December of 2025; and a total of 67 National Board Certified Teachers maintained their NBCT status through the NBPTS Maintenance of Certification process in December of 2025, exemplifying the goals and standards that this Board of Education encourages all teachers, counselors, and librarians to emulate; and

**WHEREAS**, the 63 National Board Certified Teachers – Class of 2025 are:

Mark Ainsworth	Richard Farrell	Daphne Meyer
Melissa Albarran	Matthew Francolino	Dominque Morris
Char-Li Ali	Huma Haider	Jayla Neely
Brandon Barr	Katherine Halpin	Cristina Nunez-Ballesteros
Natalie Blondis Krzeminski	Ashley Harris	Norah O'Brien
Acadia Broussard	Adrianna Imtiaz	Michelle O'Gara
Frances Buckingham	Patrick Kelly	Jonathan Pardo
LaToya Castelaz	Edith Keneipp	Jonathan Popowich
Johan CeCe Castillo	Angelica Krajewski-Conzen	Cinthy Quintana-Marofske
Michael Costigan	Dawn Labady	Barbra Raufmann
Adam Davenport	Territha Lee	Samantha Recknagel
Tyler Dirks	Melissa Lofgren	Rebecca Reddicliffe
Julia Dubnick	Virginia Lopez	Marco Rodriguez
Lauren Dunning	Kerry Maloy	Fannie Rodriguez
Kathryn Edmonds	Timothy McGovern	Leonard Ruszel
Jamila Ellis	Kathleen McMeans	Margaret Ryan
Gregory Fairbank	Jessica Meyer	Katherine Sabillon

Benjamin Stehley	Rebecca Whitfield	Elizabeth Smith
Amy Stuenkel	Sarah Willett	Quiana Wooding
Ralph Spencer White IV	Elise Scarbeary	Wayne Zhang
Eileen Whited	Nita Sengupta	Jerry Zhu

**WHEREAS**, the 67 National Board Certified Teachers who maintained their NBCT in 2025 are:

Robert Albritton	Yuridia Espinosa	Alex Mendez	Casandra Russell
Maura Ardam	Nicole Flores	Patrycja Mietka	Marisol Salgado
Achla Bagga	Jacqueline Gaiser	Binh Nguyen	Sheri Sampey
Nicholas Barr	Rula Garduno	Linda O'Kane	Anna Searcy
Lucy Barraza	Lucia Ghillany	Kerrie Orrick	Tabita Sherfinski
Colleen Bitar	Michelle Greenfield-Silwa	Lidia Ortiz	Sandra Slattery
Taura Bivens-Basulto	Emily Hoelter-Harris	Nicole Ortman	Derek Smith
Conor Cameron	Joseph Irizarry	Anginette Parsons	Amy Tolentino
Mary Carger	Maeva Jankovich	Leslie Perez Romero	Siobhan Toler
Brandon Carr	Jennifer Johnson	Devan Picard	Jacqueline Travis
Marilyn Cortes	Jennifer Kearns	Anna Marie Proni	Carla Vides
Jennifer Dao	Deirdre Kenney	Jamie Reis	Diane Villarreal
Latisha Davis	Cristina Maldonado	Jennifer Rodriguez	William Weaver
Megan Domanski	Andrew Martinek	Jessica Rogers	Darnella Wesley
Theresa Dorsey	Jacqueline Mattmuller	Jessica Rosenbaum	Valerie Willuweit
Christine Edison	Arlicia McClain	Jeremy Rowland	Victoria Winslow
Peter Eilrich	Marguerite Mcquaid	Melanie Ruiz	

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the President and Members of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, gathered here this 19th day of March 2026, do commend these 130 teachers, counselors, and librarians for their commitment to high and rigorous teaching standards and for achieving or maintaining National Board Certification. We also encourage the Chicago Teachers Union Quest Center to continue recruiting and supporting more National Board Certified Teachers in our schools and to continue advocating for a commitment to high-quality teaching for all teachers, counselors, and librarians.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a suitable copy of this resolution be made available to the 63 teachers, counselors, and librarians who have achieved National Board Certification in 2025, and to the 67 teachers, counselors, and librarians who have maintained their National Board Certification in 2025.