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August 2016

Chaney,

It's that time of the year again! Depending on where you live, the school year has or will soon begin. The end of summer is the start of a familiar cycle - you're rejuvenated thanks to summer learning, projects and vacations. Teachers and their students from coast to coast feel a special energy, and experience nerves and high hopes for what awaits them. Those high hopes are present at the National Board, too, as more than 12,000 candidates continue their pursuit of "NBCT." This issue of *The Boardroom* focuses on what's happened this summer, what lies ahead, opportunities and a renewed focus on practical ideas for teachers.

STAY CONNECTED

BUILDING THE CONTINUUM

#WhatMattersNow

Last week the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF) released "[What Matters Now](#)," which argues that while there have been significant improvements in education since the release of their seminal report "What Matters Most" 20 years ago, the progress has been uneven. They offer recommendations for systemic change in states and districts, which includes encouraging teacher-led professional learning aligned with professional teaching standards. Genevieve DeBose, NBCT, gave the keynote address at the release event.

WATCH THE KEYNOTE

Leveraging Leadership and Inspiring Action

The 2016 National Board Academy was held in Las Vegas, Nevada from July 10-12. This annual event aims to engage stakeholder collaboration, provide a platform to share ideas and create a space to build plans to bring accomplished teaching and National Board Certification to scale. This year's theme was "Leveraging Leadership and Inspiring Action." Of the 184 attendees, 137 were NBCTs from 36 states across the nation. Participants connected with peers to learn more about innovative models and build action-oriented team plans for the 2016-2017 school year.

STORIFY RECAP

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Accomplished Teachers Win Award for Teaching Excellence

Next February, 43 educators from across the country will receive the NEA Foundation's [California Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence](#). The prestigious award is given to educators for their dedication to the profession, community engagement, professional development, attention to diversity and advocacy for fellow educators. Twelve of the award recipients are NBCTs.

Agents for Learning

In late July, 55 teachers, including 17 NBCTs, gathered in downtown Chicago as part of the [Agents for Learning Competition](#). Twelve teams of teachers from across the country discussed the best ways states and districts can invest their ESSA funds to support professional learning. The [presentations](#) can serve as resources as you advocate in your own state and district for the best ways to invest in professional learning. Check out our [ESSA page](#) for additional resources.

TEACHERS CORNER

How to Kick Off the School Year as a Rookie (or a Mentor)

New teacher orientation often leaves out the top subject on teachers' minds: The first day of school, says Roxanne Elden, NBCT. That's why she created *The School Year Starter Kit* a free, three-day email series to help newbies cut through information overload and focus on the few, basic things that will most help them prepare for their first day. The kit also offers much-needed reinforcement for those serving as mentors for beginning teachers.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Free college support - through texts to students

First Lady Michelle Obama recently launched [Up Next](#), Better Make Room's text messaging campaign that gives students and families free personalized support on all things college - college search and application, federal student aid and even student loan repayment. The campaign is evidence-based and low-cost, and [research](#) has shown that it can significantly increase students' college enrollment and persistence - if students sign up. This is where you come in. Encourage your students to sign up! All they have to do is text "college" to 44044.

[SIGN UP](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

There's No Time to Lose

The National Conference of State Legislatures recently released "[No Time to Lose: How to Build a World-Class Education System State by State](#)." The report is the result of an 18-month study by a bipartisan group of 28 legislators and legislative staff. Marc Tucker, President and CEO of the National Center on Education and the Economy, summarizes the report in this [blog post](#).

Looking Ahead to the 2016 Election

Wondering where the presidential nominees stand on education? Education Week has got you covered. Here are two recent articles on [education priorities](#) and [potential US Secretary of Education picks](#) of Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton, and Republican nominee, Donald Trump.

Mark Your Calendars for the Next #NBBookChat:

Date: September 27, 2016

Time: 8:00 p.m. ET

Book: *Sweetgirl* by Travis Mulhauser

[ADD TO CALENDAR](#)

On *The Standard*

- [Opening My Door as a Candidate for Board Certification](#) by Kelly Pace
- [Accomplished Teaching and the Growth Mindset](#) by Amber Chandler, NBCT
- [Taking Responsibility for Professional Practices](#) by David Cohen, NBCT
- [A Call for Peace-Based Teacher Leadership](#) by Jennifer Dines, NBCT
- [NBCTs Take a Stand in Support of Educational Policies](#) by Java Robinson, NBCT
- [What They Don't Seem to Understand About Certification](#) by Corey Oliver, NBCT
- [To Transform Schools, Slow Down](#) by Mark Gardner, NBCT
- [Religious Tolerance: Teaching the Teachers](#) by Chris Murray, NBCT
- [Letting Go of "We've Always Done it This Way"](#) by David Cohen, NBCT

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