

OCTOBER 18, 1995

**NATIONAL BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL
TEACHING STANDARDS EVENT**

DATE: OCTOBER 19, 1995
TIME: 4:45 PM
LOCATION: EAST ROOM
FROM: MARCIA HALE
ERSKINE BOWLES

I. PURPOSE

To host a reception honoring a group of middle grade teachers from around the nation, who have recently been certified by the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS).

II. BACKGROUND

The National Board of Professional Teaching Standards is a nonprofit, nongovernmental agency whose mission is to establish high and rigorous standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. The National Board was created by teachers and other education stakeholders to design and implement a national certification system for accomplished teaching. In the past year, results for the first two groups of teachers to seek certification were announced. More than 150 of the 176 nationally certified teachers are present today.

Governor James Hunt, of North Carolina has been the Chairman of the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards since 1987. He requested that you host a White House reception, recognizing the hard work and dedication that these teachers have exhibited. Paul Dimond, your Special Assistant for Economic Policy, served as a Senior Advisor to NBPTS for two years. Paul has also been the primary drafter of your Education Technology Initiative and G.I. Bill for America's Workers.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Governor James Hunt and Carolyn Hunt
David Hamburg, President of Carnegie Foundation

Curman Gaines, Officer of the NBPTS Board
State Senator Carlos Cisneros, New Mexico
State Representative Arthur Hamilton, Arizona
Judge David Tatel, U.S. Court of Appeals for D.C. Circuit
(see attachment for entire guest list)

IV. PRESS PLAN

Closed Press

V. REMARKS

Talking points provided

VI. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- * Off-stage announcement of the President, Governor James Hunt and Carnegie Foundation President David Hamburg
- * Governor Hunt makes remarks and introduces David Hamburg
- * David Hamburg makes remarks
- * Governor Hunt introduces the President
- * The President makes remarks
- * The President proceeds to Blue Room for receiving line

VII. ATTACHMENTS

New York Times article
Background on NBPTS

National Board



FOR PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STANDARDS

Facsimile Transmittal Sheet

Date: 10-17-95

To: Paul Diamond

Fax #: 202 456 2223

From: Jim Keely

of Pages to follow 2
(excluding cover sheet)

NBPTS Facsimile #: (313) 259-0973

If you do not receive all pages, please contact the
sender at
(313) 259-0830

MESSAGE:

See attached draft being
submitted to President's speechwriters
through Sally Nemissi.

For your information.

See you Thursday!

DRAFT

Suggested talking points for President Clinton
WH event

- * We are here today to pay tribute to a group of people who are, in many ways, true public servants. No, they do not hold elected office, but they provide one of the most important services to those we cherish most in our lives: our children.
- * You are what teaching is all about. You have chosen to hold yourselves up to high standards because you know in your heart that America's young people deserve the best possible education, and that means having the best possible teachers.
- * Education has always been at the cornerstone of American society -- we see that in our nation's long tradition of universal public education and in the active role we, as citizens, take by becoming involved in how our schools are governed.
- * The idea of National Board Certification is something Hillary and I have supported from the very beginning. We recognized early on just what this movement could mean to help further student learning in America and we supported it wholeheartedly. As governor of Arkansas, I worked to draw attention to the important mission of the NBPTS when the National Governors Association endorsed the creation of the National Board and called for supporting the NBPTS. In 1989 and in 1990, working with former Gov. Tom Kean and Gov. Terry Branstad--founding members of the NBPTS Board of Directors--I sent to every member of Congress a letter urging their support for federal funds for the National Board's research and development activities.
- * To date, the NBPTS has received about \$25 million in federal support and millions more in private contributions. Making the NBPTS a success has not merely required the financial backing of the public and private sectors but it has required garnering the support of the nation's major education, business, and governmental sectors. These include the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association, disciplinary and specialty organizations, parent organizations, organizations of private schools, school boards, local and state superintendents, state boards of education, governors, state legislators, and major national foundations and corporations. Many people may not realize it, but the National Board has had a growing presence in 47 of the 50 states. That's why I say that the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is not only an example of a public-private partnership that works, it is an example of the kind of bipartisan, national effort that is essential if this country is to succeed at improving student learning and advancing the teaching profession.
- * I have always had a great respect for teachers, and I know all of us have had at least one teacher who has helped shape who we are... I feel truly humbled to be in the presence of

the first teachers to be awarded teaching's highest honor. What you have gone through was not easy, but it was a true test of your abilities in the classroom.

* While we each may have our own idea of what makes a great teacher, I don't think any of us would argue that teachers represent the heart and soul of our education system -- without them, we would have no system. And that's why this National Board Certification is such a tremendous step forward not only for the teaching profession, but for our entire education system.

* To those of you made this happen over the past eight years--especially my friend Jim Hunt--and the current and former members of the board of directors, NBPTS staff, and donors: thank you for your hard work and dedication to the process. We need more people like you -- people who give their time and talent for the greater good.

* And to the teachers who stood up and said "yes, I'm a good teacher, and I want to be recognized for it:" we owe you an even bigger debt of gratitude. You are what the American spirit is all about. You volunteered to put in even more time outside of the classroom so that students in the classroom would benefit. You demonstrated to your peers that you have confidence in your abilities and you are proud of what you do. For that, and for your continued dedication to ensuring that our children get a world-class education, thank you. You are an inspiration to us all.

Remarks by Jim Kelly/

Thursday afternoon opening session

Welcome everyone. The day we have waited for with great anticipation has finally arrived.

We are here to honor and celebrate the current and former board members who from the very beginning put their faith, their time, and their efforts into an untested idea that lots of people said couldn't work. People didn't believe it could be done, but you persevered and made it happen.

To Carnegie Corporation of New York, who gave us the original grant that established the National Board, and to the public and private funders such as DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Foundation, Knight Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, Lilly Endowment, and other major foundations and corporations as well as the Congress of the United States of America: you supported us since 1987, helped us create the nation's foremost standards and assessments of accomplished teaching and helped us bring our message to thousands of teachers nationwide. You stood by us and made it happen.

To the education and policy community that offered us wise counsel, support, and saw us as a fair and credible means of recognizing highly accomplished teachers. You stood by us from the beginning. You came through time and again and made it happen.

To the cadre of 176 Early Adolescence/English Language Arts and Generalist Teachers who achieved National Board Certification, the hundreds of other teachers in the Field Test Network who attempted and completed this process. To the Field Test Network Coordinators and school district personnel who donated their time and energy to help us test this system. You made it happen.

To my staff at the National Board and to our contractors who have worked tirelessly on behalf of the thousands of teachers to develop a system that identifies and recognizes accomplished teachers. You, too, made it happen.

Let me say to all of you, welcome to Washington. I hope the next two days will provide you with the sense of camaraderie and professional growth that has characterized this entire endeavor.

I urge all of you to take advantage of the opportunity to share ideas with your colleagues and our friends in the education and policy community. This is a time to share our knowledge, experience, wisdom, and friendship. Once again, let's make it happen.

Now it is my pleasure to introduce to you the chair of our board since the beginning who is personally committed to ensuring better teaching and learning across the nation. Ladies and Gentlemen, Governor Jim Hunt....-