

Cranford teacher achieves national certification

CRANFORD—Cranford school district teacher Kathryn Morris recently achieved the prestigious National Board Certification, awarded by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), an organization that is part of a growing national movement advancing education reform. Recognized for her outstanding knowledge of subject matter and an ability to create challenging and engaging lessons, Morris is one of a select few to be so honored, representing less than two percent of the nation's teaching population.

In the state of New Jersey, Morris is one of just 148 teachers who have reached nation-

al board recognized standards. She has met "rigorous criteria through intensive study, expert evaluation, self-assessment and peer review," according to NBPTS president Joseph A. Aguerrebere.

National Board Certification is a voluntary assessment program that is designed to recognize and reward great teachers – and make them better. Board Certification is achieved through a challenging performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete and requires teachers not only to build a portfolio of student samples, assignments, and videotapes but

also to conduct a thorough analysis of classroom teaching practices.

"It is important for more teachers to pursue this certification in order to enhance students' learning. This was by far the most comprehensive growth experience of my professional career," concluded Morris.

