



# *Perth Amboy Public Schools*

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**John M. Rodecker**  
Superintendent of Schools

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
April 26, 2010

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## **National Board Certified Teachers in Perth Amboy Continues to Grow**

*Dr. Michael Levine is the first certified School Counselor in New Jersey*

**Perth Amboy, NJ** – Perth Amboy Public Schools are pleased to announce that the district has the most National Board Certified teachers than any other district in the state of New Jersey. Four teachers in Perth Amboy join the nearly 8,900 new National Board Certified Teachers nationally; continuing The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) progress in advancing the National Board Certification education reform movement. Perth Amboy's Class of 2009 Nationally Board Certified Teachers brings the district total to 12. The 2009 National Board Certified Teachers were recognized at the Perth Amboy Federation of Teachers office today during a plaque unveiling ceremony. The plaque displays the names of all 12 teachers. They are as follows:

**Michelle Erszkowicz**  
**Edmund Hmieleski, Jr. Early Childhood Center**  
**Certified in Reading-Language Arts/Early and Middle Childhood**

**Dr. Michael Levine**  
**Samuel E. Shull School**  
**Certified in School Counseling/Early Childhood through Young Adulthood**

**Elena Francisco**  
**Edward J. Patten School**  
**Certified in Reading-Language Arts/Early and Middle Childhood**

**Lauren Marrocco**  
**Edward J. Patten School**  
**Certified in Reading-Language Arts/Early and Middle Childhood**

Dr. Michael Levine is the first certified School Counselor in the state.

National Board Certification is recognized as a model of pay-for-performance and is supported by teachers and administrators nationwide. Many states and local school districts provide salary incentives and cover the cost for teachers who pursue and achieve this advanced teaching credential. A voluntary assessment program designed to develop, recognize and retain accomplished teachers, National Board Certification is achieved through a performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. While state licensing systems set basic requirements to teach in each state, NBCTs have successfully demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices.

NBPTS is an independent, nonprofit, nonpartisan and nongovernmental organization. NBPTS advances the quality of teaching and learning by developing professional standards for accomplished teaching; creating and administering National Board Certification, a voluntary system to certify teachers who meet those standards; and integrating certified teachers into educational reform efforts. Today, more than 82,000 National Board Certified Teachers are making a positive difference in the lives of students across the nation. For more information about NBPTS and National Board Certification, visit [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org).

For more information please contact Brian Wilson at (732) 376-6291

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