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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Three Edina Public Schools teachers achieve National Board Certification

Edina, Minn., Dec. 04, 2009 — Edina Public Schools congratulates three teachers who have recently achieved National Board Certification: John Hannemann, physical education teacher at Normandale Elementary; Steve Sanger, science teacher at Edina High School; and Elizabeth Barniskis, language arts teacher at Edina High School. National Board Certification is the highest credential offered in K-12 education.

The certification is granted by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), a non-profit organization formed in 1987 to advance the quality of teaching and learning. Since 1987 nearly 74,000 teachers have achieved National Board Certification. The certification is a voluntary assessment program designed to recognize and reward accomplished teachers.

According to Jenni Norlin-Weaver, director of teaching and learning, EPS provides an additional financial benefit to teachers who receive National Board Certification. "We recognize that these teachers have met rigorous standards through intensive study, expert evaluation, self-assessment and peer review," said Norlin-Weaver.

Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment that typically takes one to three years to complete. Teachers build a portfolio that includes student work samples, assignments, video recordings and a thorough analysis of their classroom teaching. Additionally, teachers are assessed on their knowledge of the subjects they teach. All 50 states, the District of Columbia and more than 700 local school districts recognize National Board Certification as a mark of distinction.

For more information about NBPTS and National Board Certification, visit the NBPTS' Web site at www.nbpts.org.

About Edina Public Schools:

Edina Public Schools is comprised of six elementary schools (K-5), two middle schools (6-9) and one senior high (10-12). Total enrollment is approximately 7,800 students. The District serves a large portion of Edina, a first-tier Minneapolis suburb comprised of approximately 47,450 people

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