



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Wells Fargo Awards Grant to Bellevue Schools Foundation

BELLEVUE, Wash. April 26, 2010 — The Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF) has been awarded a \$7,500 grant from Wells Fargo to support teachers pursuing National Board Certification.

Grant funding from Wells Fargo will help teachers at Title I schools serving low-income neighborhoods achieve this prestigious certification.

BSF supports teachers pursuing their National Board Certification by funding a District Coordinator and National Board-certified facilitators to mentor candidates through the rigorous process of preparing portfolios and preparing for exams in their content area. Over 200 National Board-certified teachers are teaching in Bellevue classrooms today.

"One thing Bellevue candidates have going for them is a level of support that enables them to have much higher passing rates than the national average," said Roxanne Shepherd, executive director, Bellevue Schools Foundation. "We'd like to thank Wells Fargo for partnering with BSF to help fund this extra support."

According to Bellevue National Board Program Coordinator Melissa Slater, "For the past several years, Bellevue has exceeded the national certification rate; 2009 was another remarkable year for Bellevue teachers pursuing certification. Bellevue's certification rate was 83%, greatly exceeding the national average of 40%. These exceptional results are not only a testament to the bright and hard working teachers in Bellevue who pursue Board certification, but to the knowledgeable NBCTs who serve as program facilitators and the growing community of NBCTs working in all content areas throughout the district."



About the Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF)

The Bellevue School Foundation is a powerful partnership between business and community leaders, parents, and members of the education community. BSF was created in 1979 to promote and help fund the best possible learning opportunities for all students in the Bellevue School District. During its 30+ year history, BSF has raised over \$18 million for programs that reach over 17,200 students every year.

As a private, non-profit organization, BSF depends on individual, foundation, and corporate donors in order to fund school programs and help Bellevue's public school students achieve academic excellence.

For more information about Bellevue Schools Foundation or to make a donation, please contact BSF at 425.456.4199, email to info@bsfdn.org, or log on to www.bsfdn.org.

About Wells Fargo

In Washington, Wells Fargo has more than 4,300 team members and 228 banking, mortgage and financial stores. Wells Fargo & Company is a diversified financial services company with \$1.2 trillion in assets, providing banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 10,000 stores and 12,000 ATMs and the Internet (wellsfargo.com) across North America and internationally.

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