Stephen Kaufman
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Dear Mr. Kaufman:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Your request was received on 10/6/10.

Request 1 - “How many public school teachers are employed in Illinois and how many are NBCT?”

Response 1 - According to Illinois’ 2009 Annual Report there were 170,185 full time teachers during the 2008-2009 school year.

http://isbe.net/reports/annual09/educators.pdf

There are currently 4923 National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) in Illinois.

Request 2 - “Does the State of Illinois provide any compensation to NBCT? If so, what is the amount of that stipend?”

Response 2 - Yes.

Payment distributions are made in accordance with provisions of state law: $3,000 annual stipend to teachers and school counselors who earn National Board certification and hold both an Illinois Master Certificate and the corresponding National Board certification. Additional mentoring incentives and candidate subsidy fees (i.e. registration, retake, Take 1!) are distributed to eligible teachers when sufficient funds are available. Since the program’s inception through fiscal year 2009, $48.0 million, or an average of $15,042 per National Board Certified teacher, has been expended.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Mentoring</th>
<th>Registrations</th>
<th>Annual Stipends</th>
<th>Total Annual Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>$2,616,000</td>
<td>$667,000</td>
<td>$8,202,000</td>
<td>$11,485,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Request 3 - “What is the State of Illinois policy regarding providing annual stipends to NBCT?”
Response 3 – Section 25.444 of the 23 Illinois Administrative Code states, “The annual payments and incentives established under Section 21-27 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/21-27] shall be subject to the requirements of this Section and shall be contingent upon the appropriation of sufficient funds (see subsection (a) of this Section).”

Illinois General Assembly - Full Text of Public Act 095-0996


If you have questions, contact Mark Wancket at 217-782-4648.

Sincerely,

Marcilene Dutton
Deputy General Counsel