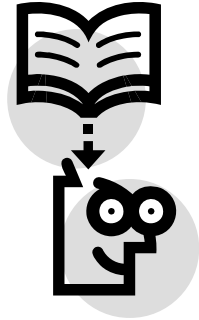


National Board Language

Rationale: The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards® works to use clear, concise language in the portfolio instructions. However, because the context in which the terminology appears may be different; the candidate may not always be confident about its meaning.



Management

Time: 20 minutes

Materials: NB Portfolio instructions for each participant, flags and/or highlighters

Equipment: Easel, whiteboard or computer/LCD for displaying group responses

Grouping: Table groups

Outcomes:

- Candidates will examine and discuss the language of the NB portfolio.

Instructions to NB Candidate Support Provider:

1. Explain that candidates are sometimes unclear about some of the language used in the NB portfolio instructions. For example many candidates have commented that the word “artifact” reminds them of archaeology or possibly museum pieces. They are not used to seeing it in the context used by NB to describe examples of student work.
2. Ask table groups to respond to, “What words or phraseology have you discovered in reading the portfolio that wasn’t clear to you at first glance?” Allow a few minutes for table sharing, then ask groups to report out. Chart words/phrases suggested and discuss as needed.
3. Ask participants to find the “Portfolio Related Terms” in the *Resources* section of their portfolios. Ask candidates to take time to read through this section, highlighting or flagging information they feel is important or that raises a question. When individuals are finished have them share their thinking with either their table group or with the whole group. Allow time for candidates to express questions or concerns.

Processing:

- In what ways can you ensure the clarity of the language you use in your portfolio entries?

