February 16, 2001

Minnesota Speech-Hearing-Language Association
Attention: Carol Henderson and Mary Garrison
5425 Logan Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Dear Carol and Mary:

The Minnesota Council for the Advancement of Accomplished Teaching (MCAAT) wants to thank you for your presentation on January 16, 2001. You furthered our awareness of ASHA, the concerns of MASHA and the Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC) available to professionals who work in the areas of speech, hearing, and language development. As a result of the presentation, MCAAT is now able to compare the (CCC) standards with those of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and give our best opinion as to their comparability.

After your presentation, MCAAT reviewed the (CCC) standards and decided to develop a set of specific criteria by which to assess the (CCC) standards as well as those of other organizations that may request such a review. The 5 standards we agreed upon include:

1. National Board standard and a certificate are not available for the area in question.
2. The standards required for the certificate must be demonstrable, include peer review and go beyond clock hour requirements.
3. The certificate standards require accomplished practice comparable to that required by National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
4. The certificate in question goes beyond the normal requirements of the position held with participation being voluntary.
5. The certificate requires renewal.

The Minnesota Council for the Advancement of Accomplished Teaching compared the CCC standards with those of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and applied the five specific criteria listed above. As a result of that analysis, MCAAT is of the opinion that the CCC requirements are high standards and are comparable to, although different from, those of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.
MCAAT must also state this review and decision is completely independent and within the purview of MCAAT and does not include an endorsement by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Rather, the review and decision is provided to those who request it as a tool to be used in negotiating provisions that recognize National Board certification as a qualifier for incentives offered in local school district contracts.

For additional information, contact Marcia Averbook, Professional Issues Specialist, Education Minnesota at 651-292-4879 or maverbook@educationminnesota.org