

New Hope High School STEM and ACT Prep teacher Susie Oglesby is one of 10 from the state of Mississippi who recently received a Mississippi Professional Educators' National Board Certification (NBCT) Maintenance of Certification Scholarship.

Oglesby, who also is a coach of the New Hope Robotics team, applied for the scholarship because she is renewing her national boards license. She said any member of the MPE can apply for the scholarship.

"National Boards holds us accountable and keeps us striving to be a better teacher," Oglesby said. "In my application for the scholarship, I wrote about how I have grown as a teacher and why national boards are so important nationwide."

Oglesby said her involvement with the robotics team motivated her to go back and renew her national board status. She said she wants to be a better teacher and a coach, and she said the only way to do that is if someone holds her accountable.

Oglesby, who has worked at New Hope High for almost 17 years, and coach Robin Shepherd have three high school and three middle school teams that compete in robotics. Last year, team 39702C, which features Thomas Oglesby, Joshua Wilcox and Noah Honeycutt, teamed with a team from Hawaii and advanced to the quarterfinals at the VEX World Championships. They finished in the top 10%, were eighth out of 81 teams in their division and ranked 74 out of 800 teams at the event. New Hope has had at least one team advance to the world championships every year since 2019.

"Susie Oglesby is in a league of her own," NHHS Principal Matt Smith said. "She is a former NHHS Teacher of the Year and District Teacher of the Year. Her abilities are on display every day as a top-notch teacher who has National Board Certification and has received multiple other

Teacher of the Year Awards from various organizations. The students and parents of New Hope High School are blessed to have her as a STEM teacher, robotics coach and ACT teacher. Her robotics teams have competed in the world competition for years and have placed in the top 50 of 800+ teams multiple times. She and her teams have won multiple state championships and are top ranked in the state of Mississippi.

“The students who have taken her ACT prep class have raised their composite scores by an average of four points. It would be impossible to say enough good things about Mrs. Oglesby and her abilities as a teacher. We are lucky and blessed to have her as part of the Trojan Nation.”