



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

www.nmabe.net

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LESC Funding Formula Hearings Continue

The July edition of *El Noticiero* informed NMABE members about the hearings the Legislative Education Study Committee are holding statewide regarding the new funding formula.

The funding formula legislation includes bilingual education as a necessary component of every school district's budget. In other words, every district that has English language learner (ELL) students will need to specify how it will include bilingual education in its budget plan to the PED. Each

budget will need state approval.

Needless to say, the new formula is complex. If the legislation passes, it will distribute a substantial increase in revenue to local districts for all students. However, that base revenue amount will increase according to the percentage of students in poverty, special education students, ELL students, high mobility students. Local districts will calculate the amount they allocate to any and all programs needed to meet the educational needs of its student population.

Once again, NMABE urges bilingual educators to be present at the hearings. "NMABE members and others who are concerned with the status of bilingual education need to attend, if they can, and stay ever vigilant about what is being presented," said David Briseño, Executive Director of NMABE. Your voice is important. While you will not need to testify, you should let your superintendent know about the need to allocate sufficient funds to support a quality bilingual education program at the local level.

Governor Receives Prestigious Award from Mexico

Based on an interview with Dr. Rodolfo Chávez, NMABE President

The *Inmigrante Solidario Award* (The Immigrant in Solidarity) was established by the national Congress of Mexico in 2007 to honor an individual who has been an advocate for Mexicans in the US. In order to receive this prestigious award, individuals must be of Mexican origin. In 2007, Dr. Francisco Cisneros, President and CEO of

Pilsen Wellness Center in Chicago, was presented the award before the Mexican Congress. On Tuesday, June 24th, 2008, Governor Bill Richardson received the award at his office in Santa Fe. The award was presented by Mexican Congressman Edmundo Ramírez Martínez and the Governor of Chihuahua, Jose Reyes Baeza Terrazas. NMABE Presi-

dent Dr. Rodolfo Chávez was invited to attend the award ceremony at the New Mexico State Capitol, representing the bilingual communities of New Mexico.

After the ceremony, Dr. Francisco Cisneros, the first award recipient, invited Dr. Chávez to embark on an eight-day, five-states goodwill tour of Mexico with him. While on

NMABE Seeks Artist for Conference Poster

The NMABE Board will finalize its selection of the NMABE conference artist by Sept. 15, 2008. All interested artists must submit samples of their artwork to David Briseño, NMABE Executive Director, nmabe@suddenlink.net.

The NMABE budget for the poster is \$3,500. That is inclusive of the cost of printing 800 copies of the poster and any of the artist's fees. NMABE would like to have delivery of the poster by November, 2008. The selected artist must also be present to sign the poster during the conference.

Please share this information with artists you know!



NMABE President Dr. Chávez congratulates Governor Richardson upon his receipt of the *Immigrant in Solidarity Award* at the Roundhouse on Tuesday, June 24th, 2008

this whirlwind trip, they were able to travel through the central part of Mexico, visiting the five Mexican states of Hidalgo, Puebla, Guerrero, Guanajuato, and Mexico. They were received by mayors from the following cities: Mexico City, Chilpancingo, Dolores Hidalgo, Toluca and Puebla. They were also provided an audience with the Governors of Puebla and Mario Plutarco Marín Torres, along with the president of the Universidad de Puebla and many other

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ANNOUNCEMENTS...

37th Annual NMABE Bilingual Multicultural Education Conference

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Multicultural Education's 37th annual state conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque on April 16-18, 2009. The conference theme is "Bilingual Multicultural Education: Pathway to Success." Conference planning has just begun. NMABE encourages you to submit a proposal to share your expertise with your colleagues in Bilingual Education who will attend from all areas of New Mexico. The five strands tie conference content together, offering timely, useful information, pedagogy and new ideas for teachers, administrators,

La Cosecha -- 13th Annual Dual Language Conference

The 13th Annual Dual Language Education Conference will be held on November 12-15, 2008 at the Santa Fe Community Convention Center, bringing together educators, parents, researchers and the community that support dual language enrichment education. Come share your experience and knowledge, and "harvest" (network) the best of our multilingual/multicultural communities.

For more information on registration and conference content, visit the Web at www.duallanguagenm.org.

Featured Speakers

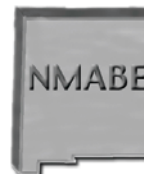
Virginia Collier and Wayne Thomas
Janet Zadina
Stanley A. Lucero
Yolanda M. Lucero

Barbara Flores
José-Luis Orozco
Nancy Commins
Kathy Escamilla

parents and school district personnel. These strands include:

- Research and current practice
- Dual language education
- English as a Second Language
- Administration of Bilingual Education programs
- Parent involvement

The NMABE conference is the only conference of its kind in the nation that incorporates special student competitions—the State Spanish Spelling Bee and the Native American Language Festival. These activities reflect NMABE's mission "to foster, encourage and promote bilingualism for all children in an environment that nurtures the rich cultural and linguistic diversity of the state. Look for more information on the Web at www.nmabe.net and in future editions of *El Noticiero*.



El Noticiero

El Noticiero is published monthly by *Language Magazine* and provides information on current affairs concerning the education of language minority persons in New Mexico and the United States.

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 33:1 Fall, 2008: October
(Pre-Conference issue)

No. 33:2 Winter, 2009: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
Call to Action)

No. 33:3 Spring, 2009: April
(Conference Edition)

No. 33:4 Summer, 2009: July
(Summer Activities, Institutes)

Monthly Inserts/Wraps in Language Magazine

Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau Update

Dr. Gladys Herrera Gurulé, Director of the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau (BMEB) of the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) is pleased to announce the addition of three new consultants to the Bureau. The new consultants - Bernadette Gómez, Florence Acque and Gloria López - will join the BMEB staff in working with school districts throughout the state.

Bernadette Gómez has seven years of teaching experience with all age groups from pre-K through the community college level. She has worked in Santa Fe and abroad, teaching English and Spanish to students in France, Germany, Italy and Africa. For the last five years, Bernadette has worked at the Public Education Department in the Priority Schools, Assessment and 21st Century programs. Contact her at BMEB at (505) 827-4270

or at bernadette.gomez@state.nm.us.

Florence Acque has served for 28 years as an elementary teacher in Zuni Public Schools, including three years as a Zuni language immersion teacher for third grade. For the last four years, Florence served as the Bilingual/Title III Program Coordinator with the Zuni Public School District. She also served as an advisor for the Pueblo of Zuni Language Board. Contact her at BMEB at (505) 827-4270 or at: florence.acque@state.nm.us.

Gloria López has 23 years of experience in public education settings as a Bilingual Education teacher and administrator in Colorado and New Mexico. For the last four years, Gloria served as an elementary principal for the Española School District. Contact her at BMEB at (505) 827-6906 or by email at gloriae.lopez@state.nm.us.

17th Annual Parent Institute Planned

The 17th Annual Parent Institute will be held Nov. 13-14, 2008 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, NM. It is cosponsored by the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations, NMHU and the Ben Luján Leadership and Public Policy Institute. The Institute is designed to provide families, educators and community members with resources and strategies to increase and strengthen family/community-school partnerships across New Mexico. The ultimate goal is to help all children, youth and their families succeed in school and in life. The Institute aims to support parent leadership, create partnerships that can improve school programs and climate, and influence policies that affect parental involvement programs across the state. Families, family/community liaisons, educators, administrators, community leaders/advocates, educational assistants and other interested and supportive parties are welcome to attend. For more information, visit: www.cesdp.nmhu.edu.

Continued from page 1: Governor

officials and representatives from the national Congress of Mexico. While touring many different venues (factories, businesses, universities, etc.), they were accompanied by Federico La Mote, a nationally-syndicated columnist in Mexico, and by the president of the Mexican national broadcasting association. When asked to summarize his travel experience on this whirlwind tour of Mexico, Dr. Chávez responded, "It was truly an honor and privilege to be selected to join Dr. Cisneros and a group of dedicated individuals from both nations, as we crisscrossed Mexico in an effort to promote good will and to examine future collaborative efforts for both nations. It was an awesome bi-national mission. As I prepare to assume the NMABE presidency, this trip served to re-energize my vision, to help me focus on strengthening our association and to guide me in promoting the interests of the children, teachers and families that NMABE was founded to serve."

Fall Courses

Organized by the Spanish Resource Center of Albuquerque, Instituto Cervantes and the Center of Latin American Resources and Outreach (CLARO) during the academic year 2008-09. Admission: Free; Contact email: language.assistant@state.nm.us; Contact phone: (505) 724-4743. Courses accredited by the Government of Spain and UNM. All courses delivered at the National Hispanic Cultural Center

Workshop: Teaching From Visual Arts Perspective **Date and Time:** Sept. 13, 2008 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

Target audience: Spanish teachers, bilingual teachers and any persons interested in art

Lecturer: María José Ordeig **Limit:** 20 students

Why do some pictures catch our attention strongly? Where is their power? How can we analyze Visual Arts – a picture, a sculpture, a photogram? Knowing to analyze and interpret an image lets us use it. At the workshop we will discuss how images work, and how we can use them in class -especially at the Spanish class.

Workshop: Surrealism and Cubism: Picasso and Dalí **Date and Time:** Oct. 4, 2008 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

Target audience: Teachers and general public **Lecturer:** María Nieves de Abajo Bajo **Limit:** 20 students

This workshop deals with cubism and surrealism focusing specifically on Picasso and Dalí's art. We will pay attention to paintings made mainly during the thirties and forties and we will contextualize them to the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). We will analyze, among others, Guernica (1937) and we will read a poem by Rafael Alberti related to it.

Workshop: Amate Paper **Date and Time:** Oct. 18th, 2008 10:30 am - 1.30 pm **Target audience:** Teachers and general public

Lecturer: Ma. Verónica Iglesias-Swanson **Limit:** 20 students

In this workshop we will talk about amate paper, which is a paper made from the bark of different kinds of trees. We will look at how techniques to make it are similar to those used by pre-Hispanic cultures of Mexico. This will bring us closer to history and at the same time we will learn a new and versatile technique for making paper.

Language and the Performance of English Language Learners in Math Word Problems

New Research: "Language and the Performance of English-Language Learners in Math Word Problems" by Maria Martiniello, *Harvard Educational Review* (Summer 2008), 78(2), 333-368.

[Summary source: Article abstract.]

In this article, Maria Martiniello reports the findings of a study of the linguistic complexity of math word problems that were found to exhibit differential item functioning for English-language learners (ELLs) and non-ELLs taking the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) fourth-grade math test. This report builds on prior research showing that greater linguistic complexity increases the difficulty of En-

glish-language math items for ELLs compared to non-ELLs of equivalent math proficiency. Through textual analyses, Martiniello describes the linguistic features of some of the 2003 MCAS math word problems that posed disproportionate difficulty for ELLs. Martiniello also uses excerpts from children's think-aloud transcripts to illustrate the reading comprehension challenges these features pose to Spanish-speaking ELLs. Through both DIF statistics and the voices of children, the article scrutinizes the appropriateness of inferences about ELL students' math knowledge based on linguistically complex test items.

Maria Martiniello is an associate research scientist at the Center for Validity Research at

the Educational Testing Service, where she studies the validity and fairness of K-12 content-area assessments for English-language learners. She has previously taught at the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello, and at the Escuela de Psicología in Venezuela and has led professional development and teacher certification programs for Latin American educators through the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Martiniello's prior research on Latin American education, assessment, and arts education has appeared in numerous books and journals, in both Spanish and English. Portions of her research on ELLs and assessment will be published in *Applied Psycholinguistics* and the *Educational Testing Service Research Report Series*.

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State Bilingual Multicultural Education
Conference

Bilingual Multicultural
Education:
Pathway to Success



April 16-18, 2009---Embassy Suites Hotel---Albuquerque, NM