



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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March, 2007

Third Keynote Speaker Confirmed for NMABE State Bilingual Conference

Gloria Ann Begay, President and Owner of the Indigenous Institute for Native Arts, is To'daachiinii (Bitterwater) and born for the Taachiinee Clans that make her a Navajo woman, mother and grandmother. Her topic will be "The Opportunities and Enjoyment of Walking In Two Worlds" in which she will share her wonderful experiences from her native Navajo culture with other people.

Having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in history, education and anthropology, and a Masters of Art degree in educational administration, Ms. Begay uses her education and 30 years of work experience to promote and assist in restoring indigenous cul-

tures and languages with Native Americans. Ms. Begay has been honored to work for two Navajo Nation



Presidents and work for the National Advisory Council on Indian Education,

U.S. Department of Education and the Division of Indian Labor and Training Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, in addition to being President of the Women Empowering Women of Indian Nations (WEWIN) in Washington, D.C. As an entertainer and advocate for women and Native Americans, Ms. Begay has promoted Native Americans in England, France, Switzerland, Germany, and China. Currently, Ms. Begay produces the Navajo Culture and Language Program for KGLP Radio station in Gallup, New Mexico and continues advocacy endeavors for Foster Indigenous Values in Education and Dine (Navajo) Parents for Equity in Education.

20 Outstanding Bilingual Schools Honored

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education and the Public Education Department Bilingual Education Bureau recognized 20 outstanding schools that best serve the needs of English Language Learners (ELL) in the state during NMABE's Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature on Wednesday, January 31. (See related story, page 3.)

These 20 schools were selected based on their English Language Learner students' progress in making and attaining proficiency in the English language, academic yearly progress (AYP), achievement in short-cycle assessments, and other qualitative measures. Each school received a plaque and \$2,000 from Title III Incentive Funds.

"I am extremely proud of the 20 schools recognized," said Education Secretary Dr. Veronica C. García. "These schools demonstrate that English Language Learners can achieve academically at high levels especially when they are taught in high quality bilingual programs such as dual language immersion programs."

A few examples of some of the innovative practices these schools are implementing are as follows:

Four years ago, **MacArthur Elementary, in Las Cruces**, was on the verge of corrective action. This year they're celebrating making Adequate Yearly Progress with an attendance rate of 98%. The students at MacArthur Elementary produced a bilingual video broadcasting pro-

gram which is aired daily in all classrooms. What an exciting linguistic and journalistic opportunity for all the students.

Jefferson Elementary, in Hobbs, attributes their success of meeting AYP for 3 consecutive years to their highly qualified staff and parent involvement. Many staff members and principals are certified in TESOL and Bilingual Education, and parents volunteer on a regular basis and have begun to pursue GED classes.

Columbus Elementary, in Deming, is unusual because 99% of the student body is first generation Mexican American. The school is on a year-round model so they do not regress in learning English.

Continued on page 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Third Annual Spanish Literary Contest

The Spanish Resource Center in Albuquerque has announced its Third Annual Spanish Literary Contest, *Escribo en Español*. ("I write in Spanish"). This contest is made possible through the educational partnership between the New Mexico PED and the Ministry of Education of Spain.

This year's topic will be *Cuéntame un cuento*, honoring the *Día del Libro*, April 23th, when the Award ceremony will take place. This competition encourages students to further their writing skills and their knowledge of the Spanish language by writing a short story or a children's tale in the Spanish language.

The contest is open to all Middle, Junior and High School students in the state of New Mexico. There are four categories of competition:

- Spanish speakers in grades 6-9 (300-500 words)
- Spanish speakers in grades 10-12 (600-900 words)

Spanish Resource Center Announces Summer Courses in Spain

The new catalog of summer courses for teachers in universities in Spain is now available from the Spanish Resource Center in Albuquerque, NM. The Center is offering financial help for travel in the amount of \$800 to each participant from New Mexico, whether they be teachers or administrators. Registration will start January 1st. This is an excellent opportunity for professional preparation in Spanish while learning about the cultures of Spain. Registration information can be found at www.mec.es/sgci/usa/es/programas/cursos/portada.shtml. For questions and more information, please contact Maribel Luengo, Direc-

(600-900 words)

- Non-Spanish speakers in grades 6-9 (300-500)
- Non-Spanish speakers in grades 10-12 (600 to 900 words)

The three top winners in each category will receive a trophy, a certificate, and a box of books in Spanish. The top winners in grades 10 - 12 will receive a scholarship for a Spanish course in Spain during July of 2007. The teacher of the winner in each category will receive a package of instructional materials.

Prizes will be awarded on April 23rd, 2007, the *Día del Libro*, at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. The winners and their teachers will be notified ahead of time.

The deadline for entry is **March 16th, 2007**. For entry formats and other information please contact Maribel Luengo at the Spanish Resource Center: language.assistant@state.nm.us.

tor of the Spanish Resource Center at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque.

Email: maribel.luengo@mec.es

Financial Aid

UNM Spanish Resource Center has funding for financial aid in the amount of \$800 each for 25 participants. To apply for the New Mexico aid, send a copy of your written application together with a letter explaining the benefits of the course to you, your school and your students to the Spanish Resource Center, National Hispanic Cultural Center of NM, 1701 4th St. SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102.

Student Entertainment During Bilingual Education Day



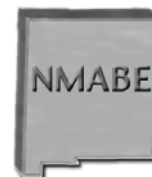
Borrego Pass



Turquoise Trail



Acoma



El Noticiero

El Noticiero is published quarterly with monthly inserts 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. 31:1, Fall, 2006: October**
(Pre-conference issue)
- No. 31:2, Winter, 2007: January**
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day, Call to Action)
- No. 31:3 Spring, 2007: April**
(Conference Edition)
- No. 31:4 Summer, 2007: August**
(Summer Activities, Institutes)

Monthly news as well

NMABE Holds Annual Institute and Legislative Activities in Santa Fe

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE), in cooperation with the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau (BMEB) of the New Mexico Public Education Department and the Center for the Study and Education of Diverse Populations (CESDP), sponsored its annual Bilingual and Title III Directors' Institute and Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature on January 30-31, 2007.

Institute

This year's focus on assessment offered participants a hands-on approach to using data to inform instruction. Dr. Cheryl Brown-Kovacic and Patricia Latham kept the participants engaged using real data



and a process they could replicate at the local level with teachers. The process that Dr.

Kovacic used in this segment of the institute tied student assessment outcomes to specific content standards needing attention in instruction. Patricia Latham extended this work with useful teaching practices from the SIOP model (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol). "A teacher must be reflective in and of her practice. SIOP offers a way to use observation in a reflective model," said Ms. Latham.

During the afternoon session, Janet Haas, of the NMPED Assessment and Evaluation Bureau, discussed issues related to the New Mexico English Language Proficiency Assessment (NMELPA), including the next steps for revising it to make the test more developmentally appropriate for New Mexico students at the K-2 level. This session was a practical one, and participants took advantage of the excellent opportunity to interact with Ms. Haas and Dr. Gladys Herrera-Gurulé.

Engaged Institute Participants



BMEB Report

Dr. Gladys Herrera Gurulé, Director of the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau (BMEB) of the NMPED, provided an update regarding Bilingual Multicultural Education and Title III programs. She discussed findings of the US Department of Education's audit in December, 2006 which included the following next steps:

- aligning the Standards for English Language Development with those of Math and Science,
- making the NMELPA more developmentally appropriate,
- establishing a process for accountability regarding districts that fail to achieve AMAOs for English language proficiency, with corrective action plans, and
- conducting a comparability study between NMELPA and previous English proficiency tests, so that student performance data from pre-2006 can be compared with the NMELPA data.

Dr. Gurulé discussed the BMEB Annual Report to the Legislature on the current status of Bilingual Education, which includes student performance in English

and in the home languages, as well as the reporting by districts of expenditures in Bilingual Education for 2005-2006.

Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature

January 30th was NMABE's annual Bilingual Education Day at the State Capitol. This activity brought together Bilingual educators from across the state to share information about their programs with their local legislators and the general public. Despite a sudden winter storm, seven school districts set up displays of student work at the Capitol Rotunda. Student entertainment, held during the lunch hour in the Capitol Rotunda, featured Turquoise Trail Elementary Charter School Bilingual Students and the Acoma Dancers.

Special Recognition by Secretary García – the Title III Incentive Awards

Secretary of Education Verónica García recognized twenty schools in New Mexico

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 1

ELL students met their target for Making Progress in English and met AYP in Math last year.

Pojoaque Intermediate School incorporates three languages, Spanish, Tewa and English. All of their ELL students met AYP in Math and Reading in 2005-2006. These students receive before and after school tutoring in Math and Reading by Highly Qualified Bilingual-TESOL- endorsed instructors.

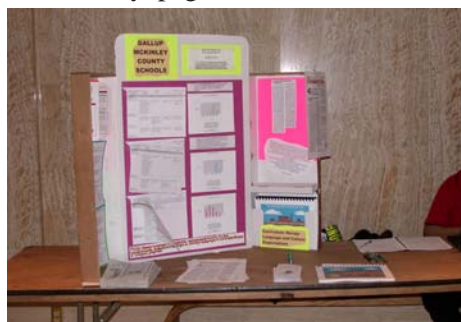
In Roswell, Goddard High School was one of only 3 high schools in the state to meet AYP in 2005-2006. Their Goddard Academy for Pride and Success is a highly successful freshman transition class, and their graduation rate is 90%.

Continued from page 3

for their outstanding performance in the following areas in SY 2005-2006:

- Meeting Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) in English as a Second Language (“Making Progress in English” and “Attaining Proficiency in English”
- Making Academic Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Demonstrating Student Progress on Short-Cycle Assessments
- Other Qualitative Measures

During 2005-2006, all of these schools participated in Title III English Language Acquisition programs and 19 of the 20 participated in State Bilingual Education programs. The Dual Language model was the predominant instructional model used in these schools. Principals, teachers, Title III/Bilingual Education coordinators and students were present for the recognition ceremony, in which each school received a plaque of recognition and \$2,000. (See related story, page 1)



Gallup McKinley



Clovis



Grants Cibola

Bilingual Schools Honored

Albuquerque	<i>East San José Elem. Eugene Field Elem. Kirtland Elem.</i>	Las Cruces	<i>Central Elem. Hillrise Elem. McArthur Elem. Picacho Middle</i>
Clovis	<i>La Casita Elem.</i>	Moriarty	<i>Mountainview Elem.</i>
Deming	<i>Columbus Elem. Martin Elem. Smith Elem.</i>	Pojoaque	<i>Pablo Roybal Elem. Pojoaque Intermediate</i>
Hatch	<i>Rio Grande Elem.</i>	Roswell	<i>Goddard High</i>
Hobbs	<i>Jefferson Elem. Southern Heights Elem. Taylor Elem.</i>	Zuni	<i>Dowa Yalanne Elem.</i>

District Displays of Student Work

Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature



Las Cruces



Las Vegas City



Cuba



Taos