



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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District Spanish Spelling Bee Champs Compete at NMABE's 15th Annual State Spanish Spelling Bee Contest

On April 10, 2010, 41 school district Spanish Spelling Bee champions met at the performing arts theater of the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) to vie for first place at NMABE's 15th Annual State Spanish Spelling Bee Contest. This was the largest ever number of school district competitors in the history of the Bee. It is the second year the NHCC hosted the event.

The judges for the event were Dr. Julia Rosa Lopez Emslie, Professor Emerita, Eastern New Mexico University, Dr. Gladys Herrera Gurulé, Director of the Bilingual

Multicultural Education Bureau (BMEB) at the NM Public Education Department and Dr. Loretta Salazar, Associate Professor Emerita, New Mexico Highlands University. Alejandro Contreras, News Anchor for Univisión, served as the Pronouncer.

Emilia Vigil, NMABE President, opened up the Bee by warmly welcoming parents, sponsors and school district personnel. Dr. Emma Armendáriz, Director of Bilingual/Multicultural/Migrant Education, Las Cruces Public Schools and Mistress of Ceremonies for the Bee,

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First Place Winner: Rubi Celene, Guzmán, Hatch Valley Middle School, 7th Grade

Emilia Vigil, NMABE President, presents trophies to the 2010 State Spanish Spelling Bee Champions.



Second Place Winner: Maria Rodríguez Artesia Jr. High School, 8th Grade



Fourth Place Winner: Luis Calderón, Carlos Rey Elem. in Albuquerque, 5th Grade



Third Place Winner: Evelyn Juárez, James H. Rodríguez Elem. in Española, 6th Grade



Fifth Place Winner: German Rojero, Los Lunas Middle School, 7th Grade

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individually introduced each district champ, recognizing their school district, grade level and their proud parents, as well.

Every year, the event holds much in store for all who attend. Parents gently hold their breath as his/her son or daughter comes up to the microphone for the word. District spelling bee sponsors check their list of words as their student spells their given word. Tension is in the air.

This year, the competition for First Place was especially nerve-racking. The competition rules of elimination change when only two spellers remain to compete for the title. When one of the final two spellers misses a word, the second competitor has the opportunity to spell it correctly. If successful, then he or she must spell another word correctly to claim the First Place title. Should there be a misspelling, then the bee continues until one of the competitors misses again. This year, each of the two finalists had four opportunities to spell the competitor's missed word before the finalist was named.

Commendations go to the dedicated teachers, parents and school district administrators for their excellent work and support of the students in the local competitions. Every finalist who comes to the state bee is already a champion and represents the best Spanish speller of the entire district, demonstrating robust academic preparation in Spanish.

It is no easy task to organize and carry out the Bee; it requires a joint effort and the support of many. NMABE recognizes and especially thanks the following individuals for volunteering their help in ensuring the success of the 15th Annual State Spanish Spelling Bee:

- Fernando Martin, Director of the Spanish Resource Center at the

NHCC

- Joseph A. Wasson, Jr., Programmer and Production Manager, and James Chávez, Performing Arts, NHCC
- Elsa Menéndez, Outreach Coordinator, NHCC
- Volunteer Staff of the NHCC
- Rebecca Sánchez of the Hispano Chamber of Commerce
- Dr. Julia Rosa Lopez Emslie, Professor Emerita, ENMU
- Dr. Loretta Salazar, Associate Professor Emerita, NMHU
- Dr. Gladys Herrera Gurulé, Director of the BMEB at NMPED
- Dr. Emma Armendáriz, Director of Bilingual/ Multicultural/ Migrant Education, Las Cruces Public Schools
- Alejandro Contreras, News Anchor, Univisión
- Rosalinda Carreón Altamirano, Bilingual Specialist, Las Cruces Public Schools
- NMABE Board members
- Teacher volunteers from the Bernalillo Schools and the Santa Fe Indian School
- School district sponsors and staff
- Parents

National Spanish Spelling Bee Plans Underway

David Briseño, Executive Director of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education has been developing plans with the Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education for a National Spanish Spelling Bee. The Bee will be modeled after NMABE's state bee, using the protocols and word list.

The National Bee has been scheduled for July 9, 2011 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque. Look for more information in upcoming editions of *El Noticiero*



El Noticiero

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 34:1 Fall 2009: October
(Conference Edition)

No. 34:2 Winter 2009: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day, Call to Action)

No. 34:3 Spring 2010: April
(Institute Announcements)

No. 34:4 Summer 2010: July
(Summer Activities)

Monthly Inserts/Wraps with *Language Magazine*

The First Annual National Spanish Spelling Bee



July 9, 2011

**The National Hispanic Cultural Center
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

- Students**
- Teachers**
- Parents**
- Bilingual Educators**
- Administrators**

Plan to attend!



The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE) along with the Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education (AMME), Bee sponsors and organizers, invite you to the very first National Spanish Spelling Bee Competition in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

For more information, contact NMABE Executive Director and AMME Board member David R. Briseño P. O. Box 5190 ... Clovis NM 88102-5190 ... www.nmabe.net ... Phone: 505-238-6812 ... Fax: 575-769-0742 ... Email: nmabe@suddenlink.net

BMEB Announces Upcoming Professional Development Meetings

The BMEB fourth Bilingual/Title III Directors' Quarterly Meeting will take place in June in the form of four regional workshops.

At these workshops, experts from the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment Consortium (WIDA) will provide professional development training on Score Interpretation and Classroom Application for the 2009-2010 English Language Proficiency Test results.

Dates

June 2 - Las Cruces: Las Cruces Public School Board Room - 505 South Main Street.

June 4 - Los Lunas: Teacher Resource Center - 454 Coronado NE.

June 7 - Farmington: Farmington Public Schools - CATE Center-301 North Court Ave.

June 9 - Las Vegas: Las Vegas City Public Schools (TBA).

Description:

In each workshop participants will review the ACCESS for ELLs (R) Score Reports and their programmatic implications. Participants will learn to:

- 1) Distinguish among the different types of scores reported on ACCESS for ELLs (R) reports;
- 2) Understand each score report with a focus on the meaning and use of the data in the reports;
- 3) Analyze and discuss the three example score reports and use the data to influence instruction and program design

Cultural Fair on Census Held in Clovis, New Mexico

The 2000 Census recorded only 9% of the actual population in Zone 4, southern section of Clovis, where Lockwood Elementary School is located. This zone has the lowest Census return rate in the entire state of New Mexico.

However, this time around, Lockwood Elementary School refused to let history repeat itself. April 8 was designated as Cultural Fair/Census Awareness night.

Lockwood Elementary teamed up with La Casita Elementary and ENLACE of New Mexico to provide a fun-filled night. The event was free to the community, and hamburgers and hotdogs were served. Community members enjoyed cultural arts and crafts along with dances from different parts of the world.

Regional Census workers were on hand to help fill out forms in English and Spanish. With each completed form turned in to an onsite Postmaster, the person's name was entered into a raffle to win one of five bikes, one of two digital cameras or a Desktop Computer.

All prizes were provided by local businesses and organizations that wanted to support the cause. There were about 500 participants in the event and over 100 Census forms will be counted this year, showing that schools can make a difference!.

Summer Spanish Immersion Institutes Scheduled

New Mexico Highlands University:
June 20 to 27, 2010. Contact: Dr. Loretta Salazar, (505) 454-3535, lsalazar@nmhu.edu or Dr. Jayni Flores, (505) 454-3146, ljflores@nmhu.edu

Eastern New Mexico University:
June 6 to June 13, 2010. Contact: Geni Flores (575) 562-2765, Geni.flores@enmu.edu

New Mexico State University:
May 24 to May 29, 2010. Contact: Dr. Maria Mercado, mariamm@nmsu.edu

The University of New Mexico:
June 6 to June 25, 2010. Contact: Dr. Rebecca Blum Martinez, 505-277-4972, rebeccab@unm.edu