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El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

November 2009

Greetings from Emilia Vigil, NMABE President 2009 - 2010



Greetings and salutations! NMABE just completed a great conference in Albuquerque. The Native American Language Festival was a huge success, with over 400 in attendance. The pathway to the success of these events required cooperation and collaboration from a multitude of individuals, all pulling together for a common purpose.

The mission of NMABE is to support bilingual multicultural education throughout the state. It embraces the rich cultural and linguistic diversity within our state and promotes its inclusion in the education of ALL students. It promotes educational excellence and equity through activities including advocacy, professional development and research.

We are facing some challenging but exciting times in education in New Mexico. Challenging, because resources

may not be available for the work ahead of us. Exciting, because they provide an opportunity for all educators and organizations in the state to band together, advocate for adequate resources and pool these resources so that we can provide topnotch professional development for teachers and school leaders.

I implore you to join with NMABE in ensuring that New Mexico's students succeed and flourish in a bilingual multicultural environment. Bilingual multicultural education must be recognized and embraced as a plus in our schools and classrooms. The newly adopted English Language Development Standards must be utilized and incorporated into daily lesson plans to support the language proficiency levels of ELL students across all content areas.

Please remember that you are not alone as a classroom teacher or school

leader in your quest to provide quality education to your students. NMABE is prepared to support your efforts with mentoring, time and professional development. Let's make this year a great year by valuing the heritage and language of every child, by engaging parents as partners in the educational process and by sharing best practices with one another. I look forward to meeting you and working with you to promote educational success for ALL students in New Mexico's rich and unique bilingual multicultural environment. Best wishes for a great year!

Differentiating Instruction for ELLs: The Marriage of the ELD Standards and Sheltered Instruction

Research clearly indicates that English language learners (ELLs) have greater success in school when they have access to the meaning of concepts being taught in their second language. One way to accomplish this is through sheltered content instruction. When ELLs are grouped with English-proficient students, this methodology is especially important. In essence, it allows teachers to differentiate instruction for ELLs by incorporating

language development strategies into the content areas.

This proven methodology is being utilized by many Bilingual Education and ESL teachers in schools throughout the state. Not all ELL students, however, have the opportunity to receive this type of instruction due to the limited number of endorsed teachers in New Mexico's schools. This is particularly true at the middle and high school levels, as few

content teachers have had this preparation.

In September, the New Mexico Public Education Department released the English Language Development (ELD) Standards. They are designed to teach the language of the content areas of Language Arts, Science, Social Studies and Mathematics in New Mexico. Teachers who have ELLs in their classrooms will

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NMABE Reaches Out to NM Schools through Regional Professional Development Institutes

In its mission statement, the goals of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education are to stimulate professional development and to provide opportunities to study and discuss issues concerning Bilingual Education.

To reach these goals, NMABE will hold four regional professional development institutes, two in the Spring of 2010 and two in Fall 2010. NMABE Board members listed below will serve as the contacts for each institute. More information will follow in future editions of NMABE's *El Noticiero*.

REGION	BOARD CONTACT(S)	DATES
South East	Adán Estrada, David Briseño	Spring 2010
South West	Rosalinda Altamirano	Spring 2010
North East	Drs. Loretta Salazar and Rodolfo Chávez	Fall 2010
North West	Carline Murphy and Emilia Vigil	Fall 2010

Dates Set for NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee

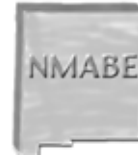
The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education will hold its annual State Spanish Spelling Bee at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque on April 10, 2010. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** For more information, see the website at <http://www.nmabe.net>

18th Annual Back to School Family Institute and 11th Annual Youth Leadership Institute

As the school year gets under way, the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations at New Mexico Highlands University is busy preparing its annual Back to School Family Institute and Youth Leadership Institute. It will be held this year at the Hilton Buffalo Thunder Resort in Pojoaque, NM.

The Back To School Family Institute offers parents, teachers, and administrators the resources and strategies to strengthen family-community-school partnerships across New Mexico, with the goal of helping all children, youth and families succeed. Our theme this year is " Gathering for Positive Change: Action for Multicultural Partnerships in New Mexico."

"There is a new strand this year for school and district staff that focuses on roles and responsibilities in planning and building partnership programs." said Dr. Rodolfo Chávez, CESDP Institute Coordinator. School districts can support attendance at the institute through various funding sources, such as Title I. Registration information can be found at <http://www.cesdp.nmhu.edu/back-to-school.asp>



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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2009 - 2010 NMABE BOARD

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

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

No. 34:2 Winter 2010: 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

37th Annual NMABE Conference Addresses Critical Issues in Education in New Mexico

The 37th Annual NMABE Bilingual Education Conference brought educators, parents and students together last month at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque. The conference theme, "Bilingual Multicultural Education: Pathway to Success" brought a focus to keynote and featured speakers' remarks on issues that impact Bilingual Education students in New Mexico's schools.

This past year, two major NMPED-sponsored events cut to the heart of the education of English language learners in schools of the state. They were: The English Language Learner Summit (held in June 2009) and the new English Language development Standards (released in September 2009 by the NMPED). Both events offer the opportunity for cross-disciplinary reform in the instruction of ELLs.

The ELL Summit outcomes have the potential for broad sweeping change in the scope of education for ELLs. The new Standards pinpoint instruction in the classroom: all teachers are now held accountable for teaching the language of content area to ELLs.

Featured speakers

Both topics were addressed in featured sessions offered by **Dr. Sheila Hyde**, NMPED Assistant Secretary for Quality Assurance and Systems Integration, and **Patricia Latham/Adrian Sandoval** of the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations. **Dr. Jeff Zwiwers**, Stanford University, demonstrated specific techniques for developing cognitive language in English reflected the standards. **David Briseño** and **David Rogers**, Executive Directors of NMABE and DLeNM respectively, provided the "nitty gritty" facts about how to design, implement and provide resources for high quality bilingual education programs.

Keynotes

In the NMPED welcome to the con-

ference, **Dr. Gloria Rendón**, Assistant Secretary for Instructional Support, said, "As Bilingual Educators, it is important that we address and celebrate diversity in the classroom; therefore it is crucial that we differentiate instruction with culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies, activities and resources...The standards are the foundation for curriculum and instruction of ELLs." She indicated that the new English Language Proficiency Assessment (NMELPA 2) will be aligned to the new ELD standards.

The two keynote speakers for the conference emphasized various pathways to success for English Language Learners.

Dr. Barbara Medina, Assistant Commissioner for Innovation and Transformation in the Colorado State Department of Education, gave a dynamic delivery, highlighting four critical pathways for success for students we, as teachers and administrators, must take:

- We must have high, clear expectations and respect for ourselves as teachers. "You can't expect it if you don't model it. If you don't expect excellence of yourself, how can you expect it of your students?" she said.
- Administrators *hold* a position, they *are* not that position. "You must manage by walking around, being with those you are attempting to lead... It's a sacred trust; behave with dignity, respect and use funds well for the children."
- Be compassionate for other people, don't stereotype. "Respect the dignity of all, regardless of their educational background. They are proud of their contributions."
- Provide students with expert models. "Success motivates more success," she said. Dr. Medina quoted Dr. Martin Luther King, "Ultimately, the measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge

and controversy." She then asked everyone: "Where do you stand in the controversy over Bilingual Education?"

Regis Pecos, Chief of Staff for the Speaker of the NM House of Representatives and a member of Cochiti Pueblo, delivered a moving talk about core values--land, language, culture, family, governance, and jurisprudence--from which come respect for all that we are. He then went on to outline the last 100 years of federal policy, emphasizing "the intersections which have challenged our core values":

- Boarding schools, whose purpose was to assimilate Native Americans into the dominant society and "Kill the Indian, save the man," separated Native children from their parents and families. They were prohibited from using their native language, stripping them of their ability to relate to their parents and their native cultures.
- The Johnson O'Malley Act of 1930 represented the first act to integrate Indian children into the public schools and to teach fluency in English.
- Many native people served in two world wars, yet they were not given the right to vote until 1948.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior relocated returning veterans and their families to cities, to help them get jobs and the training necessary to live, creating the "urban Indian." The concept was "the sooner you leave your language and culture behind, the better off you would be". However, Regis spoke about how young Indian children felt very "different," sometimes being the only Indian children in urban classrooms, and how they felt rejected by the

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now be held accountable to ensure their instruction meets these standards.

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education has designed its annual Bilingual Educators' Institute with this need in mind. It will be held at the Santa Fe Community College on January 26 and 27, 2010. The emphasis will be on how practitioners can implement the new standards as part of sheltered instruction. NMABE will offer a whole-group presentation on January 26th and three hands-on breakout sessions on January 27th. Participants will be able to select two of the three sessions offered.

The Santa Fe Courtyard Marriott will be our host hotel. It is located at 3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507.

GUEST ROOM RATES: Single or Double

King \$65.00 plus tax

Double Queen \$65.00 plus tax

King Suite \$95.00 plus tax

RESERVATION METHOD: Hotel reservations must be received at 505-473-2800 no later than Monday, January 18, 2010. Please ask for the "Bilingual Education Conference" group rate to receive the discount.

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community who did not know who they were.

- Regarding Head Start programs, he asked, "Where is it a head start to? Is it a process of assimilation similar to the Boarding Schools? We must think of how to balance Head Start with the premise of who the students are."

Mr. Pecos emphasized that despite all the negative policies he said that the Native Peoples still have connections and a spirit of community. What is critical now is to determine whether an educational policy supports the core values or whether it takes children further away from their language and culture. To do this, we must:

- Be mindful that language and culture must be the heart and soul of the programs we support;
- Embrace parents by having our institutions create genuine partnerships with them;
- Create situations where language and culture can survive and enrich learning.

Native American Language Festival

The Native American Language Festival, held on Saturday, September 26, 2009, had participants from the Alamo Community School, Ft. Wingate Elementary School, Tohatchi Elementary School and Ojo Amarillo Elementary School (Central Consolidated School District). About 175 students competed in five category events: the Navajo Spelling Bee, Reading, Oral Speaking, Dancing and Singing.

Look for a full report in the next edition of El Noticiero.



NMABE Bilingual Educators' Institute
Jan. 26-27, 2010
Santa Fe Community College

Differentiating Instruction for ELLs:**The Marriage of the ELD Standards with Sheltered Instruction**Host Hotel

Santa Fe Courtyard by Marriott
3347 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507

GUEST ROOM RATES (Single or Double):

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Double Queen \$65.00

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