



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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Spring 2010

Inaugural Conference of the Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education

The Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education (AMME) is a national non-profit advocacy and professional organization dedicated to bringing fundamental change in U.S. language education policy and practice that responds to the demographic and global economic imperative. It will hold its very first national conference at the Albuquerque Convention Center, May 19-21, 2010. The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education is one of AMME's founding members.

The mission of AMME is three-fold:

- To transform the policy and practice of language education and academic achievement for Bilingual and ELL learners in U.S. schools;
- To raise U.S. standards for language education to the level of the rest of the world;
- To advance equal educational access and opportunity.

AMME partners with other organizations to actively advocate and promote educational excellence and equity for English language learners and their families. It strives to cultivate a multilingual, multicultural society by supporting and promoting policy, programs, pedagogy, research and professional development that value native languages, lead to English and academic proficiency and prepare our nation's students for the global economy.

The conference theme is *Equal Educational Access and Opportunity -- Children First: Policies, Practices, Pedagogies, Responding to the Demographic Imperative*. Three featured panels are offered:

POLICY: *The Reauthorization of a New Language Bilingual/Multicultural Education Act;*

PRACTICES: *Bilingual Learners and ELL Schooling;*

PEDAGOGIES: *Early Childhood through Higher Education.*

Plenary and Keynote Speakers:

Juan Sepúlveda, Director, White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans

Dr. Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Education

Consuelo Castillo Kickbush, Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, retired

Joe Garcia, Chairman of All Indian Pueblo Council, Past President of National Council of American Indians

Register Online at www.ammeglobal.org

Early Bird Registration\$325 Deadline: 04/05/10

Pre-Conference Registration.....\$375 Deadline: 05/05/10

On-site Registration.....\$425

NMABE and DLeNM Prepare Full-Day Session on Mini Shared Reading

On Thursday, April 29, 2010, NMABE and Dual Language Education of New Mexico (DLeNM) will offer a full-day workshop session in Santa Fe, New Mexico entitled "Mini Shared Reading –A Bridge to Proficient Reading". Dr. Barbara Flores, a nationally recognized Reading expert (California State University in San Bernadino, CA) will deliver the session at the Santa Fe Convention Center, 401 W. Marcy Street.

The workshop supports primary-level teachers who provide Reading instruction in Spanish and/or English to first and second language learners. In this interactive session, participants will explore the rationale and procedures for using mini shared Reading as an effective classroom strategy. The workshop:

- Includes effective Reading strategies for beginning/struggling readers (Tier 1 Response to Intervention Strategies);
- Focuses on L1 and L2 learners in pre-k to 2nd grade;
- Engages students in successful acts of Reading;
- Reflects Vygotsky's sociocultural principles of teaching and learning.

Registration cost is \$119. Breakfast and lunch are included

For more information, please contact: Dee McMann at dee@dlenm.org or (505) 243-0648.

Summer Spanish Immersion Institutes Scheduled

New Mexico Highlands University: June 20 to 27, 2010. Contact Information: 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 Information: Geni Flores (575) 562-2765, Geni.flores@enmu.edu

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

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

Plan for Northwest NMABE Institute Underway

The planning committee for the Northwest NMABE Institute have developed a tentative agenda for this first-ever professional development event. Scheduled for Sept. 25, 2010 at the Cate Center in Farmington, the institute will offer activities for teachers, students and parents. Plans include inviting Dr. Howard Rainer, a dynamic speaker who motivates the Native American community to use education as a way to move forward, keep one's culture and succeed in the school. Patricia Latham and Adrian Sandoval of the CESDP will give an introduction to the ELD standards. Other potential topics include Diné SIOP, language immersion activities, teacher demonstrations, along with Navajo and Spanish cultural activities, publishers' materials and much, much more! BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 25, 2010!

Governor Richardson Signs Hispanic Education Act

On March 10, 2010, Governor Bill Richardson signed the nation's first Hispanic Education Act into law. The Act is aimed at improving the educational achievement of New Mexico's Hispanic students and closing the achievement gap. Lawmakers, educational leaders and community leaders joined the Governor at Washington Middle School in Albuquerque for the bill signing. It was sponsored by Rep. Rick Miera and Sen. Bernadette Sanchez.

"We've made progress in increasing student achievement statewide, but the persistent achievement gaps our Hispanic students struggle with are unacceptable. That's why I am proud to sign this bill," Governor Richardson said. "I want New Mexico to be the flagship state for leading the movement to close the achievement gap for our Hispanic students."

The primary purpose of the Hispanic Education Act is to engage the community in a more formal and consistent way in helping to define challenges and address student performance. The Act includes three main focus areas:

1. Codifies a formal Hispanic Advisory Council that will institutionalize statewide community engagement;
2. Requires the Public Education Department to provide an annual P-20 status report on the state of Hispanic education;
3. Creates a Hispanic Education Liaison to focus on Hispanic education policy, developing a strategic approach to take a dramatic step to close the achievement and graduation gaps, serve as a resource to districts, and liaison with the advisory council to ensure that recommendations are researched and implemented.

"When the majority of New Mexicans are not graduating or are not graduating prepared for college or career, it means a lower tax base to build New Mexico's future, continued dependence on social programs, higher rates of incarceration and serious health issues that will limit the success of our children. We know that education is the key factor in mitigating these issues. The Hispanic Education Act gives us one more tool to facilitate change and gives the Hispanic community a seat at the table to help make it happen," said Education Secretary Veronica C. García.



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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.

P. O. Box 5190
Clovis, New Mexico 88102-5190
www.nmabe.net

Editor Mary Jean Habermann López
maryjeanhl@msn.com

Copy Editor Dr. Kathryn Sherlock
kcsherlock43@yahoo.com

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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