



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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David Briseño, NMABE Executive Director, Elected to NABE Board

New Mexico's voice will continue to be heard as the National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE) advocates for language minority children and bilingual education. David Briseño, NMABE's Executive Director, was elected to a three-year term of service on the NABE executive board.

"It is truly an honor and a privilege to be selected by my peers to serve on the executive board of the National Association for Bilingual Education. My desire is to work with other board members in their continued efforts to keep NABE a strong advocate for bilingual education in this country." said Mr. Briseño. He begins his term this summer at the first NABE Board meeting, July 6-8, 2007.

There has been a continuum of leadership from New Mexico at the national level through NABE. Dr. Rudy Chávez, president elect for NMABE and Dr. Paul Martínez, Director of the Center for the Education of Students from Diverse Populations have both been instrumental in this leadership, having served as Presidents of NABE and as executive board members in the past. David Rogers, Executive Director of Dual Language Education of New

Mexico, and past NMABE presidents Dr. Elsy Fierro and Dr. Hermán García, have also been NABE board members.

David's vision for NABE is pertinent to the needs of the students in New Mexico as well as in the nation. He said, "We have a great opportunity to add our influence to the reauthorization of NCLB and the impact it has on the development and implementation of effective bilingual programs. We cannot afford to let this opportunity go by without strongly advocating for those changes in the law that take into account current research findings while at the same time holding educators accountable for the education of all students."

NMABE heartily congratulates and supports David in this important professional endeavor.

Navajo Proficiency Test Being Developed

The Navajo Nation Office of Dine Language, Culture & Community Affairs Task Force has been conducting a year-long project to develop a Navajo Language Proficiency Test under the leadership of Ms. Delores Noble, a Senior Education Specialist, working with teachers of Navajo language. She states, "The Navajo Language Assessment Advisory Committee are happy to report that we will finish and finalize our assessment tool at the June meeting. The next step is to pilot this assessment. To keep the research as true as possible we need to work with one school and select one grade level. I believe third grade would be a good class to research. At our meeting in Grants we will identify the class to pilot the assessment tool." So it looks like Navajo is on its way to having a test that schools can pilot this coming year.

Students Shine During NMABE



Conference



DLeNM Assists New Mexico with Dual Language Programs Implementation

Dual Language Education of New Mexico (DLeNM) is an educational non-profit that offers support to schools in the planning and implementation of dual language education programs in New Mexico. With a staff of four for school year 2007-08,



DLeNM was able to offer a comprehensible menu of program and professional development offerings for the first time ever. Responding to requests from eight school districts (Gadsden, T or C, Clovis, Portales, Santa Fe,



Los Lunas, Española, West Las Vegas and Albuquerque) and nearly three dozen New Mexico Schools, during the 2007-08 school year, DLeNM was able to: Host a *La Siembra* (New Program Planning) Retreat for nine school communities; an *El Enriquecer* (Program Self-Evaluation) Retreat for 12 school communities; train over 120 classroom teachers in biliteracy development and assessment; train 55 teachers in the GLAD (sheltering protocol), and; offer 40+ teachers a summer critical institute or Dual Language Power Planning course. In addition, over four dozen Dual Language Overview presentations were offered to school, business and/or community groups throughout the state seeking more information on this enrichment program. And with strengthening dual language leadership, DLeNM hosted 40 school principals and assistant principals in monthly study groups in Central and Northern New Mexico.

Big Plans for School Year 2007-08

In addition to the annual *La Cosecha* Conference (being held at the Hotel Albuquerque in Old Town) and its on-going planning and self-evaluation retreats, DLeNM will be focusing on a new “*Los Puentes*”, biliteracy development and assessment project with schools in Northern, Central and Eastern New Mexico.



The first annual “*Las Semillas de La Cosecha: Dual Language Family and Community Conference*” will be hosted in collaboration with our state parent organization, NMABE, as well as ENLACE and other sister organizations. This new conference will be held on September 28, 2007 at the UNM Continuing Education North Building.

The most significant initiative for the new school year will be to hold program and professional development events in distinct geographical locations throughout the state. An *El Enriquecer* event is currently being planned for Eastern (Clovis) New Mexico this August. A Dual Language Power Planning event will be organized in Española this December, and DLeNM hopes to hold at least one *La Siembra* or *El Enriquecer* retreat in Southern New Mexico for January or February of 2008.

For more information concerning these and other DLeNM program and professional development offerings, please visit the DLeNM Website: www.duallanguagenm.org. You may also contact DLeNM events organizer, Michael García at events@duallanguagenm.org, or DLeNM Executive Director, David Rogers at DvdRgrs@aol.com.



El Noticiero

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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)
- Also, monthly inserts/wraps