



www.nmabe.net

Vol. 33, No. 4

Summer 2009

El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

Historic ELL Summit Held June 1-2, 2009

On June 1, 2009, history was made in New Mexico. The state Public Education Department held the first-ever English Language Learner Summit, "Race to the Top: Closing the Achievement Gap for English Language Learners in New Mexico". The Summit sponsors were the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations of New Mexico Highlands University and the Office of Education Accountability of the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration. New Mexico First organized and facilitated the Summit.

Dr. Sheila Hyde, Assistant Secretary, Division of Quality Assurance and Systems Integration NMPED, welcomed the 200 invited participants, stating the expected outcome of the two-day summit was "to come up with a set of recommendations to design and implement a statewide plan for the education of English language learners." Participants included classroom teachers, principals, instructional leaders, representatives from community colleges, higher education, the New Mexico Public Education Department and numerous organizations such as NMABE, the New Mexico Coalition of School Administrators, the organization Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE), and others.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Veronica Garcia, New Mexico Secretary of Education urged the audience to "think outside the box." Holding up a flash drive, she challenged participants to help public education make the same leap for ELLs that computer technology had made in the past 40 years. "We've been inching along, making some progress with ELLs, but we haven't been able to hit it out of the ball park." She went on to say, "We may need to make adults really uncomfortable and not let them get in the way, if we are to make a difference for children. New Mexico must be the leader!"



**Dr. Veronica Garcia,
Secretary of Public
Education**

At the opening of the second day of the institute, NMABE President Dr. Rodolfo Chávez greeted and invited all Summit participants to join us at the upcoming September NMABE conference. NMABE's board was well represented at the Summit with six past presidents joining in this historic institute.

Keynote address

Jim Lyons, Esq., opened the Summit with a quote from President Barak Obama stated almost exactly one year ago at a Town Hall campaign event in Thornton, CO, "Understand my starting principle is that everyone should be bilingual." Contrary to the public belief that English is becoming a common language worldwide, English is only spoken by 17% of the world's population. "And we're all ELLs in America," Jim went on to say, referencing the fact that all Americans study and continue to learn English from kindergarten to 12th grade and beyond.



James J. Lyons, Esq.

Mr. Lyons reminded the audience that the United States of America is the only industrialized country in the world that sets only one language as its educational goal. He elaborated on how language restrictionism and race ran parallel in the first 150 years of US history, how the promises of justice and education in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo went awry with the discovery of gold in California, and how the view of language and loyalty after World Wars I and II brought us to the one-language standard.

He concluded his remarks with his hopefulness for the future. "If it begins in New Mexico, other states will have a model to follow. New Mexico has the people, the passion, and the ability to help the United States develop a new language standard – one of bilingualism for all."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

La Cosecha 2009 Dual Language Conference



November 18-21, 2009
Albuquerque Convention Center
www.lacosecha.dlenm.org

The National Center for Research on the Educational Achievement and Teaching of English Language Learners (CREATE): 2009 CREATE Conference

Improving Outcomes for English Language Learners: Oral Language and Literacy Learning Across the Curriculum
Location: AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center, Austin, TX
Date: October 5-6, 2009

The language processes required to comprehend and succeed across an educational curriculum are complex and challenging, even for students who speak English as their first language. For English language learners in the United States, the simultaneous requisite of developing English language and literacy skills heightens the challenge.

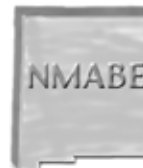
TESOL Endorsement Requirements Change

The June edition of *El Noticiero* ran a story about the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) public hearing held on April 29, 2009, regarding the proposed state rule change for 6.64.11 _NMAC "Tesol Competencies". (See June 2009, Vol. 33 No. 3.2, *Public Hearing Held on TESOL Rule Change*)

Phil Baca, Director of the Professional Licensure Bureau of the NMPED, notified Dr. Loretta Salazar of the State Bilingual Advisory Committee that the amended rule was filed on June 1, 2009, to become effective June 15, 2009. Section 2 of subparagraph b of 6.64.11 reads as follows: "successfully complete at least twelve (12) credit hours in TESOL preparation, six (6) hours of which must be in a language other than English and six (6) hours of which must be upper division or post baccalaureate credits that address the competencies in Subsection C through F of 6.64.11.9 NMAC".

This final change refers to requirements for practicing teachers seeking to add the TESOL endorsement to an existing New Mexico teaching license at any level. Previously, teachers only needed to pass the content knowledge test of the New Mexico teacher assessments in order to be TESOL-endorsed. The amended rule will now require teachers to complete twelve credit hours in TESOL preparation as described above, which may be either upper division courses or 100-200 level courses offered at the community colleges of New Mexico. The majority of those who testified at the hearing urged the PED to include upper division credit requirements. Some educators even testified that the 12 hours being requested is a "bare minimum" in order to prepare any teacher with the skills and competencies listed in the rule.

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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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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 33:1 Fall 2008: October
(Conference Edition)

No. 33:2 Winter 2009: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
Call to Action)

No. 33:3 Spring 2009: April
(Institutes Announcements)

No. 33:4 Summer 2009: July
(Summer Activities).05

Monthly Inserts/Wraps in Language Magazine

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The Process

Each participant was assigned to one strand per day. The eight summit strands were addressed each day. The strands were as follows:

- High-Quality, Sustained Professional Learning;
- Effective School Leadership;
- Cultural Competence;
- Family and Community Involvement;
- Accountability of Instruction;
- Use of Assessments to Inform Instruction;
- Fidelity and Rigor in the Implementation of Bilingual Multicultural Education, Dual Language, English as a Second Language and Structured English immersion Programs; and
- Response to Intervention (RtI) and Implications for English Language Learners.

New Mexico First facilitators used a consistent process to engage participants in each strand, guiding each group to identify what New Mexico needs to “start doing, do more of, do less of and stop doing.” After brainstorming, each group developed and came to



Group discussion in one of the strands.

consensus on at least three recommendations per strand

per day.

The last activity in the afternoon of the second day required the entire group to come to consensus on the recommendations of all groups for each of the eight strands. This was accomplished through the use of three questions: Is the concept sound? Is the charge good? Is the concept clear and understood?

Members of NM Public Education Department's Executive Leadership Team were present to hear and comment on the recommendations.

Next steps

New Mexico First will prepare a report on the Summit by July 1, 2009 that will be put up on the NMPED website. NMPED's Executive Leadership Team will then review the report, identify priorities and connect recommendations with other legislative initiatives, funding resources and policy directives



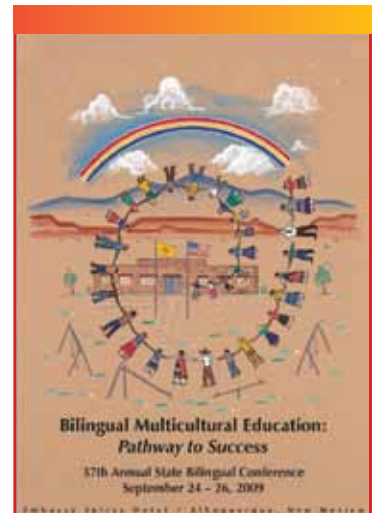
Dr. Sheila Hyde summarizes ideas.

Bilingual Education in New Mexico

to see how and when to take the next steps. An implementation team, comprised of interested participants from the ELL Summit, will then develop the statewide plan for the education of English language learners.

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education is profoundly grateful to Dr. Sheila Hyde and to the Secretary of Education, Dr. Veronica Garcia, for their leadership, vision and support in taking this significant step in the ongoing history of

You are invited to showcase Native Pride and Native Heritage by involving students in competitions of cultural skills, traditions and language.



Native American Language Festival

Saturday, September 26, 2009 ... 9:00 am - 1:00 pm ... Embassy Suites Hotel ... Albuquerque, New Mexico

Students may register for up to three competitive categories.

Deadline for entries is September 8, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

Entry forms, rules and regulations are on the NMABE website: www.nmabe.net

Competition Categories

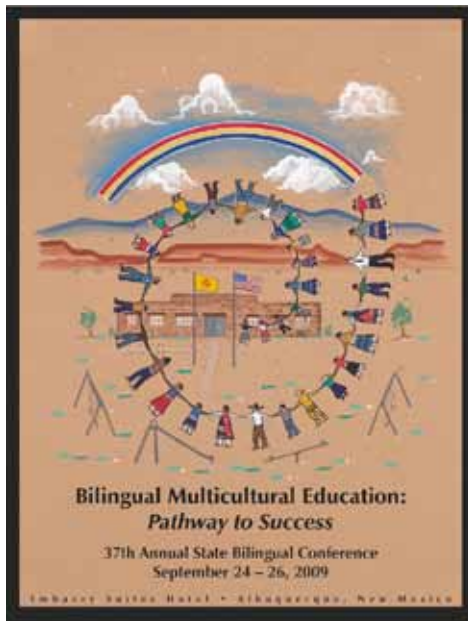
- Native Language Reading
- Navajo Spelling Bee
- Native Language Oral Presentation
- Native Language Singing
- Native Dance

For more information: **Carline Murphy**
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NMABE State Bilingual Education Conference

Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque -- Sept. 24-26, 2009



KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

- **Dr. Barbara M. Medina**
Assistant Commissioner for Innovation and Transformation at the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), and recognized as a dynamic speaker, Dr. Medina's scholarly interests include research in the areas of language and literacy for diverse populations, cultural and linguistic diversity and second language acquisition.

- **Regis Pecos**
Mr. Pecos, born and raised at Cochiti Pueblo, has spent much of his professional life advancing the interests of American Indian citizens at the tribal, state and national levels. In 1999, he received New Mexico's highest honor, as he was named New Mexico's Distinguished Public Servant. Currently, Mr. Pecos is the Chief of Staff for Speaker of the House, Ben Lujan.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

- Dr. Jeff Zwiers: *Classroom Practices Building Academic Language*
- Dr. Sheila Hyde: *ELL Summit Outcomes*
- James J. Lyons, ESQ: *The View from DC*
- Patricia Latham / Adrian Sandoval: *Classroom Practices for the New ELD Standards*

CONFERENCE ARTIST
• Mr. John King

BILINGUAL MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION: PATHWAY TO SUCCESS

CONFERENCE STRANDS

Dual Language ... English as a Second Language
... Administering Bilingual Education Programs
... Spanish Content ... Native American Bilingual Education Programs...

SPECIAL EVENTS

- President's Reception
- Conference Posters signed by artist
- Publishers' Exhibits
- Student Entertainment
- Awards Banquet
- Dance
- Native American Literary Festival
- Special Events Luncheon

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Register on line at www.nmabe.net

- Early Bird Registration before June 20.....\$275
- Pre-Registration before August 28.....300
- On-site Registration after August 28.....325



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Although NMABE is pleased that the requirements have been strengthened, the fact that these classes can be of an introductory nature offered at the community college level is disappointing.

"This was especially heart-breaking, since the news came right at the end of the historic ELL Summit held on June 1-2," said Dr. Loretta Salazar, member of the State Bilingual Advisory Committee and Past President of NMABE. "As professional educators, we must remain focused on the plight of our bilingual and ELL students who deserve to be served by teachers who have been prepared way beyond initial course work. The real challenge now will be to see the effect of this noteworthy Summit on our entire teacher preparation / licensure process."