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El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

Vol. 34, No. 2

Winter 2010

New English Language Proficiency Tests Implemented Across New Mexico

Beginning in January 2010, New Mexico school districts, charter schools and State educational institutions will administer the ACCESS for ELLs® English proficiency assessment and the WIDA ACCESS Placement Test (W-APT™) for English Language Learners. These assessments replace the New Mexico English Language Proficiency Assessment (NMELPA) and the New Mexico English Language Placement Test (NMELPT). They are provided through the New

Mexico Public Education Department's (NMPED) contractual membership in the WIDA® (World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment) Consortium.

The W-APT™ placement test is available on the WIDA® website at no cost to school districts. The W-APT is the local continuous diagnostic assessment for entering ELLs.

The ACCESS for ELLs® assessment will be administered once each year during the winter. This year, ACCESS

for ELLs® will be administered from January 25 through February 26, 2010.

The Public School Code (§22-2C-4, Section 3, D, NMSA 1978) and ESEA/NCLB require the annual assessment of English Language Learners for appropriate placement in instructional programs.

AMME Holds Inaugural International Conference in Albuquerque in February

In the September 8, 2008 edition of El Noticiero, (Vol. 32, No. 4.2), NMABE reported on the formation of a new alliance for multilingual, multicultural education (AMME). Led by Paul Martínez, Director of the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP) of New Mexico Highlands University, over the course of a year, a group of professionals from various state bilingual education organizations met to create a new national advocacy and professional development organization dedicated to bring about fundamental change in language education and practice. David Briseño, Executive Director of NMABE, represented the NMABE Board at the meetings which fully supported the idea. NMABE past presidents Drs. Loretta Salazar and Rodolfo Chávez also participated in these discussions

AMME's mission is threefold:

To transform the policy and practice of language education and academic achievement for Bilingual and ELL learners in U.S.;

To raise U.S. standards for language education to the level of the rest of the world; and

To advance equal educational access and opportunity.

AMME promotes standards of professional excellence in the education of linguistically and culturally diverse populations, and it is diligent in its advocacy. It partners with other organizations to actively promote educational excellence and

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2010 NMABE State Spelling Bee Activities Underway

The NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee will be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010 at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque. Registration will begin at 8:30 am and the event will begin promptly at 9:30 am (see flyer, page 3, for the details). There will be a special events luncheon honoring the Spanish Spelling Bee participants and their parents from 12:00-1:30 p.m. Each participant will receive three (3) complimentary tickets. Additional luncheon tickets will be available for sale at \$35 per person and must be purchased prior to the event.

The 2010 State Spanish Spelling Bee booklet will soon be available on the NMABE website, <http://www.nmabe.net>. School personnel may download it to make as many copies as needed for students for use in this year's competition. NMABE asks that any of the other documents used in the past be discarded.

Please note that, this year, there will

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37th Annual Navajo Song and Dance Festival

The 37th Annual Navajo Song and Dance Festival will be held on January 27th and 28th, 2010 at the Rock Point Community Elementary Gymnasium.

The festival offers students from various communities to come together to show their talents in Diné traditional singing and dancing. Diné Language and Culture are the foundation and strength of the Navajo Nation. They also help many students realize who they are and how they can improve their everyday lives.

The Primary (Kindergarten to 3rd grade) and Secondary (7th-12th grade) Divisions will compete on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. The Intermediate Division (4th-6th grade) will compete on Thursday, January 28, 2010.

For full details on the competition and how to register, contact Roger P. Bernally at (928) 659-4221, ext. 243, Matilda Descheny at ext. 240 (email: Matilda.descheny@rpcs.bia.edu), or Norrena Pahe at ext. 211, (email :nor2renap@rpcs.bia.edu).

NMABE Begins Professional Development for Local Districts

The Annual Bilingual Educators' Institute (January 26) and Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature (January 27) will kick off NMABE's professional development initiatives for 2010.

For the first time ever, the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education will bring four regional institutes--two in the spring and two in the fall--to school districts. NMABE's institutes will address local training needs for implementing appropriate instruction for English language learners.

Spring Institutes

The Spring sessions will focus on

ways to tie together the state's recently adopted ELD standards with sheltered instruction and other proven instructional strategies for ELL students. Michael Chávez, Deming Public Schools; Rosalinda Altamirano, Las Cruces Public Schools; and Susan Yrurralde, Gadsden Public Schools, are planning the South-west regional event.

The Southeast Regional Institute will be held in Hobbs. Planning committee members Freddy Salgado of Hobbs and David Briseño, NMABE Executive Director, are meeting to determine dates and keynote speaker.

Spelling Bee - Continued from page 1

be a \$50 fee per district/charter school.

It is important that NMABE has mailing addresses for district winners in order to send the Special Events Luncheon Invitation to the parents. The district information is due in the NMABE office on March 26, 2010. Local spelling bees must be held prior to that date in order to meet the above deadline. Mail or fax the document to:

NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee
P. O. Box 5190
Clovis, NM 88102-5190
Fax: 505-769-0742

NMABE thanks each school district for its continued support and participation in the NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee. For any questions regarding the competition, please contact David Briseño, Executive Director, at 505-238-6812 or at nmabe@suddenlink.net.



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.

P. O. Box 5190
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www.nmabe.net

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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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNM Position Available

The University of New Mexico's College of Education, Department of Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies invites applications for an Assistant or Associate Professor in American Indian Education. This is a probationary appointment leading to a tenure decision, beginning August 2010.

Applications will be accepted through UNM Jobs (<http://www.unm.edu/jobs/>). Please refer to Posting #0803976 for more information. For best consideration, applications must be received by January 22, 2010. Qualified applicants from all under-represented groups are encouraged to apply. Please apply by the best consideration date. This position will remain open until filled.

Udall Foundation's Internship and Scholarship Opportunities!

The Morris K. Udall Foundation invites college students to learn more about the Native American Congressional Internship Program and Undergraduate Scholarship Program.

The Internship Program <<http://udall.gov/OurPrograms/NACInternship/NACInternship.aspx>> is a ten-week summer internship in Washington, D.C., for Native American and Alaska Native students who wish to learn more about the federal government and issues affecting Indian country. The internship is fully funded: the Foundation provides round-trip airfare, housing, per diem for food and incidentals, and a stipend at the close of the program. Interns work in Congressional and agency offices where they have opportunities to research legislative issues important to tribal communities, network with key public officials and tribal advocacy groups, experience an insider's view of the federal government, and enhance their understanding of nation-building and tribal self-governance. The complete application package must be received at the Morris K. Udall Foundations by January 29, 2010.

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship <<http://udall.gov/OurPrograms/MKUScholarship/MKUScholarship.aspx>> is awarded to college sophomores and juniors pursuing careers related to Tribal Public Policy, Native Health Care, or the Environment. In addition to the \$5,000 financial award, Udall Scholars also get to at-

NCELA Newsletter: AccELerate

Winter 2010 - Volume 2: Issue 2: Professional Development for Teachers of English Language Learners This issue is now available on the websites listed below. It contains the following articles:

- Wilde. *Guidelines for Professional Development: An Overview*
- Ryan & Garcia. *The National Professional Development Program*
- Coady, de Jong, & Harper. *Quality Teacher Preparation for ELLs: Preliminary Findings from Florida*
- Spezzini & Austin. *Collaborative Mentoring Among K-12 Teachers: Professional Development on the Effective Instruction of ELLs*
- He & Prater. *Collaboration in Professional Development for ELL Content Achievement*
- Truxaw & Staples. *Math ACCESS Building Mathematical Proficiency in Linguistically Diverse Schools*
- Cervone. *Excellence for Connecticut's English Language Learners*
- Lier & Fregeau. *Sixteen Fundamentals for Successful Teachers of ELLs*

You can read AccELerate! 2.2 on the NCELA website in pdf or html format.

Websites: For the pdf version: http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/files/accelerate/8/Accelerate_2_2_final.pdf. For the html version: <http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/accelerate/edition/8/>

Our Host



The National Hispanic Cultural Center
1701 4th Street SW
Albuquerque, NM
www.nationalhispaniccenter.org

THE EXCLUSIVE HOST HOTEL FOR THE EVENT!



For more information contact:
David Briseño
505-238-6812
nmabe@suddenlink.net

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education
Presents



NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee

April 10, 2010

CONCURSO DE DELETREO EN ESPAÑOL
SPANISH SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

P. O. Box 5190
Clovis NM 88102-5190

www.nmabe.net

Phone: 505-238-6812
Fax: 575-769-0742

E-mail: nmabe@suddenlink.net

8:30a.m-9:10 a.m.
Inscripción de Participantes en el Concurso de Deletreo
Registration of Spelling Bee Participants

9:10 a.m-9:25 a.m.
Participantes del Concurso toman su asiento
Spelling Bee Participants take their seat

9:30a.m-12:00 p.m.
Concurso de Deletreo y Presentación de Premios
Spelling Bee & Presentation of Awards

12:00-1:30 p.m.
Almuerzo para los Participantes y Padres
Luncheon for Participants & Parents



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tend the Udall Scholar Orientation and are immediately plugged into a growing and active alumni network. Tribal public policy includes fields related to tribal sovereignty, governance, law, education, justice, natural resource management, cultural preservation and revitalization, economic development, and other areas affecting Native American communities. Native American health care includes health care administration, social work, medicine, research, and other disciplines. The Foundation must receive application packets by March 2, 2010, but individual institutions may have earlier deadlines. Interested students can contact their campus Udall Faculty Representative for more information.

Students are encouraged to visit the following website: www.udall.gov to learn more about the internship and scholarship opportunities. On the website, students will find videos about both programs, tips for applying, and Alumni Mentors who can be contacted with any questions.

Interested students may contact Colin Ben, Internship Contractor, at: crben02@yahoo.com or Mia Ibarra, Scholarship Program Manager, at: ibarra@udall.gov.

Contact Information

Colin Ben, Internship Contractor, and Mia Ibarra, Scholarship Program Manager:

Udall Foundation
 130 S. Scott Avenue
 Tucson, Arizona 85701
 ph. 520.901.8564
 fax 520.901.8570 ibarra@udall.gov
<http://us.mc319.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=ibarra@udall.gov>

Governor Bill Richardson Announces Plans for Hispanic Education Act

Governor Bill Richardson announced his plans for a Hispanic Education Act while speaking at the New Mexico Hispanic Education Solutions Summit in Albuquerque in early December.

“I want New Mexico to be the flagship state for leading the movement to close the achievement gap for our Hispanic students,” Governor Richardson said. “I’m ready, New Mexico is ready and our future depends on it. To achieve this, I am calling on Education Secretary Veronica García to work with legislators to develop the nation’s first Hispanic Education Act here in New Mexico.”

Governor Richardson was joined by Juan Sepúlveda, Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans, who delivered the keynote address, and New Mexico Education Secretary Veronica C. García.

“Governor Richardson would like the Hispanic Education Act to be modeled after our nationally recognized Indian Education Act,” said Secretary García. “It will include language, culture, unity, community and parental involvement, accountability, and student outcomes or impact on students. I will make every effort to have the proposed legislation presented to the Legislators in January.”

Over 183,000 of New Mexico students are Hispanic. While Hispanic students have seen significant gains in recent years thanks to Governor Richardson’s educational initiatives, achievement and graduation gaps persist.

Governor Richardson has committed \$9.4 million of the discretionary stabilization stimulus funds to a new initiative: "Graduate New Mexico – It’s Everybody’s Business" to increase student achievement and graduation rates. The December summit is part of that part of that initiative. It brought together students, teachers, parents, Hispanic leaders, community resource providers, community health workers and spiritual leaders, to develop bold solutions and strategies to address the achievement and graduation gap in New Mexico. NMABE President Emilia Vigil and Executive Director David Briseño participated in the Summit.

“Closing the achievement gap for Hispanic students is not only an economic issue, but it is a moral imperative,” Secretary García said. “Schools cannot do this alone. We need parents and community members as true partners. I believe, working together, it can be done.”

The summit was facilitated by the non-partisan public policy non-profit organization New Mexico First.

AMME - Continued from page 1

equity for English language learners and their families. AMME 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.

A central goal of AMME right now is to be the major voice in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and more specifically, the creation

of a Multilingual Education Act. In addition, it is busy preparing for its Inaugural International Conference in February 17-19, 2010 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. It promises to be the premiere professional development event of 2010 with a focus on pedagogy, best practices, and policy. For more information and to register online go to www.AMMEglobal.org.

- Early Bird Registration\$325
 Deadline: 12/31
- Pre-Conference Registration....\$375
 Deadline: 1/31
- On-site Registration.....\$425