



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

www.nmabe.net

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Effort for Meaningful Input with NMPED Continues

The February edition of *El Noticiero* reported on continuing concerns about the lack of meaningful engagement with the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) on the education of Hispanic, Native American and ELL students in the state. (See *El Noticiero*, Vol. 36, No. 2.1, Feb., 2012, "Coalition Responds to LESC Request").

That story described the outcomes of the December, 2011 Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) hearing on "New Mexico's Majority Minority Student Population," which were:

1. The newly-established Multilingual Multicultural Coalition was asked to prepare a list of legislative requests for the LESC to consider.
2. The LESC Co-Chair, Senator Cynthia Nava, also charged Dr. Anna Lisa Banegas Peña, Director of the Division of Student Success at the NMPED, to work with the Coalition on the concerns expressed at the hearing.

On January 16, 2012, members of the Coalition

held a conference call with Dr. Anna Lisa Banegas Peña, Director of Student Success, NMPED regarding the list of concerns sent to NMPED and LESC. All phone conference participants agreed to discuss the next action steps NMPED would follow. That meeting with Dr. Banegas-Peña and hopefully, Secretary-Designate Skandera, was set for January 28, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at the Lodge Hotel in Santa Fe.

Next, Senator Nava, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, invited members of the Coalition to be present at the Senate Education Committee meeting, at the State Capitol Building on January 25, 2012. Secretary-Designate Skandera was present at that time. She explained the processes that the NMPED had been using to ensure stakeholder input into all new initiatives. David Briseño, Executive Director of NMABE, responded, "We do not consider response to a website as an opportunity for meaningful engagement on issues that affect the large Hispanic, Native American and ELL population in the schools of the state."

Other representatives of the Coalition who were present raised specific concerns regarding the lack of implementation of statutes for this population. Kevin Shendo, Chair of the Indian Advisory Council and also Director of the Jémez Pueblo Department of Education, responded to the topic of English-only education practices by saying, "One does not need to pronounce the words "English-only." The policies themselves create this and have a negative effect on our children's language and culture." Continued on Page 2

National Spanish Spelling Bee Winners Recognized by NM House of Representatives

On January 27, 2012 the New Mexico House of Representatives recognized two New Mexico students who took First and Second Place at the First Santillana National Spelling Bee, held in Albuquerque in July of 2011. Evelyn Juárez, 1st Place Winner (from Española), and Germán Rojero, 2nd Place winner (from Los Lunas) stood before the Members of the House of Representatives as the individual recognition was read for each students. (See page 2.) Representative George Dodge, District 63, Santa Rosa sponsor, issued the students the legislative document. He also acknowledged five Española school board members and district



Rep. George Dodge with Germán Rojero and Evelyn Juárez

personnel from Los Lunas, who traveled to Santa Fe to be present and to proudly cheer the students on.

The entire House of Representatives applauded their achievement. Rep. Debbie Rodella, District 41, Española individually congratulated the students, and Rep. Michael García of Albuquerque spoke on behalf of their accomplishment in Spanish. Indeed, it was a very special moment in the lives of the students and their parents.



Rep. Debbie Rodella, Germán Rojero, Evelyn Juárez and Rep. George Dodge

**NM House of Representatives Recognition
First and Second Place Winners
Santillana National Spanish Spelling Bee**

"The House of Representatives of the State of New Mexico, having learned of the outstanding achievement and exceptional accomplishment of Evelyn Juárez, (Española School District) for winning 1st place; Germán Rojero, (Los Lunas School District) for winning 2nd place in the 2011 National Spanish Spelling Bee, does hereby extend its congratulations and acknowledgment; and further, while duly assembled in session at the State Capitol in Santa Fe, under the Constitution and laws of the state of New Mexico, does herein direct that this official expression of its pride be forthwith sent on behalf of the people of the state of New Mexico. January 27, 2012, Santa Fe, NM."

Continued from Page 1

Neither Dr. Anna Lisa Banegas Peña nor Secretary-Designate Skandera could attend the planned follow-up meeting on January 28, 2012. Instead, Matthew Montañño, Director of Educator Quality, NMPED was present.

Mr. Montano responded in writing to the Coalition's requests, offering opportunity for meaningful input into two upcoming activities:

- The selection of the new Director of Bilingual Multicultural Education;
- Assisting in the creation of the Parental Involvement framework for measuring effectiveness within the A-F school grading system.

While the Coalition appreciates the opportunity to participate in these two events, it does not consider these to be a sufficient answer to all of its concerns. Efforts will continue to have the voices of experts in these matters heard by the NMPED.

On Feb. 9, 2012, NM received word from the US Department of Education that New Mexico's request for a waiver from NCLB requirements had been denied. It is hoped that the NMPED will actively involve the Coalition as it revises its application.

For more information on these matters, please see the "Advocacy" page of the NMABE website at <http://www.nmabe.net>.

¿¿Need to pass Prueba??

**New Mexico Highlands University
offers YOU—
PROGRAMA DE INMERSION EN ESPAÑOL
Preparación para
-Prueba-
9 - 16 de junio, 2012**

El programa consiste de clases en :

<i>Lectura en el Contenido Escolar</i>	<i>Día y noche, noche y día... hasta las comidas...</i>
<i>Composición en el Contenido Escolar</i>	<i>presentaciones, canciones, vídeos, chistes, adivinanzas y más...</i>
<i>Ortografía y Acentuación</i>	<i>Te prometemos... ¡¡ todi-ti-ti-to en español!!</i>
<i>Composición en el Escolar</i>	

Para mayor información comuníquese con la Dra. Loretta Salazar al (505) 454-3535, lsalazar@nmhu.edu o con la Dra. Alice Menzor al (505) 426-2204, menzor_alice@nmhu.edu



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. 36:1 Fall 2011: October
(Back to School Edition)

No. 36:2 Winter 2012: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
Call to Action)

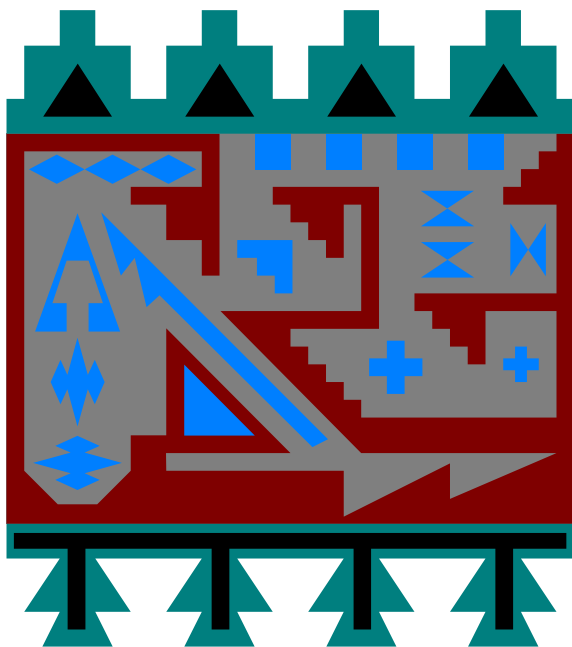
No. 36:3 Spring 2012: April
(Spring Conference Edition)

No. 36:4 Summer 2012: July
(Summer Activities)

Monthly Inserts/Wraps with *Language Magazine*

New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education Conference
NATIVE LANGUAGE FESTIVAL

APRIL 28 , 2012, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
EMBASSY SUITES, ALBUQUERQUE, NM



Registration Form & Competition Rules:

Go to www.nmabe.net

Registration Fee: \$75 per district
Pay registration fee at
www.acteva.com/go/nmabe

Registration Deadline: APRIL 13, 2012. NO EXCEPTIONS

COMPETITION CATEGORIES:

Singing

Dancing

Oral Presentations

- 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and Honorable Mention trophies per category to participating SCHOOLS.
- For registration information, contact
 - Georgia Manning at 505-721-1194, gmanning@gmcs.k12.nm.us
- For additional information contact::
 - Louise Benally at 505-721-1028, lbenally@gmcs.k12.nm.us or
 - Flo Acque at 505- 870-1452 or 505-782-4446 x2108, Florence.acque@zpsd.org

All New Mexico Bilingual Program students are especially invited to showcase their learning in the Native Language classes.





The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

The Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education



AMME/NMABE 2012 Conference

April 25-28

Un Pueblo Unido: Creciendo Juntos

One Community: Growing Together



Embassy Suites Hotel
Albuquerque, NM

For Reservations:
http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/A/ABQEMES-BIL-20120425/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Conference Strands

- Dual Language Education
- ESL
- Policy
- Spanish Content
- Native American Issues
- Bilingual Education Practices
- Parent/Community Outreach
- Language Differences and Special Needs Students

Invited Speakers

- Pedro Noguera
- Virginia Collier
- Wayne Thomas
- Lily Wong Fillmore
- José Luis Orozco
- Mary Jane Oatman-Wak Wak

To register go to www.acteva.com/go/nmabe

Call for Presenters due Jan. 20, 2012
Go to www.nmabe.net for more information

