

El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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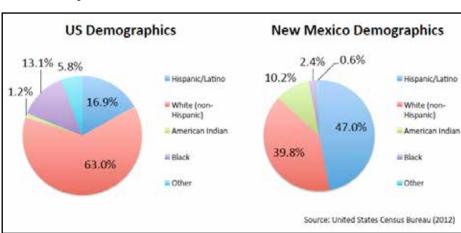
Hispanic Education Advisory Council (HEAC) Develops a Five-Year Plan

Prepared by: Hispanic Education Advisory Council - July 2014

By leveraging its historical experience, distinct legal context, and resources, New Mexico finds itself uniquely situated to positively impact the educational outcomes of its growing Hispanic student population. As the country's first minority-majority state, New Mexico represents what many other regions of the nation will look like in the not-so-distant future

In 2010, the New Mexico Legislature passed House Bill 150, the nation's only Hispanic Education Act, with the explicit goal of closing the achievement gap that exists between Hispanic students and their White peers. The bill includes the

establishment of the Hispanic Education Advisory Council, whose mission is to "advise the secretary [of education] on matters related to improving public school education of Hispanic students and increasing the number of Hispanic high school graduates who succeed in



post-secondary academic, professional or vocational education." Being the only council in the nation that is mandated by state statute to address the closing of the achievement gap, the New Mexico Hispanic Advisory Council bears a great responsibility to garner results in the educational attainment of Hispanic students; not only for the sake of students in New Mexico, but for the sake of Hispanic students across the nation.

Details of the Plan

In the Summer of 2013, the HEAC met with policy makers to discuss ways of giving the Hispanic Education Act a more significant mission to guide on-going work within both the Public Education and Higher Education Department, to identify the most promising evidence-based practices and

programs that will improve the success of Hispanic students and their families in New Mexico.

The HEAC's leadership and guidance will be provided through a five-year plan that will be developed with assistance from a number of Strategic Partners, who include institutions of higher education, the public education department, parent and community groups, local education agencies and technical assistance providers.

Evidence-Based Practice that Improves the Educational Success of our Students

In collaboration with the HEAC, Strategic Partners will identify the best evidence-based practices--known from our individual and collective expertise--to improve the education of New Mexico's Hispanic students.

A subcommittee of the HEAC has

been working on the plan since January 2014, and has scheduled its first Strategic Partner Work Session (Una plática abajo de la resolana) for early September 2014. The outcomes of this work session will include:

- 1. Identifying what evidenced-based practice is being undertaken by strategic partners individually and collectively, to improve the education of our Hispanic students,
- 2. Identifying strategic goals for each of the Hispanic Education Act's focus areas: Student Success; Family Engagement, and; Collaboration, and
- 3. Committing to working on these focus areas, moving forward with the Five-Year Plan.

Organizations who wish to participate in this historic session can submit the name of their contact person and information to david@dlenm.org, by August 8, 2014.

Key Events in July as *El Noticiero* **Went** to Press

National Santillana Spanish Spelling Bee

As this editor prepares the August 2014 edition of NMABE's *El Noticiero*, students from across the nation and the NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee champs are getting ready for the big competition: the National Santillana Spanish Spelling Bee. This is the fourth year that NMABE sponsors the National Bee. All five New Mexico champions will be competing. They are:

- Andrés Arreola, a seventh-grade student from Santa Teresa Middle School (Gadsden), the First Place winner;
- <u>Sergio Cris Morales</u> of Los Lunas Middle School (Los Lunas), the Second Place winner, a seventh-grader;
- <u>Ernesto Castillo</u>, a sixth-grade student from Lynn Middle School (Las Cruces) and Third Place winner;
- <u>Alexis Gutiérrez</u>, a sixth-grader from the Hagerman Municipal Schools, the Fourth Place winner; and
- <u>Nadia Leanos</u>, a fifth-grade student from the Deming Public Schools, the Fifth Place winner.

These New Mexico students will join eighteen other competitors from the states of Massachusetts, California, Texas, Colorado, Oregon and Florida at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM on July 18-19, 2014. If you can't be present for this event, look for the story in the next edition of *El Noticiero*.

State Bilingual Advisory Committee (SBAC) Presents EL Crosswalk at New Mexico Coalition of Educational Leaders (NMCEL) Annual Conference

Members of the SBAC will present the EL Crosswalk at the NMCEL annual conference at the end of July. This work is part of the NMPED NM TEACH teacher evaluation framework. Dual Language Education of New Mexico (DLeNM) and the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations (CESDP) of NMHU will provide professional development to school districts on how to utilize the tool to observe teacher instruction in classrooms that have English learners.

NMPED Continues Work on SLA/SLD Standards

The state SLA/SLD Standards Task Force (See July, 2014 edition of El Noticiero) is working the entire month of July to support and assist the NMPED as it reviews and adopts Spanish Language Arts (SLA) and Spanish Language Development (SLD) Standards. The Standards will guide instruction for students in Bilingual Multicultural Education programs in New Mexico while promoting rigorous culturally- and linguistically-responsive instruction within the local Spanish language curriculum. The SLD standards will be adopted during the 2014-2015 school year and the SLA standards in 2015-2016.



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. 38:1 Fall 2013: October (Back-to-School Edition)

No. 38:2 Winter 2014: January (Board News, Bilingual Education Day, Call to Action)

No. 38:3 Spring 2014: April (Spring Conference Edition)

No. 38:4 Summer 2014: July (Summer Activities)



The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education TEACHER-CENTERED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2014 - 2015

NMABE's Professional Development Institutes will center on effective practices for English Learners (ELs). Designed for <u>any teacher working with ELs</u> (Bilingual Multicultural Education, Title III, and general curriculum teachers), the institutes will help professionals learn about practices that have been shown to help EL students attain the Common Core Standards and achieve academically. Look for more information in future editions of the NMABE El Noticiero.



PRACTICES THAT WORK FOR ELS

NMABE will feature effective practices that the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau has identified in districts and schools which have produced high academic outcomes for its English Learner population. Unique practices found to be effective in each region of the state will be shared with teachers and administrators at both the NMABE Northeast and Southwest Teacher Institutes, scheduled for the Fall of 2014. The registration fee has been reduced to \$125.00 this year!

LITERACY SQUARED®

NMABE's annual Bilingual Educators' Institute, held in conjunction with its annual Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature, will invite experts in Literacy Squared (http://literacysquared.org/?page_id=15) to share practices designed to accelerate the development of biliteracy. While designed for Spanish- and English-speaking children, the model posits that literacy needs to be taught

from the linguistic framework of each individual's language. As such, the framework's concepts should be useful for Native American Bilingual Education practitioners as well. The institute will also focus on the new *EL Crosswalk* which has been designed to augment the NM TEACH evaluation tool, for use by any teacher working with English learners. The registration fee is \$150.00.

LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGES: A BENEFIT FOR ALL

The NMABE 42nd Annual Bilingual Multicultural Education Conference will add a new strand of workshops to its usual ESL/Native American/Bilingual and Dual Language Education/Administrator strand offerings. The strand will emphasize universal practices that have been shown to enhance learning for English learners. Effective practices for ELs are effective for all students. Invited keynote speakers and featured session invitees are well-recognized experts in effective practice for English learners and Dual Language/Bilingual Education program students. Early Bird registration is \$299.



NMABE

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