

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
January 10, 2014

Contact: Ken Blackstone, SCCOE
(408) 453-6662

Superintendent De La Torre to serve as honorary chair at National Association for Bilingual Education's 2014 Conference

Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools Xavier De La Torre will serve as honorary chair of the National Association for Bilingual Education's (NABE) 43rd annual conference, *Sailing into the 21st Century: Multiple Languages, Multiple Paths, Lifelong Advantages*, which will be held Feb. 12-15 at the San Diego Convention Center. NABE is one of the premier professional organizations at the national level wholly devoted to representing both Dual Language Learners (DLLs) and bilingual education professionals. NABE represents a combined membership of more than 5,000 bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals, university professors, students, researchers, advocates, policymakers and parents.

Dr. De La Torre will be accompanied by the Santa Clara County Office of Education's Multilingual Education Services team at the conference, which will feature more than 200 concurrent sessions for participants and local school visits at sites that are successfully implementing bilingual education programs.

Over 2,000 educators from across the country are expected to attend, with presentations on bilingual education, dual language enrichment education, ESL, second language acquisition, assessment and accountability, teacher training, multilingualism, multiculturalism, leadership and research policy issues related to bilingualism and DLLs.

In addition to Dr. De La Torre, special guests include Dr. Libia Gil, Assistant Deputy Secretary and Director, Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), U.S. Department of Education; Tom Torlakson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Superintendent Dr. Randolph E. Ward, San Diego County Office of Education; Superintendent Cindy Marten, San Diego Unified School District; Superintendent, Dr. Francisco Escobedo, Chula Vista Elementary School District and distinguished award winners, Julia Brownley, United States Representative for California; Dr. Arnhilda Badia, Badia & Associates; Dr. Eugene García, Vice President for Education Partnerships, Arizona State University; and Dr. Laurie Olsen, Sobrato Early Academy Learning.

A special National Educational Leadership Forum that will focus on *The Future of Educating Dual Language Learners: Transitioning to Effective Instructional Models* will be held on Friday, Feb. 14. For more information, please visit www.nabe.org.