

NEWS RELEASE

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Santa Clara County Office of Education receives national award for promoting biliteracy

SAN JOSE, CA –The Santa Clara County Office of Education’s (SCCOE) Multilingual Education Services team received the National Association for Bilingual Association’s (NABE) “President’s Award: Advancing Biliteracy and Global Education” last night during a recognition ceremony at the NABE Conference in Chicago, Illinois.



This award recognizes organizations that have made significant contributions to advancing NABE’s vision for promoting biliteracy for all students. The SCCOE was chosen as this year’s recipient “for its leadership in creating a respectful and inclusive culture in our global communities that value diversity and biliteracy,” according to NABE.

“I am extremely proud of our Multilingual Education Services staff and Director Dr. Yee Wan, whose work has supported our schools, districts and, above all else, the students we serve,” County Superintendent Jon Gundry said. “Because we’re located in the heart of

Silicon Valley, the economic vitality of our community depends on the ability of our schools to prepare young people to be successful in an increasingly global economy.”

The SCCOE launched the My Name, My Identity campaign in February during the California Department of Education’s Global Education Summit at the Ridder Park office as one of many steps to build a caring school environment.

“In the context of global education, we talk about how important it is for students to feel proud of who they are and to have the ability and feel comfortable to connect with people from different languages and backgrounds locally, and also around the world,” Dr. Wan said. “Employees from the Santa Clara County Office of Education lead with a vision of mobilizing our community in creating a respectful culture for all of our students.”

The campaign – a collaboration between the SCCOE, NABE and McGraw-Hill Education, a learning science company – asks educators and community members to make a [pledge](#)

honoring students, neighbors and coworkers by promising to learn how to pronounce their names correctly. They have a goal of securing one million pledges by February 2017.

NABE is a national organization committed to excellence in bilingual and biliteracy education for students through enrichment programs, professional development and advocacy. NABE currently represents more than 3,500 bilingual education teachers, administrators, school board members, researchers and parents. The theme of the 45th annual conference, running March 3-5, is "Advancing Biliteracy through Global Leadership and Partnerships."

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