



# New Mexico Public Education Department

300 Don Gaspar  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786  
ped.state.nm.us

Dr. Veronica C. García  
Secretary of Education

Beverly Friedman and Danielle Montoya  
Public Information Officers  
505-827-6661 505-476-0393

[Bev.Friedman@state.nm.us](mailto:Bev.Friedman@state.nm.us) [Danielle.Montoya@state.nm.us](mailto:Danielle.Montoya@state.nm.us)

## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: January 27, 2010

### Secretary of Education Honors 32 Exemplary Schools for the 2009-2010 Title III Incentive Awards

(Santa Fe, NM) –Secretary of Education Veronica C. García today honored 32 New Mexico public schools where strong bilingual education programs have helped English language learner students move toward proficiency in English and make academic progress.

Secretary García was joined by students, parents, teachers, administrators and legislators celebrating the accomplishments of these schools in the Capitol Rotunda.

“The accomplishments of the schools receiving the Incentive Awards this year are the fruits of the dedication and commitment from students, administrators, teachers, parents and communities,” said Secretary García. “I congratulate and celebrate with you on this special day.”

Bilingual Education Day at the State Legislature, sponsored by the Public Education Department’s Bilingual Bureau and the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE), was the backdrop for the recognition of the 32 exemplary schools from 16 districts serving the needs of English Language Learners.

Schools were selected based on the 2008-2009 Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives for English Language Learners based on the New Mexico Education Language Proficiency Assessment (NMELPA) and Standards Based Assessment (SBA) in reading and math, the implementation of short cycle assessment, professional development of staff, parent involvement, and scientifically based research programs like Dual Language Immersion, Heritage Language and other language programs.

Some examples of the successes include the following.

- **Valle Vista Elementary (Albuquerque)** has met Adequate Yearly Progress for 2 years in a row in math and has met AYP this past year in both reading and math in all subgroups. English Language Learners showed the most growth. Valle Vista attributes its success to committed teachers, hardworking support staff, involved and engaged families and the realization that any initiative they choose to implement is implemented well.
- **Santa Teresa Elementary (Gadsden)** had 67% of the 144 students tested achieve the Early Advanced/Advanced stage. This year, of the 74 ELL students participating in the State Bilingual Multicultural Education Program 24% have become Fluent English Proficient and are being instructed in English classrooms. According to the AYP results for Santa Teresa Elementary School, from 2005 to 2009, the ELL students have made a total gain in scores of 24.9%.

- **Enos Garcia Elementary (Taos)** is the largest of the three elementary schools in the Taos Municipal Schools District. It is the only school in the district that has implemented a Dual Language Model. The Dual Language program is in its sixth year of implementation, which includes Kindergarten thru fifth grade.
- **Zuni High School (Zuni):** With few exceptions, all Zuni High School students take Zuni language and culture classes their freshmen year. Students are also exposed to Zuni perspectives, traditions, and culture in other subject areas. In one of the high school social studies classes, students interview tribal citizens and develop a book from those interviews. A science class investigates traditional agriculture methods as practiced by the Zuni people, and members of the school's art department collaborate with Phoenix's Heard Museum to develop projects that reflect traditional and modern expressions of Zuni art.

Go to <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/BilingualMulticultural/index.html> to view program for the event.

The 2009-2010 Title III Incentive Award recipients include the following schools.

<b>District</b>	<b>School</b>
<b>APS</b>	Chaparral Elementary
	Lowell Elementary.
	Hawthorne Elementary
	Valle Vista Elementary
<b>Bernalillo</b>	Carroll Elementary
<b>Clovis</b>	Lockwood Elementary
<b>Deming</b>	Bataan Elementary
<b>Española</b>	Hernandez Elementary
	James H. Rodriguez Elementary
	San Juan Elementary
	Velarde Elementary
<b>Gadsden</b>	Santa Teresa Elementary
	Sunrise Elementary
<b>Gallup</b>	Tohatchi Elementary
<b>Hobbs</b>	College Lane Elementary
	Edison Elementary
	Jefferson Elementary
<b>Las Cruces</b>	Fair Acres Elementary
	Highland Elementary
	Hillrise Elementary
<b>Las Vegas City</b>	Early Childhood Center
	Mike Mateo Sena Elementary
<b>Lovington</b>	Jefferson Elementary
<b>Moriarty</b>	Mountainview Elementary
<b>Rio Rancho</b>	Ernest Stapleton Elementary
	Rio Rancho Elementary
	Vista Grande Elementary
<b>Taos</b>	Enos Garcia
<b>West Las Vegas</b>	Don Cecilio Mtz. Elementary
	Union St. Elementary
<b>Zuni</b>	Dowa Yalane Elementary
	Zuni High School

###