



**The National Association of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials
Educational Fund**

presents

NALEO Education Leadership Initiative

*5th Annual NALEO National Summit on the
State of Latino Education*

September 28-30, 2009

**Renaissance Hotel
999 Ninth Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001**

Sponsored by

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
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National Hispanic Caucus of School Board Members

PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA

NALEO Education Leadership Initiative
The Role of Leadership in the New American Education Era

September 28-30, 2009
Washington, D.C.

Throughout the country, Latinos serving in public office are molding policies and programs to improve educational outcomes for all students. As such, all elected and appointed officials are invited to attend a timely national training to address the current state of education. The increased role of the federal government in funding education will bring about distinct circumstances and innovative opportunities in this *new* era of American education. These changing times require unique approaches to governance and outcome focused leadership in order to facilitate the educational success of every Latino student. Developing and expanding your skills as an educational leader will require an awareness of collaborative approaches, effective organizing skills and the ability to process information in ways that will keep you informed, yet focused on your objectives. This convening will give you an excellent opportunity to reflect and explore key leadership concepts relevant to your public service.

The 5th Annual Education Summit is a national gathering of Latino elected and appointed officials and is part of the NALEO Education Leadership Initiative (NELI). NELI provides intensive training and professional development through institutes organized throughout the year. The overarching goal of NELI is to provide Latino public servants with the enhanced capacity and governance skills they need to become effective advocates for their students, families, and communities.

As the second largest population group in the United States, with one in five students being Latino, the educational attainment of Latino students is intrinsically connected to the nation's future growth and success. Demographers have long projected the social and economic trajectory of the country's shifting population trends. Census population estimates indicate that the Latino population will continue a rapid rate of growth. The steady increase of this very youthful population makes it imperative that Latino students benefit from full access to educational experiences of the highest quality. Public officials from all levels of government have a critical role to play to ensure that our schools continue to be the epicenter of community development, regardless of the economic challenges we face.

The Summit will provide a preschool to graduate studies (P-20) framework for tackling the pressing policy and governance challenges facing education leaders across the country. Participants will have access to leading education experts from the public, private and non-profit sectors and will engage in structured discussions on topics of national consequence in this new era of American education, for example the need for more Latinos in the STEM professions or the academic achievement of English Language Learners. The increased role of the federal government in funding education serves as the context for the Summit conversation.

We encourage elected officials from across the nation to take advantage of this unique opportunity. There is no fee for current NALEO members (\$100 annual or \$1,000 lifetime membership fee) to attend the Summit and travel scholarships are available to cover roundtrip airfare, as well as a two-night hotel stay. Note that scholarships are limited and available through a short application process. Scholarship recipients are required to attend all Summit sessions and related post-Summit activities. Completed application forms must be submitted by **July 31, 2009**. For more information, please contact Samuel Robles, Constituency Services Program Manager at (213) 747-7606, ext. 4421, or srobles@naleo.org.

Monday, September 28, 2009

Noon – 2:00 p.m. Summit Registration

2:00 – 2:15 p.m. Summit Welcome – Introduction & Program Overview

Opening Remarks – The State of Latino Education

An educated society is critical for a strong democracy. For the fifth consecutive year, the NALEO Educational Fund brings education practitioners, researchers and leading policymakers together in the nation’s capital to address the state of Latino education. This three day convening commences with opening remarks on the economic, social and political importance of accelerating Latino student success along the preschool to graduate studies (P-20) education pipeline. The Summit will explore the role of Latino leadership in this new era of education in three ways: 1) by highlighting the critical skills necessary for effective leadership and governance; 2) by examining the increased role of the federal government in education; and 3) by discussing the connection between Latino educational attainment and workforce development.

2:15 – 4:15 p.m. Session I – Understanding the Role of Leadership in Today’s Education Environment

The leadership challenge for education has never been greater than it is today. Although the challenges are exceedingly great, the role of effective governance has never been more crucial. General principles of leadership still remain relevant in this new era of American education, in particular your ability to tap into the values of your community and to empower your constituents to support you in your policy efforts. Transforming the collective education landscape will take significant time, energy and commitment. However, the rewards could be significant. This intense session will give you an opportunity to reflect, engage and learn more about how you can master the leadership challenge and effectively serve your community.

4:15 – 4:30 p.m. Break

4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Session II – The 2010 Census and New Implications for Education

Research and policy briefings alike have pointed to the change in the ethnic and racial composition of the United States, particularly the significant growth of the Latino population. Behind the population projections is an important story about the numbers. Despite their best efforts, the Census Bureau estimates that the 2000 Census missed 6.4 million people, with a majority of those undercounted being Latino. This undercount is troubling when you consider that most education funding at the state and federal level is based on Census numbers. Hence, an undercount could disproportionately impact education funding for Latinos. The stakes and implications for education will likely be heightened as Latino children continue to be the fastest growing portion of the U.S. school age population. Build on your knowledge of the 2010 Census, how it could impact your students, and how you can help deliver a more accurate Census count for the benefit of your community.

6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Keynote Address & Reception – U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan (Invited)
Update on the Obama Administration’s Education agenda and policy initiatives from the Department of Education.

Tuesday, September 23, 2008

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Summit Breakfast

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. Session III – Supporting your Community: New Federal P-20 Funding Opportunities

Although many states are being forced to reduce funding for education, millions of dollars in federal grants that range from early childhood to higher education are being made readily available for local education relief. Despite shrinking budgets at the local district or state level, grant money for Migrant Education, English Language Learners, Title I and low-income students can continue to support your commitment to student achievement and success. Hear U.S. Department of Education programs detail how you can become a savvy consumer of federal grant opportunities to help you better serve your constituents.

11:00 – Noon Strategy Session

Noon – 2:00 p.m. Capitol Leadership Luncheon – A New Dialogue: Early and Continuous Support for English Language Learners

Research suggests that high-quality early childhood education can narrow the disparities between Latino children and their classmates, particularly for young English Language Learners (ELLs). Young ELL's have unique needs that extend beyond the early years, including the importance of well-prepared teachers trained to foster inclusive classroom interactions that value their home language. Further, ELL students require time (4-6 years) and constant assessment as they work to become proficient in their second language. Participate in an interactive dialogue with the House Committee on Education and Labor to discuss supporting English Language Learners from early childhood to the adolescent years.

3:00 – 4:45 p.m. Session IV – New Updates on Federal Education Initiatives

An unprecedented amount, over \$100 billion was included for education in the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)*, better known as the Federal Economic Stimulus package. As part of the education funding in the stimulus, certain streams of funds are available in multiple phases through "Race to the Top" awards that reward schools for new and effective practices that accelerate student achievement through innovative instruction. This session will provide insight on the status of the AARA and what funding may still be available for schools.

In addition to reviewing the state of AARA, the session will also provide updates on the pending reauthorization of the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and other federal policy relevant to Latino student success, from Pre-K to higher education. Expand your understanding of the federal education dialogue, while identifying new ways to invest public dollars that will enable you to meet the most immediate needs of your students, families and community.

4:45 – 4:55 p.m. Break

5:00 – 8:00 p.m. *Celebración de Excelencia Program & Reception*

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

9:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Session V – New Strategies for STEM: Challenges and Opportunities for Latinos**

Given the current education pipeline and participation rates, the total number of U.S.-trained Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) professionals is inadequate to maintain the nation's economic competitiveness and growth. Without immediate and strategic action to address this challenge, the number of those who enter a STEM profession will likely continue to drop. As the second largest population group in the country, work force data suggests a rising imperative to increase the number of Latinos in the STEM professions. This session will review the education obstacles limiting Latino STEM representation, while highlighting innovative strategies for filling the professional gap in the STEM fields with the talented minds of our nation's Latino students.

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Reflection & Closing Remarks**