



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

*presents*

**NALEO Education Leadership Initiative**

*6<sup>th</sup> Annual NALEO National Summit on the  
State of Latino Education*

*Rethinking Education:  
Delivering For Our Students & Nation*

**September 27-29, 2010**

**The Westin Grand  
2350 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20037**

*Sponsored by*

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Verizon Foundation

***NALEO Education Leadership Initiative***  
***Rethinking Education: Delivering For Our Students & Nation***

September 27-29, 2010  
Washington, D.C.

Throughout the country, Latinos serving in public office are molding policies and programs to improve educational outcomes for all students. As a policy maker, you have been invited to attend this week's timely national training to address the current state of education. A recent report suggests that the Great Recession has hit the nation's students the hardest. State and local government budgets continue to be cut, resulting in significant reductions in educational, health, and other programs that support children and youth — significantly affecting one in five children in the United States living in poverty. This poverty ratio is proportionally much higher for the nation's Latino children. A cradle to career approach for the current generation of students will bring about distinct circumstances and innovative opportunities as we begin to *rethink* the critical role of education in our communities. Changing times require unique approaches to governance and collaborative leadership models between jurisdictions, to facilitate the educational success of every Latino student. The nation's Latino policymakers have a distinct role to play in these changing times, to work in partnership towards rethinking delivery of a high quality public education system for every student.

The 6<sup>th</sup> 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 center 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 as we rethink the unique role of education in a democratic society; the role of early literacy, teacher quality and comprehensive education reform models where schools become the pride and focus of every community.

**Monday, September 27, 2010**

**Noon – 2:00 p.m.**

**Summit Registration**

*Washington Ballroom Foyer, Conference Level*

**2:15 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Summit Welcome – Introduction, Program Overview & Evaluations**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

- Hon. Cynthia Matus Morriss, School Board Member, Patagonia Elementary School District; Immediate Past Chair, National Hispanic Caucus of School Board Members; Board Member, NALEO Educational Fund
- Dr. Joseph Bishop, Deputy Director of Constituency Services, NALEO Educational Fund

**Opening Remarks – The State of Latino Education**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

An educated society is critical for a strong democracy. For the sixth 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 concept of *rethinking education* in numerous ways, including 1) comprehensive school reform models 2) language and literacy 3) the importance of educators 4) the value of civic education 5) higher education finance models, and how these areas can impact the way policymakers develop solutions for accelerating student achievement

Introduction: Hon. Gerri Guzman, School Board Member, Montebello Unified School District; Board Member, NALEO Board of Directors

- Dr. Frances Contreras, Professor, University of Washington

**3:00 – 4:45 p.m.**

**Session I – Rethinking Leadership That Supports Student Success**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Unprecedented education budget cuts in 48 of 50 states have put an extraordinary strain on states, districts, schools and communities. At the college level, thousands of eligible college students are being turned away from admission to universities, and many college students are struggling to get classes. As these funding trends continue in the next couple of years, it’s important for policymakers to rethink approaches to leadership, working with elected and appointed officials from all jurisdictions, to enhance collaboration, share resources, and develop stronger partnerships. These collaborative leadership approaches will be necessary for elected and appointed officials, in order to continue delivering a high quality education for all students.

Introduction: Dr. Joseph Bishop, Deputy Director of Constituency Services, NALEO Educational Fund

- Ms. Andrea Nagel, Senior Associate, Interaction Institute for Social Change, Massachusetts

**5:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

**Keynote Address**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Introduction: Hon. Jesse Ruiz, Chairman, Illinois State Board of Education

- Hon. Thelma Meléndez de Santa Ana, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

**6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**Opening Reception**

*Promenade, Lobby Level*

Introduction: Ms. Gloria Montaña-Greene, Director, Washington D.C. Office, NALEO Educational Fund

- Hon. Juan C. Zapata, Florida State Representative; Chairman, NALEO Educational Fund

*Sponsored by Hispanic CREO and National Education Association (NEA)*

**Tuesday, September 28, 2010**

**7:00 – 8:00 a.m.**                    **Summit Registration and Breakfast**  
*Washington Ballroom Foyer, Conference Level*

**8:00 – 9:30 a.m.**                    **Session II –Early Literacy and Language: Building Blocks for Learning**  
*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Research suggests early language and literacy development begins in the first three years of life. Both language and literacy are inextricably linked as building blocks for student learning, closely tied to a child’s earliest experiences with books and stories. Early literacy programs in many communities have been recently cut, a problematic trend impacting the fastest growing zero to five population in the country, Latino children. There are still many strategies that policymakers can consider that utilize community strengths during difficult budget times, to ensure that school readiness remains a high priority. Explore creative new community-based models that engage communities and families to help children develop building blocks for learning.

Session Chair: Hon. Cynthia Matus Morriss, School Board Member, Patagonia Elementary School District; Immediate Past Chair, National Hispanic Caucus of School Board Members; Board Member, NALEO Educational Fund

- Dr. Kris Gutierrez, Professor, University of Colorado at Boulder; President, American Educational Research Association

**9:45 –11:15 a.m.**                    **Session III – Rethinking the Role of Educators: Building Support Systems**  
*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Research suggests that teachers are the single most important school-related factor that affects students learning and achievement. Yet most states and districts do not have the capacity and support structures to foster the success of teachers in the classroom. These capacity challenges include adequate time for peer-based support, meaningful professional development, evaluations systems that provide immediate feedback on pedagogy, and leadership development opportunities. These capacity challenges also have to be addressed at a local, state and federal level, to ensure that pathways for successful teaching, including recruitment, training and professional development are done in a strategic fashion. Engage in a critical conversation to see what role as a policymaker you can play in helping cultivate systems of support for educators in your community.

Session Chair: Hon. Mónica García, President, Board of Education, Los Angeles Unified School District

- Dr. Kris Gutierrez, Professor, University of Colorado at Boulder; President, American Educational Research Association
- Ms. Lily Eskelsen, Vice President, National Education Association (NEA), Washington, D.C.
- Dr. Linda Stelly, Senior Associate Director of Educational Issues Department, American Federation of Teachers (AFT), Washington, D.C.

Noon – 2:00 p.m.

**Capitol Leadership Luncheon –Rethinking Teacher Quality As Part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)**

*Promenade, Lobby Level*

Reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, commonly referred to as No Child Left Behind, is soon approaching. One of the more notable elements of the current version of the law is its definition of teacher quality. Pending reauthorization of ESEA, a new federal definition for teacher quality will have serious implications for student learning, setting a new common understanding for teacher preparation, support and professional development. Hear how members of the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress and key education leaders see the teacher quality conversation evolving, and how policymakers can help shape the policy discussion in Washington.

Session Chair: Mr. Arturo Vargas, Executive Director, NALEO Educational Fund, California

- Hon. Russlynn H. Ali, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education
- Hon. George Miller, Congressman, 7<sup>th</sup> District of California, U.S. House of Representatives; Chairman, House Education and Labor Committee (*Invited*)
- Hon. Tom Harkin, Senator, State of Iowa; Chairman, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee (*Invited*)
- Hon. Rubén Hinojosa, Congressman, 15<sup>th</sup> District of Texas, U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Labor (*Invited*)
- Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva, Congressman, 7<sup>th</sup> District of Arizona, U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Labor (*Invited*)
- Hon. Mike Castle, Congressman, Delaware, U.S. House of Representatives; Member, House Education and Labor Committee (*Invited*)

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**Session IV – Rethinking Education**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

A recent report suggests that the Great Recession has hit the nation’s students the hardest. State and local government budgets continue to be cut, resulting in significant reductions in educational, health, and other programs that support children and youth — significantly affecting one in five children in the United States living in poverty. This poverty ratio is proportionally much higher for the nation’s Latino children. What do these figures mean for policymakers in terms of the delivery of a high quality education for every student? Hear more about solutions oriented education models, tackling the issue of poverty head on in a comprehensive way, and helping us to rethink the role of education and schools in a democratic society.

Session Chair: Hon. Pedro Marín, Georgia State Representative

- Dr. Pedro Noguera, Professor, New York University
- Mr. Charles Adams, Head of School, The SEED School of Washington, D.C. (*Invited*)

5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

**Keynote Address**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Introduction: Hon. Ana Sol Gutierrez, Maryland State Delegate; Board Member, NALEO Board of Directors

- Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, Charles E. Ducommun Professor of Education, Stanford University, California

**Wednesday, September 29, 2010**

**7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

**Summit Registration**

*Washington Ballroom Foyer, Conference Level*

**8:00 – 9:45 a.m.**

**Breakfast Presentation & Remarks**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

Introduction: Dr. Joseph Bishop, Deputy Director of Constituency Services, NALEO Educational Fund

- Mr. Emilio Gonzalez, Vice President of Public Policy and Strategic Alliances, Verizon Communications

Introduction: Hon. Adam Clayton Powell, New York State Assembly Member

- Mr. Tom Dawson, Senior Policy Officer, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Washington, D.C

Introduction: Hon. Delia Garcia, Kansas State Representative

- Hon. Eduardo Ochoa, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education

**10:00 – 11:15 a.m.**

**Session V – Higher Education and Rethinking State Funding Strategies**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*

States provide substantial support for higher education in a number of ways, including direct support for the operation of institutions, particularly public institutions, financing of capital needs and the ownership of physical facilities, and through the availability of financial aid to students. Institutions of higher learning across the country have seen a recent steady decline in state general fund support. This context is important to mention as national dialogue shifts beyond college access, and begins to focus more heavily on college completion and student persistence. As states consider exploring new funding models, institutional capacity and state investment will require further examination. Hear from colleagues across the country how local and state officials are considering funding higher education, both at community colleges and at four year institutions.

Session Chair: Hon. Joaquín Castro, Texas State Representative; Vice Chair, Committee on Higher Education, Texas House of Representatives

- Mr. Paul E. Lingenfelter, President, State Higher Education Executive Officers, Colorado
- Dr. George Boggs, President and CEO, American Association of Community Colleges, Washington D.C.
- Dr. Mildred García, President, California State University, Dominguez Hills

**11:15 – 11:30 a.m.**

**Evaluations and Closing Remarks**

*Washington Ballroom, Conference Level*