



## Texas Association for Bilingual Education

# eNewsletter

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Picture taken at TABE 2015 Conference  
 Riverside Middle and High School Mariachi, Ysleta ISD.  
 Riverside High School Folkloric, Ysleta ISD.

## TABE Mission Statement

Through a balanced program of research, professional development, and public education, TABE pursues the implementation of educational policies and effective bilingual-bicultural programs that promote equal educational opportunities and academic excellence for bilingual/ESL students. TABE firmly believes that only enrichment (additive) forms of bilingual education ensure that bilingual/ESL students are successful academically and develop age-appropriate English proficiency. To this end, TABE fully endorses and promotes the implementation of research based one way/two way dual language programs and maintenance (late-exit) bilingual programs. In keeping with this fundamental mission, TABE is committed to the following guiding principles:

- To serve as a professional association for persons interested in the education of bilingual learners as limited by Article II Section B. Bilingual learners are defined as students who possess a native language other than English, regardless of instructional settings.
- To serve exclusively for educational and charitable endeavors, including the distribution of funds to organizations which qualify as exempt organizations under section 501 c (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- To review and analyze the state of bilingual/bicultural education in Texas schools and exchange ideas and practices for more effective implementation as limited by Article II Section B.
- To study legislation at the state and national levels affecting the educational needs of linguistically and culturally diverse children as limited by Article II Section B, and
- To disseminate research, ideas, practices and information with policy-making bodies, such as the Texas Legislature, the State Board of Education, the Texas Education Agency, the United States Congress, and the United States Department of Education as limited by Article II Section B.



## Texas Association for Bilingual Education

### President's Message



President  
María Arreguín-Anderson  
arreguinma@aol.com

**María Guadalupe  
Arreguín- Anderson  
TABE President**

Dear TABE Members,

The Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) Executive Board would like to thank all attendees, participants, the local committee, and all individuals involved for a successful conference in El Paso, Texas. This event provided valuable opportunities to network, share ideas, and expand our repertoire of best practices as we continue to serve bilingual children in Texas.

One of the highlights of the conference was the participation of children from the El Paso/Ciudad Juárez area schools whose command of multiple languages was an inspiration to all attendees. Their enthusiasm and confidence served as a reminder to expand our views on language and to continue advocating equity through enrichment programs for all children. A global economy requires individuals who can navigate multiple worlds, cultures, and languages.

We thank all TABE affiliates for an active participation during the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual conference. Our House of Delegates meetings provided a forum to address issues related to bilingual education policy and practice. As a result of these meetings, TABE has initiated concrete actions to target concerns related to use of Title III funds to attend professional development sessions provided at TABE conferences and issues of equity in the testing of bilingual preservice teachers.

Finally, multiple discussions during the TABE conference have served as a reminder to remain involved, to voice our opinion, and to continue promoting active participation of all educators in the decision-making process. We invite our members to communicate with us through social media, including Face Book and Twitter. We would love to hear from you. Let us know what the needs for professional development are in your area and your suggestions for addressing these topics. Part of our short-term plans includes the planning of institutes or one-day seminars in high-need areas.

We look forward to hearing from our members as we embark on concrete plans to enhance bilingual education in Texas!

Respectfully,

*María G. Arreguín-Anderson*



## Highlights of TABE 2015 Conference

Greetings!!

By all accounts, TABE 2015 in El Paso, Texas was a great success! From the keynote and featured speakers, to the entertainment and children in schools on both sides of the border who greeted conference attendees in multiple languages, TABE 2015 provided teachers, parents, students, and administrators with exceptional opportunities for professional development. I hope that you will agree that the Sun City—El Paso—was a GREAT place for TABE 2015!



In El Paso, we are proud champions of both linguistic and cultural diversity. Keeping with the conference theme, *Biliteracy: ¡Ya es hora!* TABE 2015 featured how local educators and school leaders are succeeding in providing ELs with world-class learning opportunities in multiple languages. Visits to five dual language schools in El Paso and Ciudad Juarez showcased what is possible when children's cultural and linguistic diversity are seen as the assets that they are. Over a dozen children in grades K-12 participated in the general sessions and teacher of the year banquet to greet conference participants in multiple languages—Chinese, Japanese, English, Spanish, French and German. In addition, a group of nine high school graduates from dual language education programs who are now students at UTEP, participated in a panel presentation to share how speaking two or more languages has provided them with opportunities in the workforce and university setting.

Other conference highlights included an opening session that preceded the five pre-conference institutes that featured four principals from dual language schools. All four principals shared their enthusiasm and leadership in implementing quality dual language programs that have impacted ELs academic achievement in positive ways. The Bilingual/ESL Directors' Institute featured Senator José Rodríguez as well as two TEA representatives, Susie Coultriss, Director of Bilingual Education/Title III/Migrant Education and Justin Porter, Director of Assessments for Special Populations. Other conference high points were keynotes by Drs. Kathy Escamilla and Angela Valenzuela as well as outstanding presentations by several featured speakers including Drs. Reynaldo Reyes and Gilberto Soto, and the two teachers of the year, Hilda Náñez and Tanya Thompson. Finally, the annual awards recognized three commendable recipients: Senator José Rodríguez, with the Joe J. Bernal Community Advocate Award, Dr. Yolanda Padrón with the Higher Education Award and Dr. Pauline Dow with the Public Education Award.

I hope that you will agree that El Paso was a GREAT place for TABE 2015! We look forward to seeing you in Galveston next year for TABE 2016!

Dr. Josie V. Tinajero, Conference Chair  
TABE 2015 in El Paso, Texas





## Highlights of TABE 2015 Conference

**Thank you to our keynote speakers!**



**Dr. Kathy Escamilla**



**Dr. Angela Valenzuela**

**Thank you to our featured speakers!**



From left above: José Luis Orozco, Myrna Rasmussen and Ana Coca, Myrna Rasmussen and Ms. Lupe Lloyd and Dr. Gilberto Soto. Not pictured: Dr. María Arreguín-Anderson, Dr. José Ruiz-Escalante, Mr. Andres Ruzo, Mr. Pedro Boltel, Ms. Hilda Náñez, Dr. Reynaldo Reyes, Ms. Dinah Zike, and Ms. Tanya Thompson.





## Highlights of TABE 2015 Conference

A special thank you to the following individuals



Above:  
Dr. Arreguín-Anderson  
and El Güero Loco



Above: Ballet Folklórico Toltec  
La Fe, Mr. Emmanuel Alfaro,  
Director



Above:  
María and Yahvi



Left: Welcome by children in  
three languages from  
Eastwood Knolls Int'l School;  
Lorraine Macías, Raissa  
Jiménez, Dagmar Ordóñez,  
Joaquin Ordóñez, Mía  
González, and Jake  
González



Above: Amigo Man

Right: Presentation of Colors—U.S. NJROTC Color  
Guard; Commander Mark Morrel & Chief Escudero,  
Gadsden High School, Gadsden ISD  
Presentation of Colors—Escolta de México; Colegio San  
Patricio, Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua, México  
U.S. National Anthem and Himno Nacional de México;  
Andrea Falet Mendoza and Ricardo Jiménez-Todd



Left: Pledge of Allegiance in three languages;  
César Aguirre, 4th grade, Hacienda Heights  
Elementary School, Ysleta ISD, Lian Aguirre,  
5th grade, Hacienda Heights Elementary  
School, YISD, and Leslie Aguirre, 10th grade,  
Bel Air High School, YISD



## Highlights of TABE 2015 Conference

### **Bilingual/ESL Secondary Teacher of the Year Tanya Thompson**

Tanya Thompson teaches middle school ESL at The Rice School in the Houston Independent School District. Tanya believes that she did not choose teaching as a career; instead teaching chose her.

Raised by her Aunt Pearl who owned and operated a nursery school, Tanya grew up in a home where a commitment to education was modeled on a daily basis. Among the first group of African American students to attend the local elementary school, Tanya was taught by teachers for whom having African American students was a new experience. Tanya was pleased that the teachers welcomed them, taught them well, and expected their best work. Tanya's reading and writing experiences in middle and high school helped her discover the power of words. Her passion for teaching began early and led her to reteach subject matter to her friends. In her senior year, Tanya participated in a future career internship program where she shadowed a teacher. She was pleasantly surprised when she was assigned to a high school teacher who had been one of her junior high teachers. This teacher helped instill a love of reading and writing in Tanya, and she felt this was a sign that she was on the right career path.

One August day, after graduating from college with her bachelor's degree, Tanya

found the following note on her car's windshield. "I never thought the day would come; it seemed so far away. But now at last you are old enough to be a teacher today." As she had at each of Tanya's milestones, Aunt Pearl celebrated Tanya's first day of teaching. Tanya's teaching career had begun.

Tanya earned a bachelor's degree in English with secondary teaching

certification. She has a master's degree in educational administration and is currently a pursuing her doctoral degree. Tanya studied Spanish during college. She believes this experience has enabled her to be especially empathetic to her English language learners as she can understand some of the challenges that they are facing.

Tanya's many experiences with English language learners inspired her to take ESL coursework.

Tanya believes that "all students can learn once their attention has been captured and they are made to believe in the relevance of what they are being taught." Tanya's

teaching emphasizes active learning, making connections, and critical thinking skills. An important component of her teaching is the "mutual appreciation of the background and experiences between the students and the teachers."

Tanya is thankful that she has the opportunity to give back to the Houston Independent School District, the same district in which she was once a student. She is also thankful that she is doing what she was created to do.







## Highlights of TAFE 2015 Conference

### **Bilingual Teacher of the Year Hilda Náñez**

Hilda Náñez was a bilingual education student herself. Her experiences as a bilingual student started her on her journey to become a bilingual teacher in Galena Park Independent School District, the same district in which she was once a student.

Hilda's parents played an instrumental role in her development as a bilingual individual. Because her parents instilled in her and her three siblings the importance of keeping their native language alive, they are all fluent in English and Spanish.

As a child, Hilda loved to play school. At the age of twelve, she helped her father study for his US citizenship exam and even used some "novice teaching strategies" to help him pass the test.

Hilda states that she "always knew that [she] had to work hard to evolve into the teacher that [she] wanted to become." In addition to her studies during her high school years, Hilda was actively involved in the League of United Latin American Citizens. She was also a member of both the Principal's and the Superintendent's Advisory Boards. Hilda earned a Bachelor of Science degree in



Interdisciplinary Studies and a master's degree in Educational Leadership. In 2014, she presented her research study on the nonlinguistic representations of bilingual learners in a 5<sup>th</sup> grade math classroom at the Kappa Delta Pi Learning, Leadership, and Practice: Educating Global Citizens Conference in Canada.

Hilda is an active participant in community service. One notable accomplishment was her creation of a Parent Involvement Program Committee at her school. The committee's efforts have led to the implementation of a variety of events where parents, students and community members are able to participate and become a greater part of the school community.

As a teacher, Hilda strives to help her students make connections between what they are learning and real life experiences. She consistently differentiates her instruction and, with her students, creates a classroom

community where each individual is respected. Hilda emphasizes the importance of bilingualism to her students and tells them that "el que habla dos idiomas vale por dos".

Hilda says, "as a former Galena Park ISD graduate, I am honored to give back to my community and the children who reside within it. It is a dream come true to be able to work with bilingual students."





## BESO TIP

### How to Increase Your BESO Affiliate Membership Part II

You can increase membership for your BESO affiliate through:

1. University
2. **Community**
3. Social media

For this BESO tip, our focus will be on increasing membership through your community. BESO officers and members can promote and publicize the organization through activities such as the following:



- Post or pass out flyers of upcoming events and or socials around the community. Have members take a stack of flyers or print them out, so they can be distributed around the community (e.g., high schools, libraries, grocery stores, community events, and parks).
- Build relationships with your friends, neighbors and family members. It is important for you to have these relationships in order for you to promote and publicize your organization. Let's get students thinking about what

organizations they can join once they enter the university.

- Share your personal experience. Tell others about the impact the organization has had on your life and your profession.
- Work together with community leaders and local business owners. They can help you



promote your organization your organization in different ways.

- Attend community service events and wear your BESO shirt. Once the community sees what your organization can do to help others, they will be interested in finding out who they are. Wearing your BESO shirt is a great conversation starter.
- Inform high school students and their parents about BESO, and provide information on how and when the students will be able to join.

Lastly, mention conferences, leadership institutes, and scholarship opportunities that TAFE offers. I hope you find these tips useful. Next time, I'll send you tips on increasing membership through social media.

-Stephanie Muñoz, TAFE BESO Student Representative

**To become a member of TAFE  
fill out the TAFE Membership form, you can find it [HERE](#).  
Please fax, email or mail in your membership form.**

**Fax: 210-979-6485  
Email: [tabe@tabe.org](mailto:tabe@tabe.org)**





## Información para Familias

### Aprendiendo con los cinco sentidos

La participación de los padres es un factor fundamental para la educación de nuestros niños en las escuelas públicas. Cuando los maestros y los padres de familia trabajan en equipo, los estudiantes suelen salir mejor en la escuela. Desde pequeños, los padres proporcionan en sus casas la base para aprender antes de que los niños comiencen a ir a la escuela. Pero su participación puede ir más allá al continuar estimulando a su hijo/a en su aprendizaje en su expansión oral de vocabulario escrito y oral.

Hay muchas maneras en las cuales los niños pueden continuar desarrollando su vocabulario. Una buena estrategia para apoyar el desarrollo del lenguaje y vocabulario del niño es usando los cinco sentidos. Cuando los niños usan sus cinco sentidos, ellos están explorando, ampliando y conectando su conocimiento previo con el nuevo material o ambiente. Los padres pueden ayudar a sus hijos haciéndoles preguntas específicas cuando se encuentren en diferentes lugares, situaciones o eventos. Por ejemplo, cuando nuestros hijos van a algún evento, fiesta de cumpleaños, escuela, o casa de amigo les podemos pedir que nos den la reseña de cómo estuvo el evento. Lo importante es el tipo de preguntas que se deben realizar usando los cinco sentidos y que utilicen el mayor número de descripciones posibles. A continuación les damos algunos ejemplos de preguntas usando los cinco sentidos. Ustedes podrán usar otras siempre y cuando tengan los cinco sentidos en mente al preguntarle a su hijo/a sobre sus experiencias. ¡Que mejor manera de estimular la comunicación y saber todo sobre su hijo/a!

Por ejemplo, cuando vayan al mar, los padres les pueden pedir a sus hijos que les describan sus experiencias si ustedes nunca hubieran ido al mar. Pueden pedirles que describan sus experiencias como si

estuvieran relatando una película para que ustedes puedan imaginarse las experiencias. Usando los cinco sentidos ellos podrán relatar cada olor, sonido, color, sabor, sensación y detalle del mar. Finalmente estimule a su hijo a que le dé respuestas elaboradas usando el mayor número de descripciones posibles. Continúe ese tipo de preguntas hasta que tenga una imagen representativa del lugar.

Oído: ¿Qué sonidos oyes?

Olfato: ¿Cómo huele? ¿Qué hueles?

Descríbeme los olores del mar.

Vista: ¿Qué ves? Dime lo que ves.

Tacto: ¿Cómo se siente?

La playa, el mar, el sol....

Gusto: ¿Probaste el agua del mar? ¿A qué sabe?



Si el niño tiene dificultad al describir algún sentido, usted le puede proveer palabras o frases que pueda usar para describir ese sentido. Por ejemplo, algunos sonidos pueden ser agudos, graves, fuertes, débiles, chillones, suaves, alto, bajo, ruidos molestos o agradables. Después de platicar con su hijo/a sobre lo que sucedió cuando fueron al mar u otro evento usando los cinco sentidos, el próximo día escriban la reseña juntos. Dependiendo de la edad de su hijo/a, usted puede empezar la oración y luego dejar que él/ella la termine. Si su hijo/a puede escribir independientemente, usted le puede ayudar a añadir detalles usando los cinco sentidos. Cuando terminen de escribir la reseña, compártanla con otros miembros de familia.

Escrito por:

Alma Contreras-Vanegas y Helen Berg



## TABE EXECUTIVE BOARD 2015-2016



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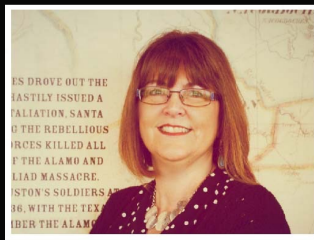
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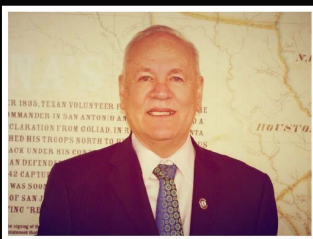
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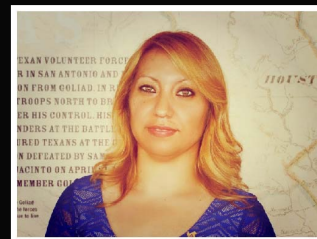
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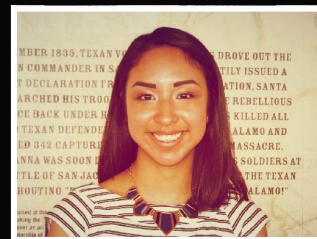
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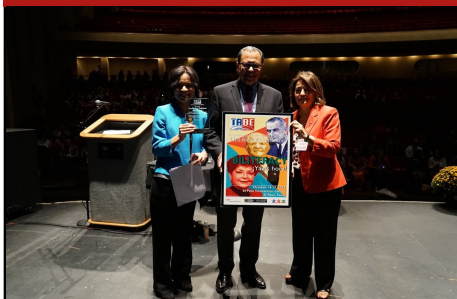
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## Highlights of TABE 2015 Conference

### TABE 2015 Honorees



Dr. Joe J. Bernal Community  
Advocate Honoree

Senator José Rodríguez  
District 29 El Paso to Big Bend

Pictured left: Dr. Arreguín-Anderson, Senator José Rodríguez and Dr. Tinajero.



#### Public Education Honoree

Dr. Pauline Dow  
North East Independent School  
District

Pictured right: Drs. Arreguín-Anderson, Dow and Ruiz-Escalante



#### Higher Education Honoree

Dr. Yolanda Padrón  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas

Pictured above: Drs. Padrón and Arreguín-Anderson

Thank you to all TABE volunteers and board members for helping make the 43rd Annual Conference successful!





## Texas Association for Bilingual Education

### **TABE Newsletter Committee**

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**Irasema González**

**Zulmaris Díaz**

**María G. Arreguín-Anderson**



**Save-the-Date  
Galveston 2016**

**Moody Gardens Hotel  
October 18-22, 2016**

**A special thank you to the TABE Staff**

**José Hernández, Executive Director**

**María Alvarado, Office Manager**

**Joanne Limón, Office Secretary**