



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION

P.O. Box 70
Buffalo, New York 14207

www.nysabe.org

Dear Members and Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I assume my role as President of the New York State Association for Bilingual Education.

NYSABE is a non-profit organization that promotes quality programs for English language learners, and together we can continue to advocate in order for our students to receive excellence and equity in the programs they participate throughout the State.

We will continue to serve our members and/or potential members by not only offering an Annual Conference but also offering Regional Conferences to share information, practices in our field, and/or ways to keep advocating for our students.

Some of my goals for this year are to increase NYSABE's advocacy efforts with legislators and community leaders; increase NYSABE's parent outreach efforts, continue and expand the coalition, building efforts with organizations like NABE, NYS TESOL, NYSCEA, SCOL, CEEELL, NY Immigration Coalition, to name a few. Also, we need to increase membership. The more members we have, the more power we will have when we advocate with our legislatures and other politicians or leaders in our communities.

I would like to ask you to save the date for our Annual Conference on March 13-16, 2008 at the Huntington Hilton in Melville, N.Y. The theme for next year's conference is "*Bilingual Education: Unity in Diversity*", which coincidentally has a very close relation to the fact that the United Nations has proclaimed the year 2008 to be the International Year of Languages. They, as we recognize that genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding. The United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally.

Soon you will find more information in our website: www.nysabe.org, which is currently under construction. Feel free to contact me or any of our Board members, if you have any questions, suggestions or ideas on how to better serve our members and community at large.

Sincerely,

Wilda Ramos

2007-2008

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31st Annual Conference
"Bilingual Education: Unity in Diversity"
March 13 – March 16, 2008
Huntington Hilton, Melville, NY