



For immediate release

Contact: Veronica Rivera, Executive Director
508.486.4536 or vrivera@alasedu.net

NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ANNOUNCES PARTICIPANTS

October 17, 2012—The Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS) is proud to announce the 2012-2013 participants of its prestigious Superintendent Leadership Academy (SLA). Only 17 superintendents and administrators were selected from across the nation to participate in this year-long program.

The leadership program is the first of its kind in the United States to focus on preparing the next generation of school system leaders with the skills necessary to close achievement gaps and specifically address the needs of English Language Learners and other disenfranchised groups. “The number of Hispanic students in public schools continues to grow, and many of them continue to lag behind in literacy, graduation and college preparedness rates,” said Veronica Rivera, ALAS Executive Director. “The Superintendent Leadership Academy is designed to ensure talented school administrators have the skills and information necessary to meet the challenge of educating not only Hispanic students, but all students, to create high-quality learning environments in their respective areas. Our country’s future depends on it.”

Participants were selected for the program based on their proven record of leadership and commitment on raising the level of student achievement for students of color and for English Language Learners for the school districts they serve. Their level of dedication to serving the needs of children and their families was also considered essential for selection.

The year-long program will cover Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Best Practices for Equity and Systemic Reform; Equity, Social Justice and Leadership; Instructional Technology and Management Systems; Leadership and Strategic Planning; and Preparing to Become a Superintendent. Experienced superintendents and other educational experts will conduct the sessions.

The program participants represent 11 different states. They are:

Dr. Ada M. Besinaiz
Director, Special Programs & Administrative Svcs.
Calallen ISD
Corpus Christi, TX

Ms. Veronica Chavez
Assistant Superintendent
San Francisco Unified School District
San Francisco, CA

Mr. Luis F. Cruz
Education Consultant
Baldwin Park, CA

Ms. Lucy Feria
Assistant Superintendent, Trenton Public Schools
Trenton, NJ

Dr. Pedro Galaviz
Director of Secondary
Round Rock ISD
Round Rock, TX

Ms. Yvonne Garcia
Principal, Rio Grande High School
Albuquerque Public Schools
Albuquerque, NM

Mr. Carlos X. Leal
Instructional Director for Professional Learning
Rochester City School District
Rochester, NY

Dr. Edith Macklin-Isquierdo
Educational Consultant
Oro Valley, AZ

Mr. Herman Mendez
Assistant Superintendent
Elementary Education
Santa Ana Unified School District
Santa Ana, CA

Dr. Rosanna Mucetti
Director, District and State Initiatives
Buck Institute for Education
Novato, CA

Dr. Margarita P. Pinkos
Director, Department of Multicultural Education
School District of Palm Beach County
West Palm Beach, FL

Dr. Perla Rodriguez
Principal, District Spanish Literacy & Two Way
Immersion Admin.
Forest Grove School District
Forest Grove, OR

Dr. Silvia Romero-Johnson
Principal, Nuestro Mundo Community School
Madison Metropolitan School District
Madison, WI

Mr. Luis Saenz
Director for the Office of Educational Equity
South Washington County Schools
Cottage Grove, MN

Mr. Patrick A. Sanchez
Superintendent
Adams County School District
Commerce City, CO

Mr. Martin C. Sandoval
Principal, Eldorado High School
Albuquerque Public Schools
Albuquerque, NM

Dr. Matilde Zamora
Consultant II, Regional System of District & School
Support in the Division for School Improvement
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Downey, CA

###

About the Association of Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS)

The ALAS mission is to provide leadership at the national level that assures every school in America effectively serves the educational needs of all students, with an emphasis on Latino youth, by building capacity, promoting best practices, and transforming educational institutions. ALAS was established in 2003 in response to a lack of national advocacy and representation of Latino students.