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PRESS RELEASE

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BOARD MEMBER CECILIA SOLORIO JOINS POLICYMAKERS IN NATION'S CAPITAL FOR NATIONAL SUMMIT ON STATE OF LATINO EDUCATION

*Access to STEM education to be at forefront of national convening with
policy experts and elected officials from across the country*

Etiwanda, CA – Board Member Cecilia Solorio will join the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) Educational Fund and more than 55 Latino public officials from across the country to discuss the state of Latino education and strategies for ensuring access to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education within the Latino community.

The event will take place September 30 - October 2, 2013, at The Westin Georgetown, as part of the NALEO Educational Fund's *9th Annual National Summit on the State of Latino Education* in Washington, D.C. The two-and-a-half day convening will provide school board members, college trustees, and state legislators with a forum to initiate a dialogue around education reform and the critical topic of STEM education in this country.

"I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to attend the Summit," stated Board Member Solorio. "I look forward to sharing the many outstanding programs from the Etiwanda School District and learning about effective programs from other districts across the country."

The economic competitiveness of the United States will depend on its ability to cultivate a STEM-ready workforce that is prepared to meet the needs of a 21st century job market. Creating an education continuum within the Latino community that fosters academic preparation for students from early learning programs through higher education will be vital as Latinos represent the second largest population group in the country.

Board Member Cecilia Solorio will have the opportunity to develop strategic partnerships with other leaders and engage in informational panels that cover the latest research, model programs, and policy recommendations regarding STEM education. Participants will also hear from a number of elected officials and experts that will help them advance STEM education access in their communities, including Colorado Lieutenant Governor **Joseph Garcia**, NALEO President and California State Senator **Alex Padilla**, University of Denver Professor **Dr. Douglas Clements** and University of Texas at Arlington Professor **Dr. Ramon E. Lopez**.

The *9th Annual National Summit on the State of Latino Education* is made possible through the generous support of Title Sponsors, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and State Farm®.

A full schedule and list of speakers is available on the NALEO Educational Fund website at <http://www.naleo.org/2013EdSummit.html>.