

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

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Hundreds of students expected at Clovis Unified Latino success conferences

Middle school event March 22; High schoolers meet March 29

This month marks the first time intermediate school students in Clovis Unified will participate in a Latino Student Success Conference, and the sixth year that high schools will host a similar event for students in grades 9-12.

- The inaugural **CUSD Latino Student Success Middle School Conference** will be held 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 22 at Kastner Intermediate and feature keynote speaker Gabe Salazar from 9 to 10 a.m. Salazar is among the top youth Latino speakers in the country, overcame homelessness and gang influences to become the first in his family to go to college.
- The **CUSD Latino Student Success High School Conference** will be held 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. March 29 at Clovis North Educational Center and feature keynote speaker Juan Felipe Herrera from 9 to 10 a.m.. Herrera is the 21st U.S. poet laureate (the first Latino to hold the position) and was a Fresno State professor, writer and activist.

“These conferences provide an inspirational platform for students to get to know one another, meet professionals in the community and listen to testimonies by a variety of people of Latino and Hispanic heritages,” said Clovis Unified Coordinator of Community Relations Saul Salinas.

The conferences will offer culturally enriched activities and performances, as well as workshops and presenters to provide students with information about college and careers.

“We are very proud that students from various ethnicities and cultures have also attended these motivational conferences over the years,” said Richard Delgado, Clovis West teacher and chairperson for the high school conference.

The conferences have been a success and have reached full capacity with 750 students every year.

“Students leave feeling inspired, engaged and connected. They have a sense of purpose and are motivated to do well in school and to strive for their goals beyond graduation,” Salinas said.

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