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**Cal Poly to Host Education Forum on ‘Closing the Achievement Gap’**

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s College of Education is hosting a free education forum on Friday, April 28, for educators and the general public on a landmark, district-wide reading success story that garnered national recognition.

Nationally known educator, speaker and author Nanci Bell will be joined by Joyce Bales, district superintendent in Pueblo, Colo., and Keith Owen, director of reading for the district, in presenting “Closing the Achievement Gap: District-Wide Reading Success -- A Case Study from Pueblo, Colo.”

The event will begin with a reception from 4 to 5 p.m. in the foyer of the Cotchett Education Building, and then move to the Orfalea College of Business Rotunda (Building 03, Room 213) for presentations and a question-and-answer session from 5 to 6:30.

The forum will focus on the Pueblo, Colo., school district’s success in raising students’ scores on state literacy tests and earning national recognition for closing the achievement gap. The district teamed up with Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes, the company founded and directed by Bell, to help its largely under-represented student population succeed.

Attendees will learn about the teaching strategies, administrative decisions and implementation process of this results-oriented collaboration.

For more information or to reserve a spot, contact Carol Pendergast in Cal Poly’s College of Education, at 756-7380 or cpenderg@calpoly.edu.

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