News release



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Everett High Latin Image Club to host third annual Latino Family Night Speakers: Mexican Consulate, Consulado Alejandro Garcia Moreno and Mayor Stephanson

The Latin Image Club of Everett High School (EHS) is not only sponsoring its third annual Latino Family Night, but is extending an invitation this year to all the high schools in the district and to Everett High's attendance area middle schools, North and Evergreen. This year's expanded Latino Family Night is Friday, Jan. 21 at 5 p.m. in the Everett High School cafeteria.

The event, made festive with student music and song, will also serve dinner for the first 500 who attend the event starting at 5 p.m. and includes a Latino Resources Fair that begins at 8:30 p.m. Participants in the resource fair include: Sea Mar; Familias Unidas; Minority Achiever's Program; Everett Community College/Teacher's Recruitment Program; City of Everett police department. The event concludes at 9:30 p.m.

The EHS Latino Family Night's growing success is attracting a number of dignitaries to formally address the school families and to enjoy an evening visiting with them. Representing the school district and city are Superintendent Gary Cohn and Everett Mayor Ray Stephanson. Sen. Patty Murray will be represented by Uriel Ybarra, the director of the senator's Northwest Region, and Gov. Gregoire will be represented by Lulieen Loh, of the governor's Northwest Regional Office. The state director of the Commission of Hispanic Affairs, Uriel Iniquez, will bring news of the commission's work to the audience. Veronica Garaycoa of Everett Community College has been instrumental in the college/district partnership to encourage Latino students to consider careers as educators. She will be providing students and families at the Jan. 21 event information about that career pathway.

Especially anticipated by those planning the Latino night is a visit by Consul General of Mexico Alejandro Garcia Moreno who has been in that Seattle position only since August 2010. In the few months since his arrival in the state, Moreno has made it a point to visit communities throughout Washington. In a December 2010 interview with noroeste.com, he emphasized the importance of going to, "... different activities done by the community and start contacting people." In another interview with the bilingual newspaper tu Decides, he spoke of education and health care as key goals for his office.

EHS counselor Lillian Ortiz-Self is advisor for the school's Latin Image Club. "Students are pleased to see this event grow over the years and are excited this year to be able to expand the invitations to families across the district. They are also very proud that their invitation to the Consul has been accepted and that he is choosing to spend an evening with our families."