

Julio Cruz
Biographical summary

Julio Cruz has been a lifelong advocate of bilingual education who worked for the Chicago Public Schools for 31 years. He rose from teacher to district and central office administrator, Principal and district superintendent. As an employee of the Chicago Public Schools system he worked arduously in promoting bilingual education and equal educational opportunities for all students. Upon his retirement, Dr. Cruz dedicated himself volunteering for various community organizations and joined the adjunct faculty at Northeastern Illinois University and Quincy University.

Julio is a founding member and has served on the board of the Illinois Association for Multilingual and Multicultural Education - IAMME (NABE Affiliate) and is a past Vice President of NABE. Presently, besides serving on the NABE Board of Directors, he is a founding and board member of Multilingual Chicago, an organization advocating for dual language education and promoting the richness of cultural diversity in Chicago and Illinois. In doing so, this organization worked with the Chicago City Council to declare and recognize Chicago a "Multilingual City", the only city in the United States to hold such distinction.

Julio is a proud father of two daughters who, although born in Chicago, are bilingual achievers. He likes to say that "I practice what I preach."

Julio has a Bachelor of Arts from Northeastern Illinois University, Master of Education from Loyola University Chicago and a Doctor of Education from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University.