

**For immediate release:**

May 4, 2011

About 175 people attended the North Boone English as a Second Language Cinco de Mayo Festival last night at North Boone Upper Elementary. The Cinco de Mayo (5<sup>th</sup> of May) is celebrated in Mexico in recognition of the Mexican victory at the Battle of Puebla against the French. As with most Mexican celebrations, participants feast on traditional Mexican cuisine (Tamales, enchiladas, flautas, etc.), music, and dance. The most traditional of the dances is the Mexican Hat Dance called "El Jarabe Tapatio".

A group of 6<sup>th</sup> graders performed a simple version of the dance. They dressed in the traditional Mexican dresses decorated in many colors which symbolized the joy of the celebration. Mexico has a variety of outfits according to the different states they represent. Most of the ones from last night are the most traditional and represent the state of Michoacán. The younger students dance another traditional dance called "La Raspa" and "El Guadalajara." The younger students were taught the dance by Mrs. Maria Galvan. The older group of girls was taught the dance by Georgina Partida Lopez, Mrs. Maria Diaz, and Mrs. Marisela Diaz Ortiz. Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Morales lent their home for the girls to practice the dance. The district also wants to mention that donations were received from a few of the local stores, which helped make the evening possible.



North Boone Community Unit School District 200 serves approximately 1800 students in pre-school through high school in the Villages of Caledonia, Capron and Poplar Grove as well as the northern tier of unincorporated Boone County, Illinois. For more information visit the NBCUSD website at [www.nbcusd.org](http://www.nbcusd.org) or contact the district office at 815-765-3322.

For future information, you can follow North Boone on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/NBCUSD200](https://twitter.com/NBCUSD200).