

# Would You Like Your Child to be Bilingual & Biliterate?



## Creating Strong Partnerships Between Parents, Educators and Community Members to Offer Bilingual and Biliteracy Programs

What You Need to Know to Support and Request Bilingual/Biliteracy Programs in Your Child's School Under the Guidelines of Proposition 58 in California

**2021-2022**

### What Is Proposition 58 and Why is it Important?

In November 2016, California voters passed Proposition 58, The Ed.G.E. Initiative, which created an exciting and significant law that opens the doors to offering multilingual programs in K-12 schools throughout California. The goal of these programs is to promote biliteracy in English and another language such as Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and/or other languages.

**Over 73% of the voters in California voted YES on Prop 58!** Prop 58 provides the option to offer multilingual programs in our schools demonstrating the importance that being bilingual and biliterate has in our state, our nation and world!



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# How Can You Support and Request a Bilingual/Biliteracy Program for Your Child?

## Why Bilingual/Biliteracy Programs?

**Research shows that being bilingual and biliterate** improves students' academic success, creates stronger communication, connections, and critical thinking, prepares students for better, higher paying jobs, and even has a positive effect on our health! Being in a bilingual/biliterate program is good for all students and is especially good and important for English Learners!<sup>1</sup>

## What Does Prop 58 Do?

**Based on Proposition 58**, California Education Code and the Code of Regulations have been updated to provide direction to schools, districts and county offices of education.<sup>2</sup> Parents now have the opportunity (and the right) to request and support the development of language development and bilingual/biliteracy programs in their children's schools such as **Dual Language Immersion, Developmental, World Language Programs and Heritage Languages.**

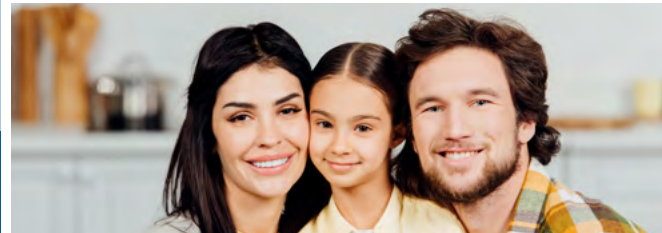
## How Can I Support a Bilingual/Biliteracy Program for My Child?

**If 20 parents per grade level or 30 parents per school site request** (in writing or verbally) that they would like their child to be in a multilingual program, the school, district or county office education must acknowledge and consider the request<sup>3</sup>, and:

- Provide written notification of requests within 10 days.
- Conduct an analysis on models, costs and needed resources.
- Determine if the request is feasible and able to be implemented and provide notification within 60 days.
  - If the response is **YES**, a timeline and work plan need to be developed.
  - If the response is **NO**, a written explanation must be issued to those who made the request.
- **If you do not agree with the decision**, you can take local steps, continue conversations with district leaders and school board members or use the Uniform Complaint Process (UCP).

## Where Do I Start If I Am Interested In A Bilingual/Biliteracy Program For My Child?

- Talk to your child's teacher, principal, administrators, other parents, and/or school board members to learn if bilingual/biliteracy programs are offered in your school or district.
  - If they are, visit them and learn how to enroll your child in a program.
  - If they are not, ask your school and district and or SSC, ELAC or DELAC to begin consideration to start a program.
- Talk about the options with other parents and support written or verbal requests asking your district to explore the option of offering bilingual/biliterate programs.
- Contact CABE with questions you may have at:  
**626-814-4441 ext. 215 or dani@gocabe.org**



## References

<sup>1</sup>CABE: [www.gocabe.org](http://www.gocabe.org)

<sup>2</sup>California Department of Education: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/el/er/caedge.asp>

<sup>3</sup>CSBA: <http://bit.ly/Prop58FactSheet>