CABE has been working to establish budget priorities for the 2022-23 year which will be the primary focus of advocacy. Once Governor Newsom releases his January budget, CABE will create a strategy to incorporate our priorities into budget discussions with the Legislature and Governor’s office. Our top priorities include:

### Bilingual Teacher Professional Development

Advocate for $10 million over five years to bring back the Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Program, which ended in June of 2021. This important program helps to support the growth of teachers with bilingual authorizations who wish to work in bilingual classrooms as well as teachers seeking a bilingual authorization.

### Educator Workforce Investment Grants

Advocate for $20 million over five years in ongoing funding for two Educator Workforce Investment Grants (EWIG) to achieve the continued implementation of the English Learner Roadmap throughout the state. The 2019 Budget Act provided funding for an EWIG Program one or more competitive statewide professional learning grants for the implementation of the English Learner Roadmap throughout the state. This was focused on professional learning/training through evidence-based practices for local education agencies. The pandemic has increased the need for a stronger effort to provide access to high quality instruction for English Learner students though continued funding of the EWIG Program.
State Seal of Biliteracy

The State Seal of Biliteracy (SSB), which recognizes California high school graduates attaining proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in either one or more languages other than English was initially created in 2012. This innovative program continues to be voluntary. As school funding grows to historic levels, it is imperative California dedicate the necessary resources to ensure this program can grow to its fullest potential.

Long-Term English Learners

California has over 1 million English learners, 200,000 of which are long-term English learners (LTELs). A student designated as a LTELs has been in U.S. schools for at least six or more years without reaching English proficiency necessary for reclassification. While a number of important policy changes have taken place, adequate funding has not been provided to move the needle in the number of LTELs. With Proposition 98 funding for 2022-23 estimated to be $11.6 billion higher above previous levels, California has the resources to ensure these students can receive the support they need to reclassify and grow.

Effective CDE Support

In order to ensure the above four goals are successful, the California Department of Education (CDE) needs adequate staff capacity to ensure their effectiveness. CABE is working with the CDE to assess the additional staff needed to ensure the success of these programs and will advocate for those ongoing resources.