On January 10th, Governor Newsom introduced a $286.4 billion 2022-23 proposal, which includes a projected surplus of $45.7 billion. A total of $34.6 billion is proposed for reserve deposits, including the Rainy Day Fund and the Public School System Stabilization Account. The budget proposes a historic $102 billion in Proposition 98 funding for TK-12 schools and community colleges for 2022-23, reflecting an increase of $8.2 billion above what was provided in the 2021 Budget Act. These amounts reflect $15,261 in per pupil in Proposition 98 funding and $20,855 per pupil, including all other funding sources.

A cost-of-living adjustment of 5.33 percent is provided to the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), resulting in $3.3 billion in additional discretionary funding for local education agencies (LEAs). A total of $54.4 million comprised of Proposition 98 General Fund, as well as General Fund dollars, are provided to build upon the multi-year investments providing support to help schools hire qualified teachers and substitutes.

The budget also proposes an additional $1 billion to continue the expansion of Universal Transitional Kindergarten, increasing access to approximately 56,000 children while reducing student-to-adult ratios. Specifically, this would include $639.2 million General Fund dollars to expand eligibility, which would also be used to re-bench the Proposition 98 Guarantee, as well as $383 million Proposition 98 General Fund dollars to add an educator to every transitional kindergarten class, reducing the student-to-adult ratio to better align with the State Preschool Program.

The budget recognizes that many children with disabilities are also English learners, come from low-income families, and/or are served by the foster care system, which compounds equity challenges. The budget proposes $500 million in ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund dollars to increase the special education funding formula and additionally includes a number of policy changes.

The inclusion of the $10 million General Fund is proposed to expand early literacy efforts by creating a partnership between the California Department of Public Health and First 5 California for the
administration of a statewide program to provide multilingual books and early literacy programming for families with young children. This proposed program would work in collaboration with state programs such as home visiting, childcare, early childcare centers, and foster care.

To read my full Budget Summary, visit the CABE website at: https://www.gocabe.org/index.php/communications-2/legislative-updates/

**CABE Budget Priorities**

In concurrence with the Governor’s introduction of his budget proposal, CABE and our partners at Californians Together shared our budget priorities with key Legislative leaders to begin to build a framework for support of our goals. Our first priority is to bring back the successful Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Grant, which ended in June 2021. This important program used a “grow your own” approach to addressing the bilingual teacher shortage by allowing eligible local educational agencies to apply for state funds in order to provide professional learning opportunities to increase the number of bilingual authorized teachers. We are asking for a one-time $10 million appropriation, which would include $2 million annually for five years. The second budget priority is to extend funding for the Educator Workforce Investment Program English Learner Roadmap Policy Implementation. Our request is for a one-time appropriation of $20 million for five years to extend the funding of the two current grantees, commencing July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028.

Meetings have already begun with key Legislative budget leaders to advance these budget priorities. To read the budget priority letter sent to the Legislature, visit the CABE website at: https://www.gocabe.org/index.php/communications-2/legislative-updates/

**Legislative Budget Hearings**

Both Houses of the California Legislature have begun their budget overview hearings. Beginning the first week of February, both Houses’ Subcommittees will begin their systematic review of the Governor’s budget proposal while they begin to integrate their own budget goals and priorities. CABE will monitor these hearings and will provide testimony in support of CABE budget priorities. These hearings will continue until April and will renew in May with the release of the Governor’s May Revision, which reflects updated fiscal information reflecting April tax revenues. The final budget is due by June 15th, which is its Constitutional deadline.
Additional updates will be provided on the status of budget discussions as well as CABE’s budget priorities each month as we progress in our discussions.

**Legislation**

CABE-sponsored AB 1701 (Medina) was introduced on January 25th and would create a five-year grant to the California State University (CSU) system to increase student enrollment in bilingual authorization programs through recruitment and retention of full or part-time faculty through its Colleges of Education. AB 1701 is also co-sponsored by Californians Together. This important legislation would create a fundamental step California must take in order to begin to systematically address the bilingual teacher shortage. AB 1701 (Medina) is eligible to be referred to the Assembly Higher Education Committee 30 days after its introduction. Meetings with potential supporters and key Legislative offices have already begun.

An additional CABE and Californians Together co-sponsored bill will be introduced shortly by Assembly Member Luz Rivas, which would require local education agencies with 25% or more English Learners in elementary schools who are at risk of becoming long-term English Learners or 25% of ELs in secondary schools who are LTEls to delineate goals and strategies for serving the needs of these students in their Local Control and Accountability Plan. This bill would also allow us to see the breakdown of special education data by English language status and type of disability and further disaggregate the specific learning disability category. This bill will be introduced in early February.

CABE is in active discussions regarding an additional sponsored bill which I will be able to report in my next Legislative Report. It is important to note that our sponsored bills all have costs associated with them which also make them budget discussion items. All sponsored bills are being integrated into budget discussions to solicit financial support to ensure funds will be available with the successful passage of CABE’s legislative package.

**California State Senate Floor Confirmation**

On January 24th, CABE-supported Gubernatorial appointee, Dr. Susan Heredia, was confirmed by the California State Senate to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing. Dr. Heredia has dedicated decades towards improving California’s schools at both the local and statewide levels. She initially began her career as a bilingual teacher for the Sacramento City Unified School District and taught in the credential program at the University of California, Davis. She was additionally Chair of the Bilingual
Multicultural Education Department and Graduate and Professional Studies in Education Division at the California State University Sacramento. Dr. Heredia currently serves as a Trustee to the Natomas Unified School Board and serves as the President-elect to the California School Boards Association. CABE’s affiliate, the California Association of Bilingual Teacher Educators (CABTE), also supported Dr. Heredia’s appointment to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.