

# Board of Directors Reports

For CABA Board Meeting, September 13, 2025

- **Dr. Karling Aguilera -Fort, CABA Board President:**

As committed I have met with CABA CEO Dr. Lampkin every two weeks on a Saturday morning to discuss issues related to operational, managerial and strategic leadership of the organization. Our meetings for the most part last between an hour and 30 minutes to 2 hours. In addition, have joined the Finance Committee as well as facilitated the Executive Committee meetings. Participating in the different discussions related to finances and operations has allowed me to ask questions and to get a deeper perspective on the very challenging financial state of the organization. I must acknowledge the intense work of the Director of Finance Affairs Dr. Flores in support of the leadership of the organization in this area. I also want to acknowledge the work of the CABA CEO, Deputy Director and definitely of the Finance/Accounting Management Consultant to ensure information, data and scenarios were drafted, presented and discussed at the different levels: Internally, Finance and Executive Committees and now to the Board. It is important to state that the information and proposals that the Board will receive must be presented to these committees and the committees have the responsibility of discussing, asking clarifying questions and agreeing to move forward with the information for the Board meeting. However, it does not mean that these committees are in full support or have approved the actual concepts and ideas, nor have expressed explicitly opposition to the concepts and proposals. As part of the interactions I have also participated in meetings with staff and CEO to discuss information and to discuss actions that need immediate execution. Details of these actions will be presented during the closed session.

President's Reception during the 2026 CABA Conference, is going to be sponsored by different organizations, thus, we will host it at a venue in the hotel. I am also sponsoring the live music.

Mariachi Festival: We are pausing this event for the 2026 conference. Most of the sponsors are in the Southern California area. Dr. Maldonado was able to secure them for the 2025 conference because of his relationship with them and their willingness to support the organization through his leadership.

[Artwork for CABA 2026](#) comes from the [Multilingual Perspectives on Translanguaging Book](#). I want to acknowledge and appreciate Dr. Barbara Flores for presenting this idea to me and for collaborating with Laurie, Delma,

and the publisher in order to get this art work secured.

- **Dr. Raul Maldonado**, CAFE Immediate Past President:

Since March 2025, we have seen the current administration move forward with extensive reductions at the federal level, including mass layoffs that have impacted a large portion of the Department of Education's workforce. Executive orders have also been issued with the intent of closing down the federal Department of Education, with the claim that authority will shift to the states and that funding will continue.

However, these actions raise serious concerns about the future of critical funding streams such as Title I and Title III, which are now in jeopardy. My purpose in reporting the potential loss of Title funding is to bring greater awareness to the issue. CAFE must remain mindful of how the loss of these funds at the state and local levels could affect our work. Many school districts rely on Title funding to support their participation in the Annual CAFE Conference.

- **Dr. MariaElena Esquer**, CAFE Vice-President:

The Region Reps and myself will be discussing both the Fall 2025 JDA that we host online and the conference JDA session. Due to budget concerns, lodging will not be provided for the conference. Many chapter leaders are affiliated with a district or university that might be able to send them. We will continue to work with our chapters and will discuss looking at different membership events that may bring more members.

- **Mary Helen Ybarra**, Director of State and Legislative Affairs:

Jennifer Baker has provided a written report and a video on our CAFE Legislative and Policy actions and updates. I yield to her report and video.

- **Rosa Armstrong**, Director of Community Affairs

I have been busy in different Committees (Audit, Financial, Chapter 58). Chapter 58 is planning and finalizing the preparation for our Chapter AV-CAFE Mini-Conference.

- **Maryanna Lee**, Director of Parent Relations

I am excited to share an update on our work at Ball Junior High School, a proud community school. This year marks the launch of our first DLI program DILE (Dual Immersion Language Education), which exemplifies the powerful intersection of dual language immersion and community schools. Our DILE students, many of whom transitioned from Betsy Ross, CAFE Seal of Excellence award school, are thriving, taking on leadership roles as MCs and interpreters at community events and showcasing the strength of their multilingualism. In the spirit of community schools, we recently hosted a “Lunch with a Loved One,” where 320 families out of 700 students came together—despite the current political climate—for a meaningful time of family bonding. Together, DILE and community schools demonstrate how student voice, family engagement, and multilingual assets are transforming school communities and fostering vibrant, inclusive learning environments.

- **Dr. Reyes Quezada** Director of Secondary and IHE Affairs

As CAFE’s (California Association for Bilingual Education) Director of Secondary and IHE Affairs, it is a key bridge position between **policy, practice, and leadership development**. Since this is my first year on the CAFE board I submit the following proposed activities for possible discussion and guidance.

I would like to plan activities that will amplify bilingual/dual language pathways, support teachers/professors, and ensure equity for multilingual learners (MLs) in both secondary and higher education institutions at both the Community College, the four-year public and private/Independent universities.

Below are possible activities that can be a part of my tenure as a CAFE Board member. With guidance from other Board of Directors we can see rank order the ones we might want to focus as an organization and make sure that I do not duplicate activities with other Board of Director activities.

- ◆ **Professional Learning & Capacity-Building**

1. **Webinar Series** on dual language secondary education, biliteracy pathways, and teacher preparation for multilingual learners.
2. **Faculty Learning Circles** with higher ed professors to embed document effective Multilingual Teacher Preparation programs.

- ◆ **Pathway Development**

4. **Strengthen High School → College Bilingual Pathways** by collaborating with school districts, community colleges, and universities.
  - Example: Expand a “*Seal of Biliteracy to College Credit*” or degrees/diplomas.
5. **Bilingual Teacher Pipeline Initiatives** — support new innovative “grow-your-own” programs that help bilingual high school and college students become future dual language teachers.

## ◆ Student Leadership & Engagement

6. **Multilingual Student Summit** (regional conferences) where high school and college students showcase projects in multiple languages.
7. **College Readiness for Emerging Bilinguals Workshops** — demystifying admissions, financial aid, and opportunities for students from immigrant backgrounds.
8. **Mentorship Programs** pairing bilingual college students with high schoolers exploring bilingual careers.

## ◆ Research, Policy & Advocacy

9. **Research Symposium** highlighting secondary and higher ed research on bilingual education, equity, and linguistic justice at the Annual CABE conference.
10. **Policy Briefs** for legislators and school leaders on issues like:
  - Expanding bilingual teacher preparation programs
  - Supporting heritage language learners in high school
  - Addressing equity gaps for multilingual students in higher ed.
11. **Data Gathering** on multilingual learner success across secondary–postsecondary pipelines.

## ◆ Partnerships & Community Engagement

12. Build **district–university partnerships** to expand dual immersion and bilingual teacher prep at the elementary and secondary level by embedding multiple credentials (SPED-Mild Moderate/Severe, and Bilingual Counselor/Psychologist certification..
13. Partner with **community-based organizations** to connect multilingual families with secondary and higher education opportunities.
14. Collaborate with **business/industry** on bilingual workforce readiness (internships, apprenticeships).

As CABE’s Director of Secondary & Higher Ed Affairs, I could lead **professional learning, bilingual pathways, student engagement, policy advocacy, and partnerships** — all grounded in **leveraging cultural and linguistic assets** as strengths.

Last, The University of San Diego’s (USD) School of Leadership and Education Sciences will be hosting the California Council of Teacher Educators conference at USD. For the first time it will be held at a University campus instead of the Kona Kai Resort and hotel (where there will be much cost savings). The California Association of Bilingual Teacher Educators (CABTE-CABE’s affiliate holds its Board of Directors meeting there as well). The date is October 16-17 with a virtual option).

Conference Information Link:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#search/alan.jones%40ccte.org/FMfcgzQcpdpfBWhnzFlcnwHpqqvNWzlf>

- **Dr. Barbara Flores**, Director of Financial Affairs

My report will be presented in closed session along with the Financials for June and the Proposed 2025-2026 zero balanced budget.

- **Dr. Annie BichLoan Duong**, Region 1 Representative Updates:

*Chapter 13- there have not been any additional activities besides the usual ones: fundraisings and scholarship awards*

*META Chapter 8 & preparing for the annual conference on Feb. 21 & 22, 2026*

*Woodland Chapter 76*

- *Woodland Community College Board Meeting, Sept.- Recognizing Undocumented Student Success Week and Commitment to Students*
- *Woodland Public Library Hispanic Heritage Night, Sept. 19*
- *Yolo Farmworkers Events, TBD*
- *Communicare Dia de Muertos, 10/24*
- *Beamer Dia de Muertos, TBD*
- *Celebrating 30th year (1995-2025)*

*SFBE Chapter 23 there have not been any additional activities besides the usual ones: fundraisings and scholarship awards*

- **Martha Padilla Chavarría**, Region 2 Representative Updates:

I have been working on and supporting the merging of the two former Chapters (Merced & Fresno). They are in their final stages of completing their merging. They have their bylaws, bank accounts and are working on the planning for a local chapter dual language mini-conference. Everything that Joshua Jauregui has asked for has been submitted.

- **HồngTiên Trần**, Region 3 Representative Updates:

I'm excited to update that Westminster School District (WSD) expanded its Vietnamese DLI program and Spanish DLI program to 2nd elementary school sites for each of their program.

WSD's Vietnamese DLI Program is currently at 3 school sites:

- 1) DeMille Mỹ-Việt Dual Language Academy, from TK to 5th grade, with a total of 18 classes.
- 2) Warner Middle School, from 6th to 8th grade, with a total of 6 classes

- 3) Anderson Elementary School, starting this year, with 2 TK and 2 Kindergarten classes.

WSD's Spanish DLI Program is currently at 3 school sites:

- 1) Wilmore Language Academy, from TK to 6th grade
- 2) Helen Stacey Middle School, from 7th to 8th grade
- 3) Finley Computer Science Magnet, starting this year, with 2 TK and 2 Kindergarten classes.

Currently the Westminster School District has over 100 TK and K students for each DLI program. On top of that, WSD also offers Preschool Vietnamese DLI and Preschool Spanish DLI program at each elementary school site and at Land Early Learning Center.

This shows the importance of DLI program in sustaining and promoting Biliteracy, Multicultural Competency, & Educational Equity for All, as CABA's vision.

- **Dr. Angélica Hurtado, Region 4 Representative Updates**

**Riverside Chapter:** New President Adriana Ruiz has come in with full enthusiasm and energy.

Here are the following events that are coming up:

- December 8th, 2025-General Meeting held at Learning Center South at the CNUSD. Keynote will be Superintendent Dalia GadElMawla. The Jefferson Elementary students will perform dances. The theme for the general meeting is Las Posadas.
- The annual Mini-Conference will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2026, at 8:00 at Corona High School in the CNUSD. Breakout sessions will be provided for teachers, paras, and parents. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.
- The annual BEST Awards will be held on Friday, April 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the RCOE Conference Center.
- Riverside Chapter 6 has held three Board meetings on 6/30/25, 7/28/25, and 8/25/25.
- The following Board meeting dates are upcoming:  
9/22/25, 10/27/25, 11/17/25, 11/24/25, 12/8/25 (General Association Meeting debrief) 12/22/25, 1/19/26, 1/26/26, 1/31/26(Mini-Conference debrief) 2/23/26, 3/23/26, 4/6/26, 4/24/26 (BEST Awards debrief) 4/27/26, 5/25/26, 6/22/26.

**San Bernardino Chapter:** The chapter is undergoing restructuring, and currently, they are accepting nominations to begin electing board members since the previous president resigned because she went back to school. They are hopeful they will get their complete board soon to start hosting activities, membership drives, and meet and greets.



**San Diego Chapter:** The San Diego CABE Chapter is thriving! About a dozen dedicated members continue to meet online every week, planning and collaborating to support our multilingual community. They are especially excited about their annual mini-conference on **Saturday, October 25, 2025, at Otay Ranch High School in Chula Vista** where they expect to have 200–250 attendees, approximately two-thirds of whom will be parents and one-third educators and administrators. Registration is open now through the **CABE65 website** and they encourage everyone to share the attached flyer widely. This uplifting event fuels their scholarship fund, which each year provides awards to low-income, multilingual, and often first-generation college-bound students from every high school in South San Diego County. They can't wait to honor these remarkable scholars and their families at their celebratory scholarship breakfast on **May 9, 2026!**



**cabe65**  
**MINI CONFERENCE**  
*"Our Voices:  
Ever Strong and  
Powerful!"*

**NORMA CHÁVEZ-PETERSON**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION  
OF SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES

**SATURDAY  
OCTOBER 25, 2025**

Join us for an inspiring day of learning, connection, and celebration in support of our multilingual community! This special event features keynote insights from Norma Chávez-Peterson, a respected community leader and advocate for family engagement, higher education access, and student success.

Your participation directly supports students with \$1,000 scholarships for multilingual high school seniors and \$50 stipends for multilingual 6th grade students.

Enjoy a music performance, networking opportunities, continental breakfast, and a lavish lunch as part of the experience. Attendees will also choose from two powerful breakout workshop sessions focused on improving learning outcomes for Multilingual and English Learner students.

**\$120**  
Registration Fee includes:

- Continental Breakfast & Lavish Lunch
- Music Performance & Networking Opportunities
- A choice of Two Breakout Workshop Sessions

**REGISTER NOW**

**OTAY RANCH HIGH SCHOOL**  
1250 OLYMPIC PKWY, CHULA VISTA, CA 91913

**8:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

[www.cabe65.org](http://www.cabe65.org)

**Calexico Chapter:** The chapter awarded a final scholarship \$293 to student Ricardo Lopez. After this, they decided to close their chapter, unfortunately.

- **Dr. Sarah Zepeda, Region 5 Representative Updates**
- Santa Barbara Chapter 09 CABE has been regrouping and are currently recruiting for new members. They have been actively speaking with local districts.

- Ventura Chapter 48 CAFE is preparing for their upcoming conference on Friday October 10, 2025. Registration to date is 150 people.
- AV Chapter 58 CAFE will be meeting on September 15, 2025 to plan future conferences and events. A fall and/or spring conference will be discussed.
- **Marissa Lazzo-Necco** Director of Paraprofessionals

California Association for Bilingual Education (CAFE)

Board of Directors– Community Affairs

Report of Participation

Submitted by: Marissa Lazzo-Necco

Role: Board of Directors– Community Affairs

## Overview of Activities

As part of my service on the CAFE Board of Directors for Community Affairs, I actively participated during the month of July 2025 in the Statewide County and Community Partners Network. This statewide network, in partnership with the California Department of Education (CDE), brings together county offices of education and community partners from across the state to support one another in advancing meaningful family and community engagement practices.

In this capacity, I contributed to the delivery of professional development focused on the Community Engagement Initiative (CEI) Self-Reflection Tool. This tool provides a framework for school districts and community partners to assess current practices and identify areas for growth in engaging families as authentic partners in education.

## Professional Development Focus

The July session centered on building the capacity of family engagement liaisons and paraprofessionals. The training highlighted:

- Best practices for engaging families through a culturally responsive approach.



- Strategies to strengthen trust, communication, and collaboration between schools and communities.
- Practical applications of the CEI Self-Reflection Tool to support continuous improvement.

This session emphasized equity-driven practices that honor the diverse cultural and linguistic assets of families across California.

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### **Continued Support – September 2025**

- On September 8, 2025, I facilitated Part 2 of the staff professional development series. This session built on the July training and provided participants with:
  - Deeper strategies on sustaining best practices in family engagement.
  - Opportunities for reflection and dialogue on lessons learned during implementation.
  - Tools to refine outreach methods to ensure inclusivity and responsiveness to community needs.
- Looking ahead, on September 27, 2025, the Family and Community Engagement Summit will take place. This statewide convening will highlight innovative practices in family-school-community partnerships. CAGE's Laura Diaz will be presenting a session, further elevating CAGE's leadership and commitment to advancing equitable, culturally responsive engagement practices.

### **Impact**

Through this work, CAGE continues to elevate its role as a statewide leader in advancing culturally and linguistically responsive family and community engagement. My participation in this CDE-partnered statewide network and our presence at the upcoming Family and Community Engagement Summit reflect our shared commitment to ensuring that every student and family is supported, respected, and empowered within their educational journey.