



## Region 4 Representative Candidate

**ELIZABETH JIMENEZ**

### Personal Statement

#### **A Legacy of Advocacy and Biliteracy**

My commitment to bilingual education is not just professional; it is deeply personal. As a former English Learner, I understand the challenges of navigating an educational system that does not always see a home language as an asset. My journey has come full circle: from an EL student to a Multiple Subject Credentialed teacher with a Bilingual Authorization, and a Master of Arts in Education (Dual Language and English Learner Education concentration). I am also a proud mother of two: a UCSD student and a high school junior. Their success is a testament to the power of the advocacy and biliteracy models that CABE champions.

#### **Academic Foundation and Professional Expertise**

My advocacy is rooted in a B.A. in Liberal Studies with a minor in Chicano/Latino Studies. Today, as a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) for Val Verde USD and a Bilingual Authorization Program Fieldwork Coach for the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), I bridge the gap between theory and practice. By coaching new teachers, I am directly building the workforce needed to expand sustainable, asset-based Dual Language Immersion (DLI) programs across our region.

#### **Deep Roots in CABE and Regional Leadership**

My history with CABE reflects my professional evolution. I began as a DELAC parent volunteer, recognized as a BEST Parent Winner. Following my tenure as CABE's Administrative Systems Manager (2013–2016), I returned to the classroom, where my dedication led to being named the BEST Teacher of the Year for my district. This dual recognition as both a parent and professional leader provides me with a unique 360-degree perspective.

I remain deeply engaged with local and state leadership, consistently attending the CABE Annual Conference and the Riverside and Corona-Norco Chapter conferences.

Furthermore, I have collaborated with RCOE and the Riverside CAFE Chapter by participating in the meetings and selection process for the BEST Awards county winners, ensuring we celebrate the excellence that once inspired my own career.

### **Community Leadership and Civic Service**

Service is the cornerstone of my leadership. Since 2019, I have been a devoted volunteer for the Rancho Verde Crimson Regiment Band Booster Parents, supporting the arts and student engagement. My local involvement also includes serving on the High School School Site Council and a decade-long commitment to the PTO. Beyond education, my work on the City of Perris Planning Commission has sharpened my ability to navigate complex policies and advocate for community-wide resources.

### **Commitment to the Region**

If elected as the Region 4 Representative, I will serve as a dedicated bridge between the Board and our local chapters. I have lived the EL experience, taught the curriculum, and managed CAFE's internal systems. I am ready to bring this wealth of experience to the Board of Directors to ensure "Multilingualism for All" is a reality for every student in our region.

As a former English Learner and MA in Education (DLI/EL), I offer a multidimensional lens to the CAFE Board. My journey—from BEST Parent Winner to CAFE Manager, Multiple Subject teacher, and RCOE Fieldwork Coach—provides a unique 360-degree perspective. I have lived the shared experiences, aspirations, and successes of our families and educators alike. As your Region Representative, I will be a unifying voice, bridging local chapters with state-level advocacy. I am ready to lead with heart and a collaborative commitment to "Multilingualism for All" for our entire community.

## **Testimonio personal**

Como ex aprendiz de inglés y Maestra en Educación (DLI/EL), apporto una visión multidimensional a la mesa directiva de CAFE. Mi trayectoria—desde madre ganadora del premio BEST Parent hasta Gerente de CAFE, maestra y entrenadora de RCOE—ofrece una perspectiva de 360 grados. He vivido las experiencias, anhelos y éxitos que comparten nuestras familias y educadores. Como su Representante Regional, seré una voz que une a nuestros capítulos locales con la abogacía estatal. Estoy lista para liderar con corazón y un compromiso colaborativo con el "Multilingüismo para Todos".