



Director of State & Legislative Affairs Candidate

DR. RAÚL MALDONADO

Personal Statement

As the current Past-President of the California Association for Bilingual Education (CABE) and a dedicated bilingual educator for over three decades, I am honored to submit my candidacy for the Director of State & Legislative Affairs. My journey with CABE spans 25 years, during which I have served as the Director of Financial Affairs and as a consistent advocate for biliteracy and multilingual learners. My career has been defined by a steadfast commitment to English Learners, parents, staff and the belief that linguistic diversity is a superpower, not a deficit.

My vision is to position CABE as an advocate for legislative policy that impacts multilingual learners. I aim to bridge the gap between classroom realities and Sacramento's policy decisions. We must ensure that the "Global California 2030" goals are backed by robust funding and legislative mandates that protect and expand dual-language programs across all zip codes. The Global California 2030 initiative is to equip students with world language skills to better appreciate and more fully engage with the rich and diverse mixture of cultures, heritages, and languages. California is a world economic power and we must prepare our students to succeed in the global economy.

My foundational experiences as a Bilingual Elementary Teacher in Paramount, Norwalk-La Mirada, and Los Angeles USDs gave me a front-row seat to the challenges faced by English Learners in underserved communities. This "boots on the ground" perspective informed my transition into leadership. With a Master's in Educational Administration and doctoral studies in Educational Leadership, I have paired practical experience with the theoretical framework necessary to navigate complex educational systems and political challenges to ensure that our students receive the best education. For the past decade, I have served as the Superintendent of Schools for the Palmdale School District. In this role, and previously as the Director of Biliteracy Programs, I have prioritized the expansion of biliteracy pathways. My

leadership is recognized by peers, having received the ACSA Marcus Foster Award, CALSA Superintendent of the Year 2025, CAAASA Superintendent of the Year 2026 and being named CALSA Region 5 Superintendent of the Year. These accolades reflect my ability to manage large-scale initiatives and inspire collective action toward equity.

Effective legislative affairs require strong alliances. I am committed to strengthening our partnerships with key stakeholders, including Capitol Advisors, CSBA, ACSA, the California Teachers Association (CTA), and the California School Employees Association (CSEA). In addition, I am well connected to many of the California Legislators. By aligning our advocacy efforts, we can present a unified front for student-centered policies.

Having presented at AASA, CSBA, and CIBE conferences, I am adept at communicating the specific needs of our students to diverse stakeholders. I am ready to leverage my 25 years of CIBE institutional knowledge and my experience leading high-needs districts to ensure our state's legislative agenda reflects the brilliance of our multilingual students. Together, we will continue to champion the gift of biliteracy for every child in California.

With 25 years of dedicated service to CIBE and 36 years as a bilingual educator and superintendent, I am ready to lead our legislative charge. As your former CIBE President and Director of Financial Affairs, I have the institutional knowledge to bridge classroom needs with Sacramento's policy decisions. My mission is to strengthen alliances with ACSA, CSBA, CALSA, CAAASA, Capitol Advisors, CTA, and CSEA to secure robust funding for biliteracy. I will fight for legislative mandates that protect English Learners and empower our communities. Let's turn our collective vision into state-wide action. I respectfully ask for your vote.

Testimonio personal

Con 25 años de dedicación a CIBE y 36 años como educador bilingüe y Superintendente, estoy listo para liderar nuestra labor legislativa. Como presidente Anterior de CIBE y director de Asuntos Financieros, poseo el conocimiento institucional para vincular las necesidades del aula con las decisiones políticas en Sacramento. Mi misión es fortalecer las alianzas con ACSA, CSBA, CALSA, CAAASA, Capitol Advisors, CTA y CSEA para asegurar un financiamiento sólido para la alfabetización bilingüe. Lucharé por mandatos legislativos que protejan a los aprendices de inglés y empoderen nuestras comunidades. Convirtamos nuestra visión en acción a nivel estatal. Respetuosamente, pido su voto.