

MURDOCH WALRATH & HOLMES

MEMORANDUM

Date: June 3, 2026

To: CABE Board Members
Cynthia Vasquez Petitt, CABE Interim CEO

From: Jennifer Baker, Legislative Advocate

Subject: Sacramento Update

This week's election is shaping the political environment California will face over the next five months, which will establish the top political leader who will guide policy and budget conversations during their term. The final budget that Governor Newsom and the Legislature adopt over the next week will create a road map that the next Governor will either have to navigate or reshape during their tenure.

In addition to the candidates, ballot initiatives will also shape political discourse during the upcoming campaigns and could result in significant policy and fiscal changes if approved by voters in November. The most notable measures that will impact education funding are the billionaire's tax and the permanent Proposition 30/55 extension.

California is estimated to be home to a few hundred billionaires, many of whom have amassed their wealth in the technology sector. If some billionaires were to leave the state, this would not only affect the potential revenues generated by the billionaire's tax initiative but also the total amount of personal income taxes paid by these taxpayers, which could create a long-term structural imbalance in state revenues. It is important to note that personal income taxes account for about 62 percent of the State General Fund. About forty percent of General Fund dollars go toward funding schools through Proposition 98. Should the total amount of personal income taxes decline, schools would face an immediate reduction in funding for the next fiscal year. This would exacerbate the growing fiscal impact of enrollment decline, as schools would face reduced funding for the students they serve and an overall revenue decline.

Because the billionaire's tax revenues would be diverted to a separate fund, the one-time revenues would not be counted toward the Proposition 98 calculation. This could create a situation in which revenues for this initiative are generated while also leading to an overall decline in Proposition 98 and school funding due to personal income tax reductions. If funding from this initiative counted toward Proposition 98, it could help mitigate potential overall reductions in school funding resulting from lower personal income taxes.

Additionally, it is likely voters may be more inclined to solely approve one tax initiative, rather than two. Should this be the case, it may hinder the ability for the Prop. 30/55 extension to pass. Fortunately, the current tax does not expire until 2030. However, a future extension may face greater difficulty if voters perceive the billionaire's tax as providing more support for education than it actually would, as well as the fact that there may not be the same amount of campaign cash to try for another extension.

Gubernatorial Appointees Confirmed by Senate

Three CABE-supported gubernatorial appointees to the State Board of Education, Cynthia Glover Woods, Brenda Lewis, and Gabriela Orozco Gonzalez, were confirmed by the Senate on May 19th. All three appointments received the required votes on the Senate Floor and are now confirmed for the duration of their terms.

Getting Down to Facts III

The Stanford-led [Getting Down to Facts III report](#) was released last month and includes a comprehensive review of California's PreK-12 public education system, which includes 55 technical reports and 22 research briefs compiled by 112 national education policy researchers. This is the third comprehensive review and includes many recommendations from an academic perspective. Many of these findings offer reflections and will not necessarily have significant influence on policy or fiscal decisions at the state level. That said, they can offer potentially helpful conversations in some areas, while others may raise perspectives that could be controversial in certain sectors.

The technical reports include several perspectives on multilingual learners, including "[Multilingual Learners of English: Progress of California's English Learners and the Resources that Support their Educational Achievements](#)," which reflects on multilingual learners, long-term reforms, long-term English learners, resources, and policy considerations.

English Learner Reclassification Legislation Moves to the Senate

CABE-co-sponsored AB 2555 (Patel) will be heard by the Senate Education Committee later this month. CABE has already submitted over 200 member letters in support of this important legislation. AB 2555 would establish a transformational and effective method for monitoring and supporting reclassified students and would change the framework for serving California's English learners by reframing reclassification through the lens of student milestones on their overall journey to biliteracy.

CABE-Supported Bills

The Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees heard a total of 969 bills during the Suspense File hearings on May 14th. They held 269 of those bills and amended a number of bills that were released. In order to continue moving forward, all bills must pass off the floor of their initial house by May 29th. The following are CABE-supported bills and their status:

AB 1631 (Muratsuchi): Mandatory kindergarten: Would make kindergarten mandatory beginning in the 2028-29 school year. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1851 (Gipson): Pupil health: social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health supports: Would require the State Department of Education (CDE) to partner with local educational agencies with capacity and established expertise to provide support for the implementation of integrated, universal social and emotional learning, behavioral health, and restorative practices for K-12 students. The bill is in the Senate Rules Committee.

AB 1904 (Gipson): Teachers: credentialed educator apprenticeship programs: Would establish a statewide framework for credentialed educator apprenticeship programs by requiring the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and the Division of Apprenticeship Standards to jointly approve, oversee, and support these programs. The bill authorizes the issuance of apprenticeship certificates or permits to educator candidates while they complete paid, on-the-job training aligned with credentialing requirements. The bill is in the Senate Rules Committee.

AB 2019 (Gipson): Deported or detained faculty at community colleges: Requires community colleges to allow deported faculty to teach and perform professional duties using distance education. The bill was held by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2056 (Alvarez): Teacher exchange programs: Revises teacher exchange programs through the CDE and federal government by: 1) Eliminating the use of the regulatory process by the State Board of Education; 2) Eliminating the administration of the program by the CDE; 3) Expressly allowing for exchanges with Mexico; 4) Expanding authorized exchanges to include both county offices of education and charter schools; 5) Eliminating the one-year time limit on exchanges; and 6) Should regulations be adopted, would require them to authorize specific visa sponsors designated by the United States Department of State to sponsor teachers from Mexico for placement in California schools. The bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 2107 (Pellerin): Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP): unduplicated pupils: Would require local educational agencies (LEAs) with the ability to utilize ELOP to prioritize offering access to unduplicated pupils. The bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 2114 (Bryan): Nonresident tuition fee exemption: educational asylum program: Would allow California public educational systems, including public schools and institutions of higher education, to grant educational asylum status to a transfer student and would exempt these students, beginning with the 2027-28 school year, from paying nonresident tuition. The bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2294 (Ta): State holiday: Sylvia Mendez Day: Would declare April 14th as Sylvia Mendez Day in honor of the landmark Mendez v. Westminster school desegregation case. The bill is in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee.

AB 2325 (Alvarez): Bilingual Teachers: Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program: Would establish the Pathways to Bilingual Teaching Program and require the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to develop and implement a program to award grants to consortia of local educational agencies, community colleges, and higher education institutions to establish or expand pathways to bilingual teaching. The bill is in the Senate Rules Committee.

AB 2332 (González): Dual language immersion coordinator: Would require, prior to July 1, 2027, that the CDE designate a Dual Language Immersion Coordinator (DLIC) to assist in the coordination between LEAs, by providing resources and knowledge on dual language immersion programs. The DLIC would be the primary contact between the CDE and LEAs to assist with creating new or expanding existing dual language immersion programs, as well as to create, publish, and maintain a directory of operative dual language immersion programs on the CDE's website by 2028. The bill is in the Senate Education Committee.

AB 2468 (Patel): School accountability: students with disabilities: Contingent upon an appropriation, beginning in the 2027-28 school year, would require the California Collaborative for Educational

Excellence to administer the Supporting Inclusive Practices project, as well as to expand the project and build on its alignment and partnerships with statewide improvement initiatives. This would include improving student outcomes by increasing opportunities for students with disabilities to access education in general education settings, as well as supporting the educator workforce. The project would be required to provide technical assistance to LEAs and charter schools focused on supporting evidence-based practices to increase access by students with disabilities in general education settings and to support progress toward a high school diploma. The bill is in the Senate Rules Committee.

Legislative Calendar

June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight.

June 25 – Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the November election.

July 2 – Last day for policy committees to meet. Legislative Summer Recess begins.

August 3 – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.

August 14 – Last day for fiscal committees to meet.

August 17-31 – Floor Session only.

August 31 – Last day for each house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.

September 30 – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills.

November 3 – General Election

November 30 – Legislative Adjournment

December 7 – 2027-28 Legislation Regular Session begins

January 1 – Statute's take effect