



# Newsletter



“SEAL has allowed me to be more cognizant and aware of my students’ needs, and the SEAL strategies I use touch every single one of my students. I get emotional because now I see the difference the SEAL training has had on my students. My classroom is so joyous.”

— ROSA RAMIREZ,  
PRESCHOOL TEACHER, LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



### Friends and Partners,

It is with great excitement that we send our inaugural Fall Newsletter as an independent organization. On July 1st SEAL became an official 501(c)(3). We are filled with deep gratitude to the Sobrato Family Foundation for their ongoing support of SEAL, and we are now positioned to grow, leverage and expand our work to be even more impactful.

In many ways we are in such a promising moment in California for English Learners (ELs), dual language learners (DLLs) and multilingual education. Yet the larger political and social environment continues to be fraught with violent and purposefully intimidating messages and actions of racism and xenophobia that target immigrants — exactly the children and communities we aim to serve.

At SEAL, we know our work is more important now than ever. We have an opportunity to transform California’s educational system in deep and powerful ways by putting the needs of ELs and DLLs at the core, while ensuring that all students thrive, no matter who they are and where they come from.

SEAL is inclusive of all children, their families and their communities. By serving all students, together we will create a richer, more inclusive, healthier, and productive society for all who call California home.

In solidarity,

Anya Hurwitz  
Executive Director  
SEAL

## SEAL UPDATES

### SEAL’s New Website and Logo

To reflect SEAL’s new independence and commitment to innovation while honoring our first 11 years with the Sobrato Family Foundation, we created a new brand identity. Today, we are excited to share our new [website](#) and [logo](#) with you.



### SEAL Expansion

SEAL continues to partner with new districts and LEAs to deliver the SEAL model across California.

**Preschools:** We have fully launched our preschool work funded by the California Department of Education (CDE), and are reaching 325 educators through this effort across 14 LEAs including:

Santa Clara County Office of Education, Azusa Unified School District Early Childhood Education Program, Cerritos College Child Development Center, Mexican American Opportunity Foundation College Child Development Center, Brea Olinda Unified School District, Visalia Unified School District State Preschool, Woodlake Unified School District, Porterville Unified School District Preschool Program, Lindsay Unified School District Preschool Program, Farmersville Unified School District Preschool Program, Earlimart Elementary School District Preschool Program, Yolo County Office of Education, Woodland Joint Unified School District, Los Angeles Unified School District Preschool Program

**TK-3rd grade:** We are thrilled to welcome Newark Unified School District and Earlimart School District to the SEAL community, putting SEAL TK through 3rd grade in 23 districts.

**Upper Elementary:** Six of our current partner districts are expanding to the upper elementary grades.

Montgomery Elementary in Davis Joint Unified School District, Williams Elementary in Williams Unified School District, Holly Oak in Evergreen School District, Santee Elementary in Franklin McKinley School District, Scott Lane and Bowers Elementary Schools in Santa Clara Unified School District, Hayes and Baldwin in Oak Grove School District

### The Bilingual Team

The SEAL Bilingual Team is kicking off the school year with new opportunities for practitioners to advance their professional development and for families to get involved in their children’s bilingual education.

**The “History of Bilingual and English Learner Education in California” Free Webinar Series:** Critically engage in the important and contentious history of bilingual and English Learner history in the U.S. from the last century through today. Through engaging videos, authentic texts and online discussion, you will learn from history in order to build a better California. This is a collaboration between Dr. Laurie Olsen, SEAL’s Bilingual Teacher Professional Development Project (BTPDP), and Dr. Allison Briceño of San Jose State. The 4-part online learning series will help with CSET LOTE preparation. One CEU (\$60) will be available upon completion of the course through San Jose State.

Dates: Mondays - October 28, November 4, 11, and 18

Time: 4-6 pm PT

Format: Zoom

Click [here](#) to register.

\*In addition to each Zoom session, 1-2 hours of homework will be required between each session.



### Family Partnership

SEAL’s family partnership leaders continue to partner with the California Association of Bilingual Education (CABE) on regional workshops across California in three locations. They will also offer one workshop for SEAL families in Northern California and one in Southern California. Topics will cover tools and tips for raising bilingual children, research on bilingualism and strategies for advocacy. All workshops will be in Spanish and English.

SEAL will also present a family workshop at the [La Cosecha Dual Language Conference](#), November 13-16, to reach more families and highlight SEAL’s work at one of the largest dual language events in the country.

For more information, contact [Adriana@SEAL.org](mailto:Adriana@SEAL.org) or [Corina@SEAL.org](mailto:Corina@SEAL.org)

### New Videos

We created several new videos in keeping with our promise to provide timely and valuable resources to support your work. Our preschool videos are on the [Embracing Early Education](#) playlist on the SEAL [YouTube](#) Channel. And don’t miss our new video describing SEAL as a [Comprehensive Change Model](#).

If you are interested in SEAL’s complete video library, click [here](#).

