Building Home, School and Community Partnerships for EL Student Success

Office of English Learners
EL Family Resource Specialist Team

Presentation to MATSOL Conference
May 30, 2018
Who We Are

Phuongdai Nguyen
Language: Vietnamese

Melody Feng
Languages: Cantonese, Mandarin, Toishanese

Josefina Peralta
Language: Spanish

Maria Barbosa
Languages: Cape Verdean Creole, Portuguese

Body Homicile
Languages: Haitian Creole, French

Ahmed Noor
Languages: Somali, Swahili, Arabic
ICE BREAKER
Presentation Agenda

1. Demographics of the students that we serve
2. Department and team priorities
3. Introduction of EL Family Resource Specialist team
4. Introduce the services and resources that we provide for EL students and Families
5. Share with you what we have learned
6. Identify challenges and opportunities in supporting this work
BPS English Learners at a Glance

44% of BPS students are EL/FEL students

- Non-English Learners 56.2%
- English Learners 31.1%
- Former English Learners 12.6%

61% of all ELs are in Elementary Grades K-5

English Learners in Boston Public Schools

- ELD 1: 18%
- ELD 2: 14%
- ELD 3: 23%
- ELD 4: 32%
- ELD 5: 12%

Language Diversity

70+ Collectively, our English Learners speak more than 70 different languages.

- Spanish 58%
- Vietnamese 5%
- Chinese 5%
- Haitian Creole 8%
- Cape Verdean 8%
- Other 17%
OEL Priorities

**EL Instructional Programs**
Ensure instructionally sound programs, including supplemental services, aligned to ELD Principles, CCSS and WIDA.

**EL Professional Learning**
Build capacity of teachers, Language Acquisition Team Facilitators, school leaders, and central office staff tailored to meet the needs of ELs, Long-Term ELs, SLIFE, ELSWD, and DL learners.

**Equity & Accountability**
Support schools to ensure that district policies meet the civil rights of ELs in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.

**EL Parent Engagement**
Create collaborative processes between parents, community partners and schools to promote the success of EL children and families.

**Newcomers Assessment**
Provide language proficiency assessments to identify English Learners and whether they need native language supports.

**Translation & Interpretation**
Ensure communications are translated and interpreted to ensure all parents have meaningful access to their student’s education and district policies.

*Graphic courtesy of presentationgo.com.*
Our Team Goal

To collaborate with families, schools and communities

The Success of Students

To engage EL parents to be active participants in their children’s education

Graphic courtesy of presentationgo.com.
Our Priorities

Parent Development
Tech Goes home, Family Literacy Programs, ESOL Classes, Mock SEI Classroom Showcase and immigration workshops

Parent Advocacy
District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC), English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) and Know Your Rights Workshops

Access to Resources
BPS We Dream Together website, Information & referral services, Informational sessions, Brochures, Meet & Greet Sessions, Webinars (SY18-19)

Cultural Awareness
Cultural competency PD training for school staff, Cultural Day (SY18-19)

Graphic courtesy of presentationogo.com.
In the School Year of 2015-2016, OEL launched the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC) initiative with the vision of creating a multicultural and multiethnic, parent-led committee comprised of EL parents and community members whose task is to provide recommendations to school and district officials in regards to programs and services provided to EL students.
The Goals of DELAC

Working closely with the Office of the English Learners, families can ensure that their recommendations are taken into consideration.

Trained parents become sources of knowledge for their linguistic community and can inspire more parents to become more active in advocating for their own children and for English Learners throughout the district.
DELAC’s Work

- 3 Yearly Conferences
- Monthly Leadership Team Meetings
- School Elected Representatives to DELAC
- Future ELACs
- Trainings/Learning Sessions

Graphic courtesy of presentationgo.com.
DELAC Conferences

Provide parents and community members with information on what our EL parents need to know to deepen and expand their knowledge.

Some workshop topics from previous conferences included EL Programmatic Options, BPS Budget, and Tips for EL Families Navigating an IEP.

Interpretation and childcare services are provided.
Know Your Rights Workshops

Working with Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project and the Mayor’s Office for Immigrant Advancement to coordinate Know Your Rights workshops.

The workshop informs families and staff of information regarding current immigration policies and basic immigrant rights.
Family Literacy Programs

Work with Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide literacy education for families and parents of BPS EL students.

Series of workshops/trainings that focus on English language acquisition, literacy and other relevant skills that will ultimately help parents to meaningfully participate in their children's education in their native language.

The curriculum materials are provided in both English and parent’s native language and include culturally and linguistically sustaining practices.
English Learner Kindergarten Kick-Off

An interactive workshop designed for both parents and their incoming K2 students to learn about the importance of English as a Second Language services and the structure and content of a Sheltered English Immersion classroom.
Family Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cape Verdean</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haitian</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somali</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>347</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More…

Tech Goes Home  
Provide parents technology skills in classes taught in their native language.

Meet & Greet for ELs  
Sessions that hosted at schools so that EL families can meet with their children’s teachers.

Dual Language Dialogues  
Series of community focus groups on the benefits of native language development and dual language education.

School Choices for ELs Info Sessions  
Educating CBO’s and EL parents on the school choice process for ELs.

Immigration Workshops  
Workshops that cover important topics that are related to the lives of immigrant communities in the BPS system.
# Tech Goes Home

## Technology Goes Home SY 2017 - 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th># of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cape Verdean</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haitian</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnamese</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>90</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# School Choice Info Sessions

## School Choices for English Learners Information Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Roles</th>
<th># of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBO’s: (Boston Scores, ACEDONE, English for New Bostonians, Somali Development Center, Federation for Children with Special Needs, and Massachusetts Association of Haitian Parents)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parents (English, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Spanish, Somali, Vietnamese)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After the School Choices Info Session, **84.2%** of the participants indicated that they understand or understand very well the programmatic options for EL students.
Opportunities for Growth and Lessons Learned

Opportunities for Growth

01. Diverse Needs of EL Families at BPS
02. Gaps Between Parents’ Understanding and Our Understanding
03. Family Participation
04. Limited Staff and Resources

Lessons Learned

01. Attention to Parent Needs
02. Targeted Parent Engagement Campaigns
03. Diversity and creativity in Outreach
04. Expand Access and Network of Resources

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Thank you.

Office of English Learners
617-635-9435, ellparentteam@bostonpublicschools.org
We are here for you.
Resources

- www.BPSWeDreamTogether.org
- www.bostonpublicschools.org/ell
LOOK Act

English Language Learners

LOOK Act

Informational opportunities provided by the Office of English Language Acquisition and Academic Achievement (OELAAA) during the public comment period for the proposed regulations:

Webinars for Proposed ELE Regulations — 4/26 from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM and 5/3 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
The Department is offering two webinars with a short presentation on the proposed regulations, and to answer questions educators may have before they contribute to public comments.

- Please follow the link to register for the webinar on 4/26 from 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Please follow the link to register for the webinar on 5/3 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Office Hours
The OELAAA staff listed below will accept phone calls to answer any questions regarding specific areas of proposed regulations.

- April 23, 2018 — 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Sara Niño-Parent Advisory Councils. Please call (781) 338-3522.
- April 24, 2018 — 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Sibel Hughes — ELE Programs. Please call (781) 338-3569.
- May 2, 2018 — 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM: Zhaneta Liti — Bilingual Endorsement; Massachusetts State Seal of Biliteracy. Please call (781) 338-3578.
DELAC Board Member Telling It All
Dual Language Program Community Outreach

City of Boston's Top 10 Countries of Birth by Foreign Born Population

- Vietnam
- Cape Verde
- Haiti
- Dominican Republic
- China
- Jamaica
- Russia
- El Salvador
- Colombia
- Brazil

Building a strong Vietnamese American community and transforming vibrant Chinese neighborhood.

MASSACHUSETTS
ASSOCIATION OF
HAITIAN PARENTS

UNIDO
CAPE VERDEAN COMMUNITY

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center

African Community Economic Development of New England (ACEDONE) Institute of EDUCATION & RESEARCH