



English Learner Parent Advisory Council

General Meeting

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

Public Schools of Brookline • Office of English Language Education

Interpretation Services

- We will use language specific audio channels for interpretation services available through Zoom.
 - Click on the Interpretation feature at the bottom of your screen
 - Select your preferred language
 - You will now be able to hear the meeting in your preferred language
 - If you would like to reply or ask questions during the meeting, you may do so in your preferred language. The interpreter will either return to the main meeting to translate or type into the chat.



Spanish: Tracy Pichardo

Mandarin Chinese: Yuan Venezia

Japanese: Daisuke Baba

Introductions

Mindy Paulo, ELE Director

Betsy Davis, ELE Family and Community Engagement Coordinator

Dr. Eiichiro Satake, ELPAC Co-Chairperson

Agenda

7:00 - 7:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introductions and Agenda Review
7:15 - 7:30 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● What is ELPAC?● ELPAC Resolution● Elections (if needed)
7:30 - 7:40 PM	Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none">● ELPAC Survey● Programming and Events● STAR Academy
7:40 - 8:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Featured Guest: Dr. Linus Guillory, Superintendent of Schools● Q&A
8:00 - 8:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Thoughts, Comments, Questions● Next Meeting Preview

What is an ELPAC?

English Learner Parent Advisory Council

- Membership
 - Parents/guardians of current or former English learners
 - Voluntary
 - ELPAC officers
 - Members should include representatives of native languages most commonly spoken by students.

ELPAC Duties

- Advise school districts, school committees, and boards of trustees on matters related to English learners.
- Provide advice or recommendations on topics that parents/guardians believe are important to ELs.
 - Example: ELPACs may advise districts on requests submitted by parents/guardians to establish new language acquisition programs.

ELPAC Duties

- Meet regularly with school officials to participate in the planning and development of programs designed to improve educational opportunities for ELs.
- Participate in the review of school improvement plans and district improvement plans as the plans relate to ELs.
- Meet at least annually with the School Committee.
- Follow the Open Meeting Law.

ELPAC Volunteer Needed: Community Planning Team

What: The district is beginning a strategic planning process that will include various perspectives from the community.

Why: It is important to have an ELPAC representative on the Community Planning Team so that the voices and needs of English learners are represented.

When: All meetings are from 8:30am to 11:30am

- **Thursday, March 16**
- **Thursday, March 30**
- **Wednesday, April 5**
- **Wednesday, May 24**

Where: Brookline Town Hall

Interested?: Email betsy_davis@psbma.org

Did you know....

826

There are 826 English learners in grades K-12 in the Public Schools of Brookline.
(As of February 7, 2023)

12%

English learners make up 12% of the district's K-12 student enrollment.
(As of February 7, 2023)

2022 ELPAC Resolution

- **Provide equitable and consistent opportunities for ELs to speak, read, write, and listen in English**
 - EL teachers continue to collaborate and share strategies that encourage optimal opportunities for English learners to practice and develop their reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English
 - We continue to aim to have English learners scheduled for the appropriate amount of English instruction based on their level of English proficiency.
 - As a department, we reflect on our practices often to be sure they are equitable and consistent.
 - We offer school year (ex. Reading Scholars) and summer (ex. STAR Academy) programs to increase opportunities for students to develop their English language skills.

2022 ELPAC Resolution

- **Group ELs by ability and proficiency levels**

- English learner teachers must consider the following when developing a schedule for a student:
 - Overall level of English proficiency
 - Grade
 - Overall English learner caseload
 - Schedule limitations
 - Classroom space
 - Laws and regulations
- Typically students are grouped as follows:
 - Foundational Level: Levels 1-3.4
 - Transitional Level: Levels 3.5-6
- We continue to aim to have English learners scheduled for the appropriate amount of English instruction based on their level of English proficiency.

2022 ELPAC Resolution

- **Provide more social-emotional supports for families in their native language**
 - Currently the district does not regularly provide social-emotional supports for families in a language other than English.
 - The district is able to provide families with local resources and organizations that have bilingual staff available to provide such support in some of our most common languages.
- **Teach students about safe behaviors and how to protect themselves from racist attacks**
 - As a district, we work hard to increase a sense of empathy, respect, and kindness for everyone throughout a variety of learning experiences (advisory, class lessons, community building activities, work with counselors).
 - We offer affinity spaces, communicate our values, and hold staff and students accountable for their actions.

2022 ELPAC Resolution

- **Provide clear communication and expectations regarding ELE class schedules**
 - English learner teachers have been asked to communicate information directly with families about each student's ELE schedule.
 - Families are encouraged to contact their student's EL teacher if they have questions.
- **Offer parents/guardians frequent opportunities to check-in regarding student engagement and progress**
 - All English learner teachers have an open communication policy where families may contact them at any time to discuss their student's engagement and progress.
 - Progress reports are available twice a year for grades K-5 and eight times a year for grades 6-12 (4 IPR, 4 quarter grades).
 - Parent-teacher conferences are also available twice a year.

2022 ELPAC Resolution

- **Provide extra staff from the district to support ELPAC**
 - We have brought back our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator position. This Coordinator, Betsy Davis, is now supporting ELPAC.

ELPAC Officers

- Co-Chairperson
- Secretary

ELECTION

- If you are interested in having a leadership role in ELPAC, please contact our Family and Community Engagement Coordinator, Betsy Davis at betsy_davis@psbma.org

Announcements

- ELPAC Midyear Survey later this month - please share your thoughts!
- Programming and Events
 - **Reading Scholars** - for 1st-4th grade English learners
Session 2 - on zoom
March 10- April 21
 - **English for Parents (EFP)** - for all English learner parents / caregivers
Session 2 - on zoom
March 7 - April 11, 2023
 - **Essay Contest** - sponsored by BAAFN - all submissions due February 28th

Announcements

- STAR Academy
 - **Dates:**
 - Monday, July 31 - Friday, August 18, 2023
 - **Grades:**
 - Entering K-8 in September 2023
 - **Application Window:**
 - Wednesday, March 1 - Monday, May 1, 2023

Featured Guest

- Dr. Linus Guillory, Superintendent of Schools



Welcome to ELPAC, Dr. Guillory!

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 8, 2023

Agenda:

- Update on STAR Academy
- Community Resources
 - Brookline Public Library
 - Brookline Adult & Community Education
 - Brookline Recreation

Join the March 8th Meeting

To attend:

- RSVP at: <https://forms.gle/LUNsbaHsQeGKugJC8>

or

- Scan this QR Code



Stay Connected with ELPAC

- [ELPAC Facebook Page](#)
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/498918891242113>
- [ELPAC Website](#)
 - <https://www.brookline.k12.ma.us/Page/2512>

Contact

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Betsy Davis, ELE Family and Community Engagement Coordinator

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Dr. Eiichiro Satake, ELPAC Co-Chairperson

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Thank you!

See you on March 8, 2023