

**RESOLUTION OF
ENGLISH LEARNER PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL OF
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF BROOKLINE
FOR A SUCCESSFUL REMOTE LEARNING EXPERIENCE
IN SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021**

At the special meeting of the English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC) on June 25, 2020, the following resolutions were proposed and approved by the council.

WHEREAS, the English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC) formed following the provisions of Mass General Laws Chapter 71A English Learner Education and 603 CMR 14.09: English Learner Parent Advisory Councils; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Brookline ELPAC is to support the academic success of all English Learners and former English Learners within the Brookline community and provide parents and guardians of English Learners and former English Learners with the opportunity to express their opinions and provide input to the Public Schools of Brookline; and

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, the Brookline School Committee decided that all public schools in Brookline would be closed March 13 due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) and, since April 6, 2020, public education in the Public Schools of Brookline has been delivered remotely; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2020, in order to collect the feedback about the experiences of English learners and their parents with remote teaching and learning during the school closure, ELPAC conducted a survey of K-12 families of English learners in the Public Schools of Brookline; and

WHEREAS, based on the results of the survey, the ELPAC recognized that many families are concerned about the diminishing opportunities of the English learners to practice speaking English during the school closure and the need for social/emotional support for children; and

WHEREAS, at the meeting of the ELPAC on June 18, 2020, some parents pointed out the risk of the racial-based offensive speech by students against other students in online classes, and ELPAC recognized the need to prevent and prohibit racist attacks from education in Brookline, whether online or impersonal, and to protect children from racist attacks; and

NOW, THEREFORE, for and in consideration of the foregoing, **the English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC)**, by virtue of the duties by law, hereby **RESOLVE** to advise the district and school to take the following steps:

- i. provide equal and consistent opportunities for English learners to speak English in virtual settings;
- ii. group English learners by ability and proficiency levels for them to access the content more efficiently;
- iii. provide more social/emotional supports for students and their families in their native language;
- iv. provide special lectures and workshops that teach students about safe behaviors in online classes and how to protect themselves from racist attacks particularly in virtual chat boxes;
- v. explore disabling the private chat feature in online platforms like Zoom and Google Meet;
- vi. provide parents/guardians advance notice of online resources that will be used along with tutorials for parents/guardians to understand how the resources are used;
- vii. provide clear communication and expectations regarding class schedules;
- viii. offer parents/guardians frequent check-ins regarding student engagement and progress to hear feedback and identify potential solutions, in a family's native language when appropriate;
- ix. provide specific guidelines for required synchronous contact with students; and
- x. provide families the option for weekly academic paper packets.

This resolution shall take effect immediately.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED on this 25th day of June, 2020.



MASAHIKO KINOSHITA (CO-CHAIRPERSON)