

THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BOSTON



**Minutes of the English Language Learners (ELL) Task Force Meeting
October 20, 2017**

The Parent Engagement Subcommittee of the English Language Learners Task Force of the Boston School Committee held a meeting on October 20, 2017 at 10:00am at Bruce Bolling Building. For more information about any of the items listed below, contact Michael Berardino, ELL Task Force Coordinator, at bpselltaskforce@gmail.com.

Present: Katrina Brink, Cheng Imm Tan, Ahmed Noor, Lisa Harvey, Student from BU

1. Rev. Tan welcomed everyone and introductions were made.
2. Rev. Tan gave a brief update on where things are at. The Subcommittee's direction/work was put on "hold" because ELL subcommittee chairs were to meet with district leaders in the Summer to discuss key priorities and possible SMART Goals to make sure everyone was working on the same page. However the meeting did not happen, but it was clear that subcommittees need to continue to do their work. The Parent Engagement Subcommittee will continue to focus on the 4 recommendations that we presented to the School Committee.
3. Review of Draft Monitoring Plan. The group reviewed the draft proposed data and information to be reported on in each of the 4 recommendations. Changes were made as necessary and additional partners were identified as needed. Please see enclosed
4. Next Steps: The group agreed that it would meet every other month - Nov, Jan, March, and May to receive information on requested data and to discuss highlights and barriers. The meetings are on Fridays from 10-12noon. The schedule for reports are as follows:

Recommendation 1: **District-wide recommendation to better train, support, resource and hold school leaders and educators accountable for family engagement for all students, including ELLs. January 19, 2017**

Lisa and Ahmed, there is a lot to report on in January. I don't think we can cover all the reports in January and have productive conversations because it is too much. Could both of you be prepared to do SOME of your reports in the December meeting? I think whatever you are ready to report on in December is fine, so we can have more productive conversations. I will also invite Karla Jenkins to see if she can join us for the questions that we were exploring.

Recommendation 2: Build Culturally and Linguistically welcoming school environments. Commitment to better train, resource and hold school leaders and educator accountable to this recommendation. Originally scheduled for November, but the Office was not available so this meeting has been moved to **December 8, 2017**.

This would mostly be a discussion with the Office of Opportunity and Achievement Gap to learn more about what they are doing that could contribute to moving this recommendation forward.

Recommendation 3: **Build language capacity at the district and school levels, both oral and written to communicate with parents in schools. Report on March 16, 2018**

Recommendation 4: **Ensure adequate information and outreach to familiarize new immigrant parents with the school registration process (including the registration timing and schedule) and help parents understand how to pick schools that best meet their children's needs. Report on May, 18 2018**