



SANTA ROSA
CITY SCHOOLS

English Learner Advisory Committee

Update

Eduwiges Llamas
Multilingual Services

May 25, 2022

English Learner Advisory Committee



Requirement

Each California public school with 21 or more English learners must form an English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC).

Responsibilities

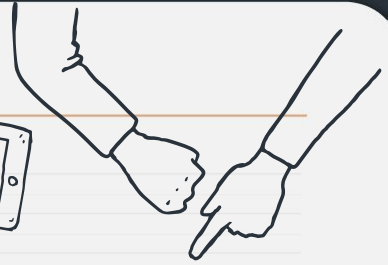
The ELAC shall be responsible for the following tasks:

- Advising the principal and staff in the development of a site plan for English learners and submitting the plan to the School Site Council for consideration of inclusion in the School Plan for Student Achievement.
- Assisting in the development of the schoolwide needs assessment.
- Ways to make parents aware of the importance of regular school attendance.
- Each ELAC shall have the opportunity to elect at least one member to the District English Learner Advisory Committee (DELAC). Districts with 31 or more ELACs may use a system of proportional or regional representation.

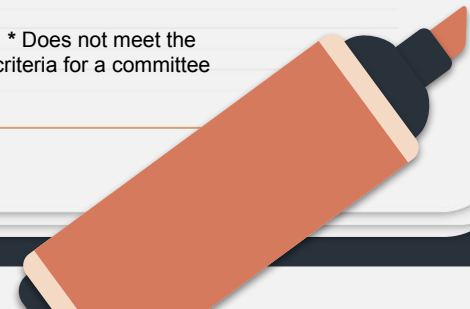
Source: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/cr/elac.asp>

Emergent Bilinguals by site

Elementary School	EL Students
Abraham Lincoln	172
Albert Biella	114
Brook Hill	167
Helen Lehman	207
Hidden Valley	60
James Monroe	204
Learning House	5*
Luther Burbank	166
Proctor Terrace	42
Steele Lane	212



* Does not meet the criteria for a committee



Emergent Bilinguals by site cont.



Middle Schools	EL Students
Herbert Slater	120
Hilliard Comstock	126
Rincon Valley Middle	28
Santa Rosa Middle	69

High Schools	EL Students
Elsie Allen	334
Maria Carrillo	38
Montgomery	129
Piner	206
Ridgway	49
Santa Rosa High	115



Emergent Bilinguals by site cont.

Charter Schools	EL Students
Cesar Chavez Language Academy	363
Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter	1*
Santa Rosa Charter School for the Arts	14*
Santa Rosa French American Charter School	44

* Does not meet the
criteria for a
committee

Concerns Expressed



ELAC Executive Committee

Lack of consistency and importance of these positions



Follow through

Need for improved follow through on requests or concerns expressed by committee



Training

Site liaison experience varies from site to site affecting impact of committee



Parent Involvement

Need to support increased parent engagement through a partnership approach and trainings



ELAC Executive Committees

What is required according to California Department of Education?

Source: [English Learner Program Instrument](#)



English Learner Advisory Committee is a school-level committee comprised of parent, staff, and community members designated to advise school officials on English learner programs and services.

Federal and State laws and regulations have changed with regards to the composition within the ELAC Executive committee. The state law with regards to the Executive committee within ELAC is silent, but Santa Rosa City Schools **strongly recommends** that ELACs recruit members to hold these positions. Parents in these voluntary roles have a rewarding opportunity. They become informed and involved at the school, gain leadership and organizational skills that can help them in other aspects of their lives, and are motivated to pursue further partnerships with the district and/or community.

In **2022-2023**, Multilingual Services will work with school sites to promote the importance of these positions, provide district-wide training and support for parent leaders to fulfill these roles.





Training

What training is provided to support these committees?



- Multilingual Services Director attends yearly California Department of Education Federal Program Monitoring Technical Assistance Institute which provides updates and assistance to support site and district English Learner Advisory Committees and English Learner Services
- Multilingual Services Director provides two (2) ELAC Mandatory Trainings sessions (9/14 & 11/10) for SRCS administrators. 100% of ELAC mandated sites represented in 2021-2022.
- Multilingual Services Director provides ELAC Committee training (12/2) to DELAC committee members.

In **2022-2023** and ongoing, Multilingual Services will provide mandatory Administrator training (August 2022) and joint (Site Administrators and Executive Committee) districtwide ELAC trainings (September and October 2022) to ensure roles, responsibilities, and tasks are clear to implement effective and efficient committee meetings.





Follow Through



- Parents requested that sites follow through on requests for information.
- Parent share they want to be seen and heard by site leaders.
- Parents seek to be active partners of the school communities and support the academic endeavours of all students through clear, consistent communication and site parent trainings.

In **2022-2023** and ongoing, district and site administrators will continuously collaborate to ensure parent requests for data and/or information are met. Educational Services will work with school sites to promote communication and strategies to increase engagement of all stakeholders. We will seek to improve our community outreach efforts (Coffee chats, multi-platform outreach, office hours) to increase parent engagement.





Parent Involvement



This has been a very difficult year for Parent Engagement at school sites. COVID impacted the ability for parents to physically be on campus this school year posing a challenge for recruitment and participation. This meant that meetings had to be virtual. Access to devices and technological skills impacted parent accessibility.

Scheduling changes or last minute cancellations of these committee meetings occurred throughout the district. Parents and community members experienced frustration when attempting to access these meetings to be met with inactive links or cancelations.

In **2022-2023** and ongoing, sites will return to have in-person committee meetings which will minimize technological issues and meeting access. Santa Rosa City Schools is committed to supporting Parent Engagement by expanding the collaboration with Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) by increasing the number of sites served through this organization's programming.





Supports requested by sites

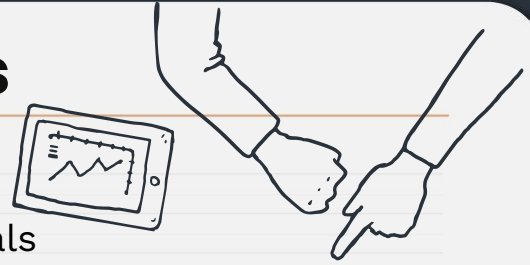


Site Administrators were surveyed on supports needed to support the work with their ELAC Committee. Some answers are as follows:

- Attrition or filling of Family Engagement Facilitator positions
- Bilingual support staff to boost communication and outreach
- Ideas for incentives to improve attendance at committee meetings
- Financial support to provide childcare for these meetings
- Districtwide support to address various training needs for parents (ELAC roles, volunteering, etc.)
- Suggestions for community presentations

Summation of Findings

- ELAC roles and responsibilities need to be better supported for more effective implementation of goals
- ELAC committees are representative of most of our schools, illustrating that they are an essential voice
- Site liaison facilitation experience varies from site to site
- Partnership opportunities for parents need to be enhanced with clear strategies for administrators, and collaboration of best practices
- Executive Board positions attract some parents but turn away others
- Site administrators are requesting funding for childcare and translation
- Site administrators view the attrition and hiring of Family Engagement Facilitators as challenging, yet crucial to this work
- Communication around scheduling meetings, cancellations, and technical issues need to be improved



Next Steps



- District sponsored ELAC training for parent leaders
- Ongoing coaching and support for parent leaders and site administrators through Multilingual Services office hours
- Adjustment of site administrator ELAC training to August rather than September
- Multilingual Services will support administrators with identifying data/information for ELAC requests to ensure follow up occurs
- Implementation of multi-platform approach at sites to enhance parent involvement

- Encourage sites to include budgetary line item in SPSAs to address childcare and translation
- Provide explicit strategies to assist sites in partnering with families
- Assist families with access to devices should ELAC be held via teleconference
- Cultivate relationships with community partners
- Identify community partners as resources and guest speakers for ELAC committees

