



Parental Notification Regarding English Language Education Provisional Identification and Placement School Year 2019-2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Following the Governor's announcement on April 21, 2020 that schools will not re-open for normal operations for the duration of school year 2019-2020, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (Department) issued a document entitled "[Provisional Identification and Placement Procedures During Periods of Extended School Closures Due to COVID-19 Grades K-12](#)" to ensure that [students enrolling in school districts during the period of school closure that require English learner services](#) receive them as required by state and federal laws.

Under these provisional identification procedures, the district requested that you complete a home language survey during the enrollment process. Based on the information you provided, the district conducted an interview with your child via phone call or Zoom video conference to determine whether your child is eligible to be provisionally identified as an EL. If so, the most appropriate ELE program placement, supports and services will be provided by the district to ensure that your child's educational needs are met during this period of remote learning.

This letter notifies you that based on available information, your child has been determined to be provisionally eligible for placement in an English Language Education (ELE) program. The procedure provides a means of provisionally identifying English learners (ELs) during the time that schools are closed for normal operations due to COVID-19 and face-to-face screening is not possible. This process does not replace the formal identification process when face-to-face screening is possible, and formal screening will take place as soon as possible once school resumes normal operations for any student who has been given a provisional status. This letter also describes your child's proposed program placement and services that will be provided during remote learning:

Description of the Proposed Program Placement and Available Services Including ESL during Remote Learning:

☐ **Sheltered English Immersion Program (SEI)** – a program that incorporates strategies to make content area instruction more comprehensible to ELs and to promote language development. This type of instruction is based on students' language proficiency levels. Students will meet **online** with grade-level SEI class.

☐ **English as a Second Language (ESL) classes:** direct English language instruction focused on developing speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in English. Students will meet **online** with grade-level general education class and also with the ESL teacher.

☐ **Former English Learner (FEL):** Based on the ACCESS 2.0 for ELLs assessment, the student in Grades 1-12 met the exit criteria in another school district. He or she is no longer considered an English Learner.

If your child is or has been found eligible for special education services or qualifies for special education services later, please, contact the special education team in the district for additional information.

You have the right to decline provisional placement of your child in an ELE program or to withdraw your child from the program at any time. Federal and state laws, however, require that the district provide your

child with support so that he or she can understand instruction provided in English and develop his or her English skills. It is important to understand that if you decline this provisional placement of your child in an ELE program, your child will not receive specialized English as a Second Language (ESL) instruction focused on language skills during this period of remote learning.

When school reopens for in-person instruction your child will be screened using the standard screening tools and a final determination about his or her eligibility will be made based on those screening test results. You will be notified of your child's eligibility status again at that time.

For more information about the topics discussed in this notice, please contact: Marlyn Rosa at 857.270.3408 or mrosa@cpsd.us.

Beth Kershner

Beth Kershner, Interim Coordinator of ELL Programs
857.320.7165
bkershner@cpsd.us