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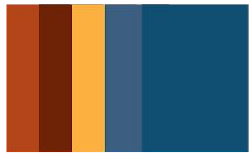
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New Jersey Department of Education



Bilingual Programs & Parents' Rights **A Roundtable Discussion** **Is my child an English language learner?** **(Part 4 of 4 Series)**

Office of Supplemental Educational Programs

Division of Educational Services

June 8, 2022





Agenda



- Stories from Families of English Language Learners (ELLs).
- The benefits or challenges of being in a language assistance program (parent perspective).
- Resources.

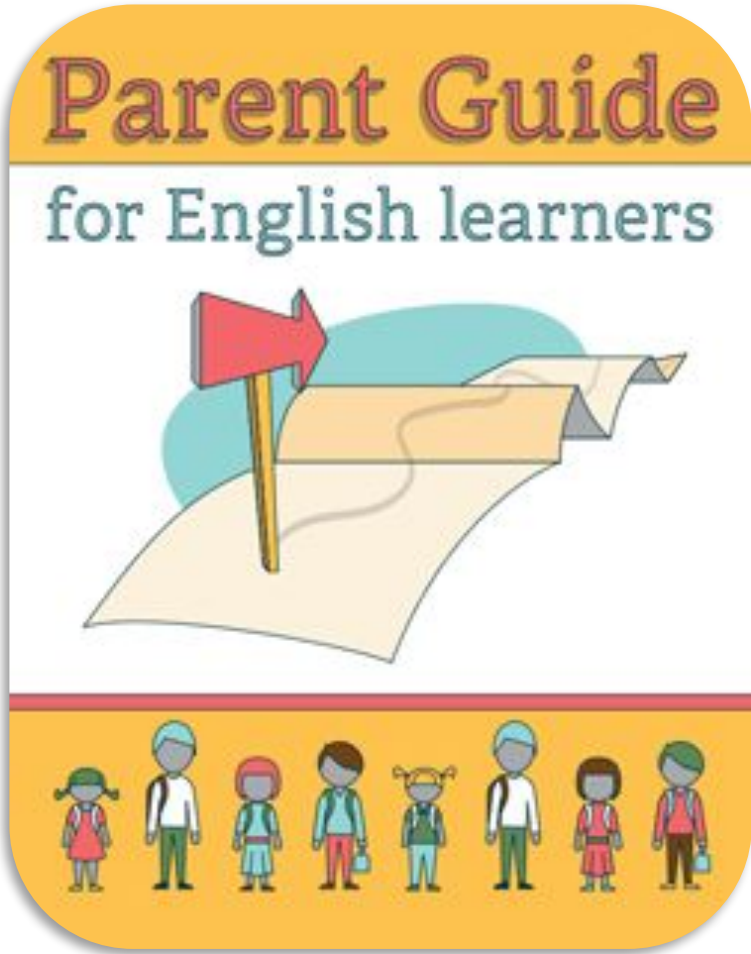
Introducing Our Panelists



- Luisa Kislinger
(Bayonne School District)
- Pazit Gada
(Fair Lawn School District)
- Angela Pérez
*(Maria Varisco Rogers Charter School,
Newark)*



What the Law Requires



It is required that when a student is identified as an ELL, parents are notified of this placement in writing in a language they can understand.





Guiding Roundtable Questions



- Was the letter from the school sent in your native language?
- Did you know what it meant when you were told your child was an ELL?
- What questions came to mind when you read the letter?

What the Law Further Requires



Each board of education shall establish a PAC on bilingual education:

- Majority parents of ELLs; and
- Develop and review program objectives.





Guiding Questions (Cont'd.)



- Are you a part of your school parent advisory committee?
- Do you provide input into the program's design (What and how your child is taught)?
- Were you provided with options on the type of program or programs your child could receive?
- How is information about the program shared with you?

Bilingual is my Superpower!



- Nationally recognized.
- Proficiency in more than one world language.





Guiding Questions (Cont'd.)



- What are some of the strengths you saw in your child's bilingual/ESL program?
- What are some areas you can provide feedback to the school to improve the program?
- Do you think being bilingual is a valuable part of learning in school; why or why not? Can you provide any examples of how your child uses their bilingual skills?



Parents as Partners



- Please provide one piece of advice you would give to parents who are considering refusing ELL program services.
- Please provide one piece of feedback you would give to your child's school about how to share information with you to increase your participation and engagement as partners in your child's school.

Resources



- [English Learner Family Toolkit](#)
- [Education and Afghan Newcomers Webinar](#)
- [OELA Fact Sheet Family-School Engagement of Families Who Are Speakers of Other Languages](#)
- [English Learner Toolkit](#)
- [Newcomer Toolkit](#)
- [Helping Young English Learners at Home](#)
- [Family and Caregiver Activities for Young English Learners](#)

Spanish Parent Portal





Thank You!



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