

Community Advisory Committee Chairperson's Report

Update from Early Childhood Education and Parent Engagement Meeting, January 24, 2017

An update was provided on the latest news related to Dual Language. California has the largest number of English Learners in the country. In LA County alone there are 1.4 Million English Learners, or 23% of the county's population. There are 165,000 students in LAUSD who are EL's, with 70% in Elementary schools, while 57% are under five years old.

There are currently 87 multilingual programs in LAUSD; next year there will be 104. Over 1,550 teachers have bilingual certification, yet only 400 are in Dual Language programs, so there is room to expand. Overall there are 94 languages spoken in LAUSD; close to 49% of our students speak another language. After English, Spanish is the most common language spoken and Armenian is the second most common language spoken by LAUSD families.

Prop 58 passed. The State will draft legislation which will go into effect July 1, 2017. This gives parents the ability to drive schools to implement Dual Language programs. If 20 parents in a particular grade level at a school, or 30 parents total at a school, want Dual Immersion, and commit to enrolling their children in such a program, the school must offer it.

First Five California is coordinating a \$20 Million pilot program for Dual Immersion programs for children ages 0-5.

LAUSD's Coordinator of Civic Engagement and PCSS in conjunction with the Multilingual Multicultural Division are working to build capacity for EL advocates. Parent trainings are being offered currently at PCSS; all are welcome. The goal of this year's workshops is to deepen parent knowledge and prepare participants for a year-long advocacy academy that will take place next year, to train EL Advocates.