Tips for English Learner Parent Advisory Councils (ELPACs)

You are a member or family leader of an English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC).
Here are some tips to maintain your ELPAC and build connections.

Communication with Families

- **Create a community**
  Understand who may join the ELPAC and how to reach all members.
- **Share**
  Celebrate and share the work done together.
- **Languages**
  Offer translation and tech support.
- **Location**
  Host meetings where families may gather. Consider public transportation access.
- **Time**
  Schedule meetings when families are available. Consider rotating meeting times.

Communication with District

- **Advise**
  Schedule regular meetings with school district professionals.
- **Ask**
  Find out how your school district can support your ELPAC's outreach and interpretation for meetings.
- **Coordinate**
  Organize community support and alerts when needed.

Community Partnerships

- **Partner**
  Work with community organizations to provide information and resources.

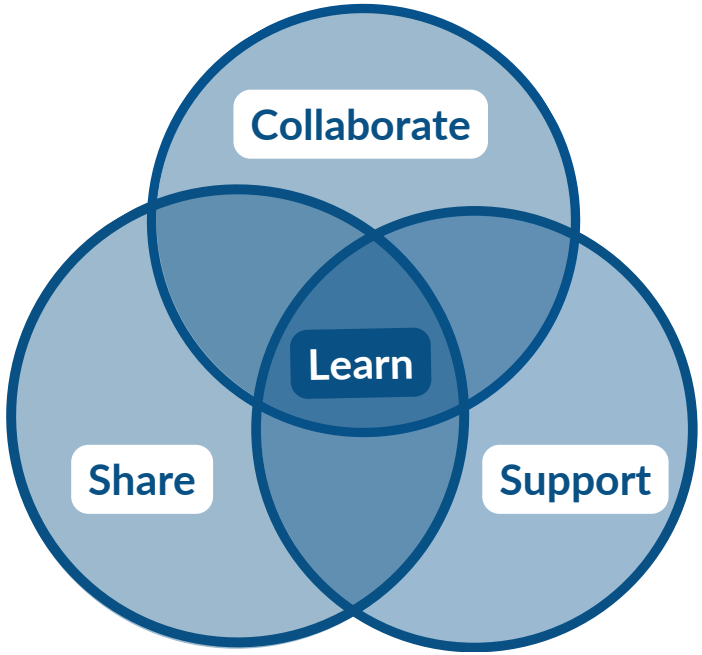
You and the school are partners in your child's education.
Learn more about ELPACs through the Guide for Families of Multilingual Learners: [website]

This resource was developed for the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by the Massachusetts Statewide Family Engagement Center, a program of the Federation for Children with Special Needs.

Do you have questions? Contact your school:

How ELPACs and SEPACs May Work Together

English Learner Parent Advisory Councils (ELPACs) and Special Education Parent Advisory Councils (SEPACs) are parent groups led by families. ELPACs are created to support students learning English. SEPACs are created to support students in special education. They can make a bigger impact by working together to support all students, especially English Learners with Disabilities.



Collaborate

- Set up accessible SEPAC and ELPAC meetings.
- Meet the School Committee at the district level.
- Keep regular contact to exchange best practices and updates.
- Hold joint meetings once a year.
- Present and share information in the languages spoken in the community.
- Update families about education topics in multiple languages.

Share

- Share ideas and successful strategies.
- Get to know each other.
- Connect with community partners.

Support

- Work together to advise schools on special education and English learner topics.
- Stay updated on how schools are working with both the SEPAC and ELPAC.
- Gather information about families to understand what support they need.

Learn about our communities and schools, together.

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