Welcoming Dual Language Learners and Immigrant Families to Children’s Museums
Moderator

Antonio Méndez  Boston Children’s Museum

Presenters

Hardin Engelhardt  Marbles Kids Museum
Greer Horning  Exploration Place, The Sedgwick County Science and Discovery Center
Priya Tahiliani  Boston Public Schools
Ahmed Noor  Boston Public Schools
Agenda

- Welcome / Introductions
- Topics / Presentations
- Group Discussions
- Q & A (Panel discussion)
- Wrap Up/ Thank you!
Boston Children’s Museum
Dual Language Learners and Immigrant Families
English Learners at a Glance

43.4% of BPS students are EL/FEL students

English Learners 31.6%
Former English Learners 11.8%
Non-English Learners 56.5%

56% of all ELs are ELD 1-3

Collectively, our English Learners speak more than 70 different languages.

70+ LANGUAGE DIVERSITY

61% of all ELs are in Elementary Grades K-5
Bridge Between OEL and Boston Children’s Museum

Ms. Jeri Robinson
Boston Children’s Museum

- Belief that the kids that Children’s Museum serves should reflect the demographics of the students in Boston.
- Ensure children in Boston are aware of opportunities to go to Children’s Museum.

EL Parent Team

- Focusing on increasing EL parent attendance
- Providing for children and their families:
  - high interest events
  - exposure and access to information and resources
  - location and language!
Partnership Between BPS and Boston Children's Museum

K2 Mock SEI Classroom
An interactive workshop designed for both parents and their incoming K2 EL students to learn about the importance of English as a Second Language (ESL) services and the structure and content of a Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) classroom. Multiple workshops are held in English and various languages, such as Spanish, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Cape Verdean Creole, and Vietnamese.

DELAC Parent Conference
Beginning in 2016, District English Learner Advisor Committee (DELAC) Parent End of Year Conferences are hosted at the Boston Children’s Museum. The conferences provide EL parents and community members with information to deepen and expand their knowledge around EL programs and the opportunity to celebrate the work of the DELAC.
Parent and Student Attendees

We strive to provide a substantial amount of opportunities for parents to participate in various programs and sessions, such as Tech Goes Home training and ESOL classes, but the best attended events are held at Boston Children’s Museum.

Mock K2 SEI Classroom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SY 15-16</td>
<td>SY 16-17</td>
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<td>203</td>
<td>347</td>
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DELAC Parent Conference Participation SY 17-18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>First Conference held at BPS Central Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Second Conference held at BPS Central Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>165</td>
<td>Last Conference held at Boston Children’s Museum</td>
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What We Have Learned

- Address flyers/postcards to individual students and families in their preferred language
- Discounted tickets for families
- Partner with CBOs to support with communication and transportation
- Provide food and time for individual family exploration of the museum
- Target promotional items to be intentional such as K2 books and school uniform shirts
- Ensure access to interpretation services and translated materials at the event itself
- Utilize Boston Children’s Museum extensive space options--classrooms, party areas, conference rooms

- Encourage school districts to use Title III funds for EL parent engagement
Survey Findings:

72% of the participants attended the DELAC conference for the first time when it was held at the Boston Children’s Museum
Marbles Kids Museum
Ready Set School
Marbles Kids Museum
Family Science Club
Marbles Kids Museum Steam para Todos
Exploration Place
The Sedgwick County Science and Discovery Center
Refugee Family Night
Engaging Dual Language Learners

→ Getting Started
  → Talk to the right administrator
  → Build relationships over time
  → Be consistent and accountable

→ Prepare
  → Have translators available
  → Staff who are bilingual
  → Accommodate for religious/cultural needs
Topics

→ Refugee work in Museums-large institutions, especially government associated. - Greer

→ Lessons Learned on Designing Inclusive, Culturally Relevant Exhibits. - Hardin

→ Collaborating/Engaging with your School District and other community organizations who work with ELL communities/families, immigrants. - Priya and Ahmed
Group discussions

Choose two topics for two group rotations.

In each group rotation, you will discuss strategies and best practices based on the topic.

We will reconvene afterwards to reflect on what you heard and learned.
Thank You!
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