
PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The Bangor School Committee recognizes that there may be some students attending Bangor School Department schools for whom English is a new or second language. These students may be significantly challenged as they acquire or improve English proficiency at the same time they are learning the knowledge and skills associated with the content standards of the system of Learning Results. In order to ensure equal educational opportunity, the school system will provide a program for students who are English language learners.

To that end, the Superintendent/designee shall be responsible for developing and implementing a “Lau Plan.” A Language Assessment Committee shall be appointed to assist in the coordination, oversight and periodic review of the program. The Lau Plan will describe:

- A. How students will be identified as being from a non-English language background;
- B. How such students will be assessed to determine their English language proficiency level and their need for support in content areas;
- C. The types of services the school system will provide limited English proficiency students to meet their English language acquisition needs and support in content areas;
- D. How limited English proficiency students will be evaluated for the purpose of determining when to reduce services or exit them from the language support services when they are ready to benefit from an all-English Learning Results aligned curriculum, and how their progress will be monitored after they have stopped receiving LEP services; and
- E. How the school system will evaluate the effectiveness and appropriateness of the language support program for limited English proficiency students.

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent/designee will notify parents of students identified for or participating in programs for English language learners including information about the instructional program and parent rights, as required by law. Parents will be regularly informed of their child’s progress. Whenever practicable, communications with parents will be in the language understood by the parents.

The school unit will comply with all applicable federal laws and/or regulatory requirements if federal funds or grants are utilized for limited English proficiency programs.

Legal References: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d
 P.L. 107-110 (No Child Left Behind Act of 2001)
 P.L. 114-95 Every Student Succeeds Act
 20-A M.R.S.A. § 15670(18)
 Ch. 127 § 3.02 (Me. Dept. of Ed. Rule)
 Commissioner’s Administrative Letter No. 24 (December 9, 2003)

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