

SpELLPAC



*Special Education/
English Language Learning
Parent Advisory Council*

SpELLPAC Summer Newsletter June 2021

by **Becca Mason, ELL Director and Lauren Robinson, Special Education Coordinator**

Happy June, Codman Families!

We have come to the end of a very challenging year and we are grateful for all of the dedication and collaboration that you continue to show with your students at Codman Academy. As we approach the end of the school year, we wanted to take some time to share some resources that you might find useful in enjoying your summer together, as well as prepare for the next school year. We hope that you enjoy exploring these resources with your students and family and we look forward to continuing our work together as Codman Crew!

Big news in the ELL Department: we have just hired two new teachers to join us in serving you and your students! Catherine Brennan and Amanda Rouillard will be joining the ELL Department in the fall as ELL Teachers. Catherine will work with students in grades 4-8 and Amanda will work with the K1-3rd graders. We are very excited to have them join our team.

The Codman Summer Enrichment Program will be running from June 28th to July 23 this year. We are in the final stages of planning for this month of academic and social support - more information to come!

As our number of COVID-19 cases continues to decline in Boston, the world is beginning to open up again. Here is a great list of free things to do around the city this summer - [Time Out Boston](#).

We look forward to seeing you again this summer, or in the fall. Please enjoy a happy, safe, and fulfilling summer!

Fondly,

Becca and Lauren

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Here are some great resources for you and your students, for the summer and beyond!

Language Development and Learning:

[7 Ways to Prevent Summer Learning Loss](#) - This article from EduTopia is a great short list of ways that you can continue supporting your student through the long summer.

[50 Incredibly Useful Links for Learning and Teaching English](#) - Thankfully, many excellent resources for ELL and ESL exist online, from full-service websites to reference tools and communities, all designed to make the task of educating ELL students just a little bit easier and more effective. We've scoured the Internet to share 50 of the best of these resources, and we hope you'll find lots of valuable content and tools through these incredibly useful links for ELL educators.

[Boston Community ESOL Center](#) - The Boston Community ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Center is committed to strengthening communities in the Greater Boston area by overcoming language and cultural barriers. We seek to empower residents through effective, immersive ESOL classes held throughout the area. Improving English proficiency enables community members to pursue employment, education and empowers them to be self-advocates. However, the current wait for affordable classes in Boston is 2 years on average. The Boston Community ESOL Center brings these intensive and engaging classes to the community. *The Boston*

Community ESOL Center is a non-profit initiative that provides engaging English for Speakers of Other Languages Courses delivered by committed instructors whom we extensively train. Through partnerships with community organizations that serve as support networks for specific communities, our students are able to engage in their own success.

[Colorín Colorado](#) - Colorín Colorado is the premier national website serving educators and families of English language learners (ELLs) in Grades PreK-12. Colorín Colorado has been providing free research-based information, activities, and advice to parents, schools, and communities around the country for more than a decade.

[Interactive Websites for ELL Learning](#) - This list, from University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries is a great resource for finding online, interactive learning tools for students and adults.

Organizations and Websites:

[Action for Boston Community Development \(ABCD\)](#) - ABCD is part of the Community Action Network, created with the passage of the Economic Opportunity Act, which was signed into law in 1964. The Act was a sweeping plan to improve the lives of all Americans, regardless of their circumstances. As a community action agency, they strive to provide access to many different resources and services, including English Language classes for adult learners - [English for Speakers of Other Languages \(ESOL\)](#).

[Association of Haitian Women in Boston](#) - The Association of Haitian Women in Boston is a community-based grassroots organization dedicated to empowering low-income Haitian women and their children. We believe that everyone, regardless of race or sex, should have equal rights, and that women should have unlimited opportunity to develop as individuals, unhampered by social traditions.

[Center for Community Health, Education Research, and Service, Inc.](#) - The Center for Community Health Education Research and Service, Inc. (CCHERS) is a community-based organization that is a community and academic partnership. Established in 1991, CCHERS, Inc. is comprised of Boston Medical Center, the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston University School of Medicine, Northeastern

University Bouvé College of Health Sciences and an established network of fifteen community health centers (FQHC) serving the racially and ethnically diverse populations of the City.

[Dominican Development Center](#) - The Dominican Development Center (DDC) is a nonprofit organization led and directed by immigrant residents of Boston, Massachusetts. DDC emerged to develop and empower Dominican immigrants and immigrants representing all communities. We strive to improve the quality of life for our members by promoting immigration issues that might affect our communities, including but not limited to current laws, legal procedure, immigration, and human rights. We do this through the programming of educational and leadership opportunities which would allow our members to learn and take full advantage of what this country has to offer and by this have a productive life. This mission is accomplished by providing programs and organizing activities that bring together long-time residents and newcomers of all ages and diverse background to achieve economic, political, and social justice. We believe that new emerging immigrant communities are the driving motor to promote families and cultural values. The DCC embraces a future of equal representation, equal rights, and equal power for all immigrant families. We hope to establish an organization that will be a role model for other immigrant communities.

[Haitian Multi-Service Center](#) - The Haitian Multi-Service Center, the largest social service agency serving the Haitian population in Massachusetts, is a non-profit agency founded in 1978 to meet the needs of the rapidly increasing number of Haitian refugees coming to the area. It joined the Catholic Charities network in 1984. Its mission is to serve, in a linguistically and culturally sensitive manner, the health, education, day care and the immigration/settlement/food needs of the Haitian community, numbered at about 20-25,000, and to foster economic and social self-sufficiency. Today it serves 5,000 families annually.

[Sociedad Latina](#) - Since 1968, Sociedad Latina has been working in partnership with Latino youth and families to end the cycle of poverty, inequality to access of health services, and lack of educational and professional opportunities in our community. We have introduced innovative solutions to the most critical problems facing young Latinos today. Our approach celebrates our diverse Latino heritages and enables young people to forge identities with deep roots in Latin culture. Our model supports positive creative youth development from ages 11 to 21, creating a community that values young people and enables them to be leaders in their community. Each year, Sociedad Latina serves

5,000 young people and adults. Over a thousand of these young people participate intensively in our integral and coordinated daily programming, in four key areas that meet the needs and interests of the community: Education, Workforce Development, Civic Engagement, and Arts and Culture. Programs promote long-term participation, positive interactions with adults, and cultural pride. We recognize that giving youth an extensive support network enables them to develop as confident, competent, self-sustaining, and proud young adults.

[Somali Development Center](#) - Do you need help adjusting to life in America? If so, you have come to the right place. Need to learn English language and literacy skills, find housing or employment or require support around immigration and citizenship filing? The Somali Development Center is the hub for resettlement information and support for Somalis and other African groups. Our staff is bilingual and bicultural Somali Americans making us uniquely placed to address your culture specific needs. We provide culturally supportive programs and services to meet your evolving needs. The Road to Economic Self Sufficiency and Somali Women Rising are comprehensive programs which focus on breaking down barriers for young adults and women who, given the correct support and guidance, have the greatest potential to take advantage of opportunities and thrive in America. Other core services include housing assistance, health care and public benefits, support for citizenship preparation, English language, basic literacy instruction and employment training for youth and adults, interpretation and advocacy in court rooms. Our goal is to strengthen the Somali community by developing the capability of Somali individuals and families, and increasingly clients from other African communities, to be self-sufficient, productive citizens in America. The Somali Development Center (SDC) is a 501 c 3 organization with a mission “to provide consistently excellent and accessible community services to all Somalis in the Greater Boston area.”

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[Codman Academy Charter Public School Website](#)

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