



## DRACUT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

English Learner Program  
1540 Lakeview Avenue  
Dracut, Massachusetts 01826



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### Dracut Public Schools **English Learner “Opt Out” Protocol**

Although school districts have an obligation to serve all English learners (ELs), parents and/or guardians have a right to decline or opt their child out of a school district’s EL program or out of any particular EL services within an EL program. A parent/guardian’s decision to opt out must be informed and voluntary. Thus, the school district must provide guidance in a language parents/guardians can understand to ensure parents/guardians understand their child’s rights, the EL services their child could receive, and the benefits of such services before voluntarily opting out.

The following steps will be taken if a parent/guardian of an EL decides to opt out of the EL program.

- The signed parent/guardian opt out request form will be filed in the student’s EL folder.
- The district will revisit their decision to opt out every year and submit a new request for the current academic year.
- The student will be placed in a mainstream classroom with an SEI endorsed classroom teacher.
- The student will remain classified as an EL in SIMMs and on district reports.
- The student will participate in the mandated English Language Proficiency ACCESS testing.
- The district will notify the parent/guardian of their child’s ACCESS participation and results.
- Although the student will not receive English as a Second language (ESL) instruction focussed on language development, the district will establish structured opportunities for the student’s content area teacher to plan content area instruction in collaboration with a licensed ESL teacher.
- The district will keep a record of how they are providing meaningful access to the curriculum and how the student is progressing.
- The student will be reclassified and the evidence will be filed in the student’s EL folder after the student demonstrates English proficiency through ACCESS for ELs.