

English Language Learners at the Plymouth District Library

With librarian Katy Kramp and P-CLC and PDL tutor volunteer Bob Goodwin

Our Groups

Conversation Group



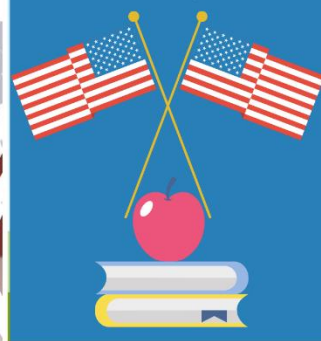
Since 2015

Reading Group



Since 2019

Citizenship Class



Since 2020

A Brief History

In 2009, Katy partnered with the Plymouth-Canton Community Literacy Council to host an International Fair. All current tutors at the Literacy Council were invited, along with any international people in the community, through the newsletter. Invitations were sent out both through the library and the Literacy Council. Along with getting to meet in person, one of our main objectives was to find out what the international community here needed that the Library could provide. The top request was a conversation group.

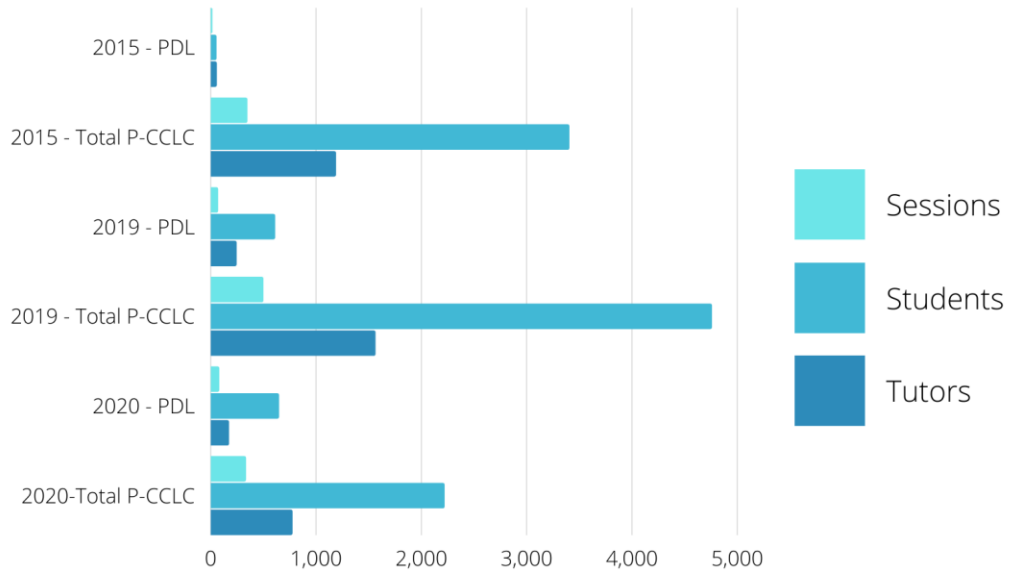
It took several years to assemble what we needed to make that happen, but finally, in 2015, after Katy went through training, she started the conversation group meeting on a monthly basis. Once the group was meeting, tutors started to volunteer to help run it, and soon we were able to expand to weekly meetings, with the tutors running the meetings three weeks a month. In 2019, tutors Suzanne Kaufmann and Bob Goodwin started a reading group that met twice a month in addition to the conversation group. This group focuses more intensely on one text, with a focus on pronunciation and comprehension.

During the pandemic, we shifted quickly to offering the conversation group over Zoom. Then, we added the reading group on a weekly basis. Finally, at the request of the Literacy Council, Bob and Suzanne started teaching Citizenship Classes to selected students, hosted on PDL's Zoom account. Our first two students have already passed their exams! Using Zoom, we have been able to reach students who were previously unable to come due to lack of transportation, as well as students who are back in their home countries.

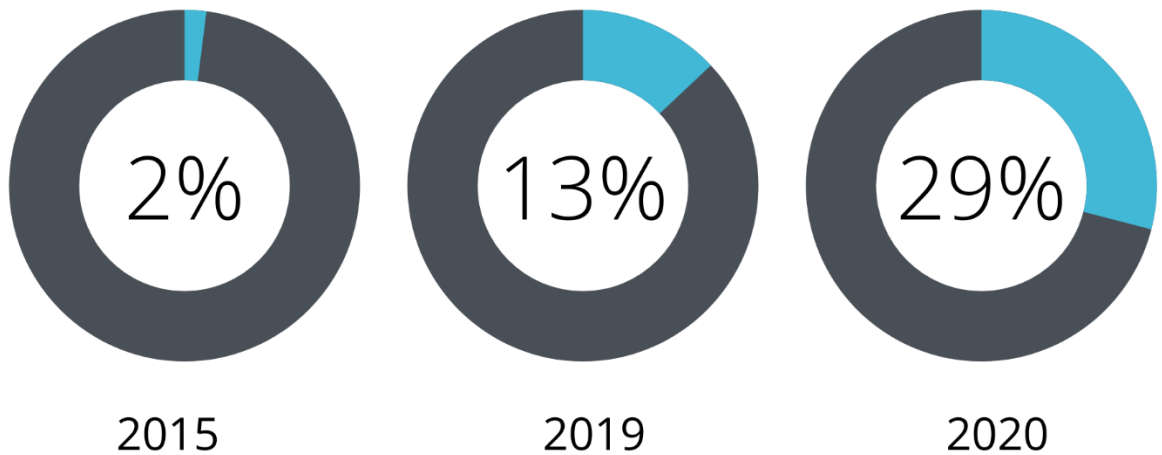
Our typical students are the wives and adult parents of international who have come to the Plymouth-Canton Community to work. While the workers learn English at work and their children learn at school,

the partners and parents are often stuck at home, knowing no one and with no place to go to learn English to be able to fully join the community. Our conversation groups provide a lifeline of both companionship and learning to these people.

ELL Groups - PDL and Community



PDL Students as % of Total



ELL GROUP TUTORING SERVICES BACKGROUND

1. Location & Group ELL Services Provided By The Council

<u>Location</u>	<u>Convers. Groups</u>	<u>Book Clubs</u>	<u>Reading Groups</u>	<u>Citizenship Tutoring</u>
Canton Public Library	x	x	x	
Plymouth District Library	x		x	x
Connection Church - Canton	x	x		
Living Word Church - Plymouth	x			
Eriksson Elementary School - Canton	x			

2. Changes During 2020

In mid-March, all group meetings were suspended.

Canton Public Library: The Book Club resumed in May, Conversation Group in June, and Reading Group in July (Zoom meetings). Also, the Book Club started meeting weekly, instead of twice per month.

Plymouth District Library: The Conversation Group resumed in April, and Reading Group in May (Zoom meetings). Also, the Reading Group started meeting weekly, instead of twice per month.

Connection Church: Suspended all teaching during March and April, and introduced Zoom classes in May for intermediate students, and face-to-face classes starting in June for beginning students. Both formats continue based on student levels.

Living Word Church: ELL activities were not restarted.

Eriksson Elementary School: ELL activities were not restarted.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELL) TUTORING RESULTS:
PLYMOUTH DISTRICT LIBRARY

Background:

- In 2015, the Plymouth District Library Conversation Group started.
- In January of 2019, a reading group was started; meeting twice per month.
- In October of 2020, the Reading Group started meeting weekly.

Results: Continued growth has been achieved in ELL services provided to the Plymouth community:

- The number of students supported by the Plymouth Library increased from 52 students in 2015 to 646 students in 2020.
- Plymouth students as a percent of total ELL group students supported by the P-CCLC increased from 1.5% in 2015 to 29.1% in 2020.
- The Plymouth Library is the only location that has increased student counts in every year since 2015.

Year / ELL Group Service *	Number of		
	Sessions	Students	Tutors
2015 / Conv. Gp.			
- Plymouth Library	15	52	55
- Total P-CCLC	348	3,403	1,189
<i>Plymouth as % of Total</i>	4.3%	1.5%	4.6%
2019 / Conv. & R. Gps.			
- Plymouth Library	70	609	245
- Total P-CCLC	500	4,757	1,564
<i>Plymouth as % of Total</i>	14.0%	12.8%	15.7%
2020 / Conv & R. Gps., C.T.			
- Plymouth Library	81	646	173
- Total P-CCLC	335	2218	776
<i>Plymouth as % of Total</i>	24.2%	29.1%	22.3%
2020 Over / - Under 2019			
- Plymouth Library	11	37	-72
<i>Percent Change</i>	15.7%	6.1%	-29.4%
- Total P-CCLC	-165	-2,539	-788
<i>Percent Change</i>	-33.0%	-53.4%	-50.4%
* Conversation Group = Conv. Gp., Reading Group = R.G., and Citizenship Tutoring = C.T.			