



Boston Public Schools

## **Enrollment Update to ELL Task Force**

David Bloom, Deputy Chief Financial Officer

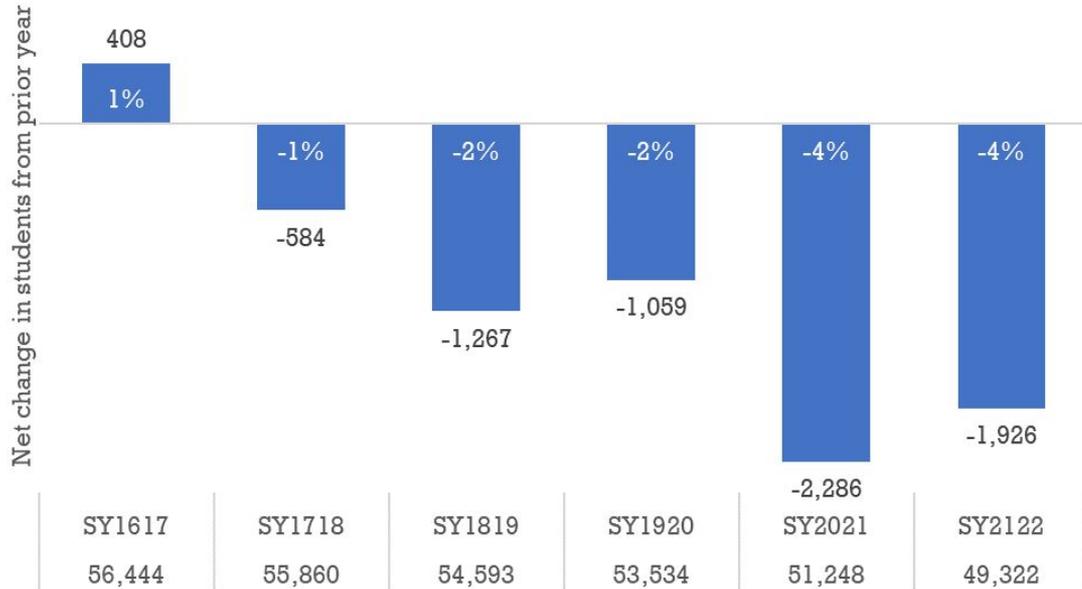
Jamie Racanelli, Director of Planning and Analysis

December 9, 2021

# FY23 Enrollment Context

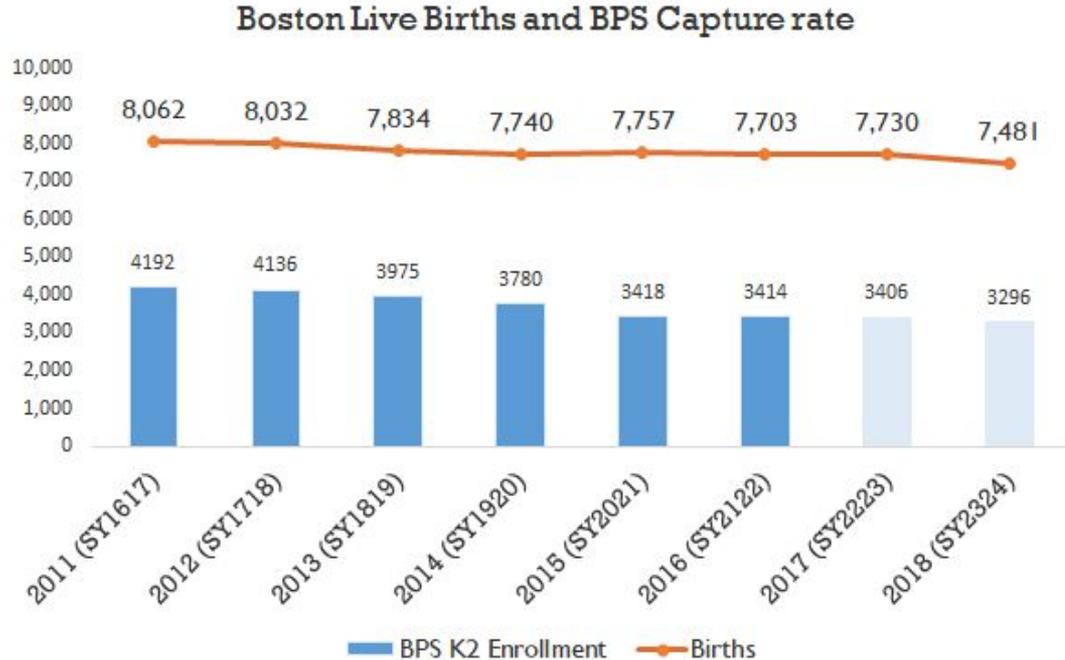


## Total Annual Enrollment Decline



- Total enrollment has declined roughly 7,100 students in 5 years.
- K0 - 5 enrollment has declined roughly 4,800 students in 5 years.
- Assuming median elementary school size of 288 students, that's the equivalent of about 17 schools worth of K0 - 5 students.

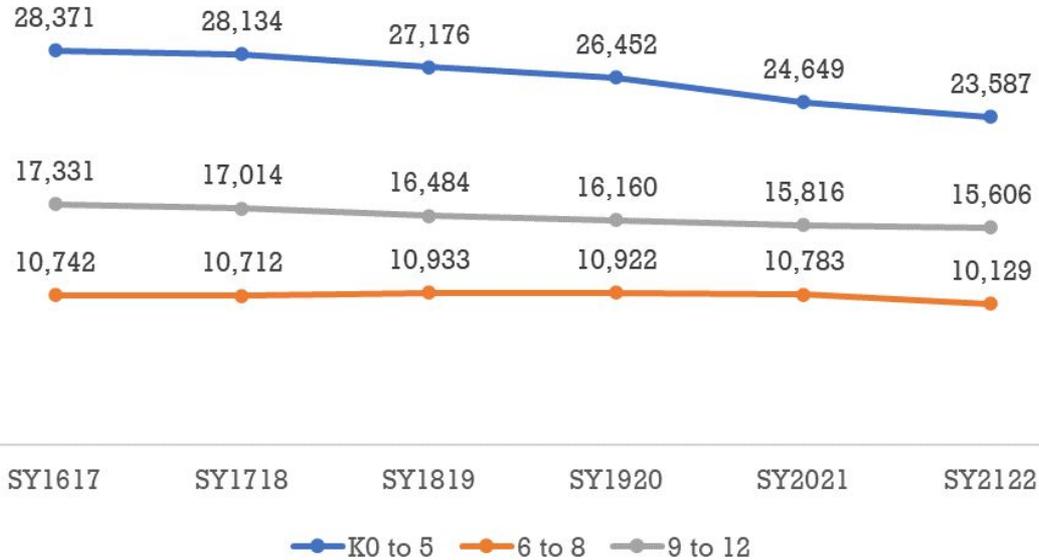
We anticipate  
enrollment  
declines for  
FY23



**K2 Enrollment  
and Birth Rates  
Are Declining  
and Will Likely  
Continue to  
Decline**

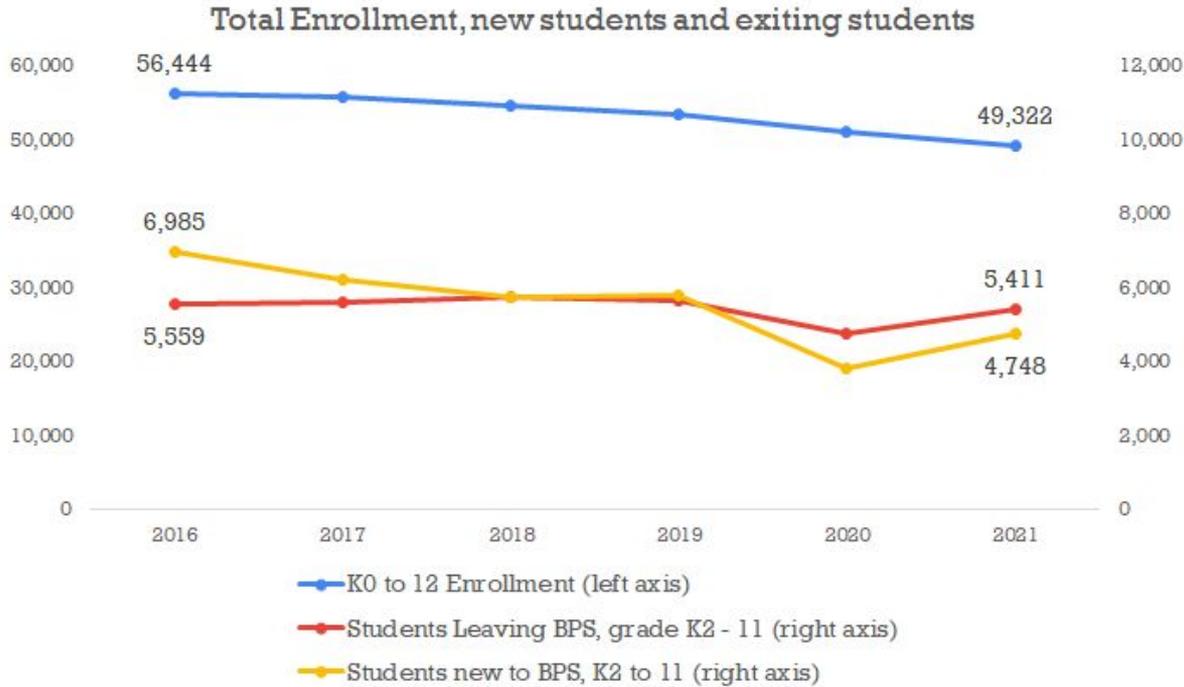
- Births to Boston Residents have dropped by over 600 since 2011
- This is consistent with the national trend of declining birth rates

Total BPS Enrollment by Grade Band



Elementary  
Enrollment  
Declines Predict  
Future Middle  
and High School  
Declines

- Largest indicator of future enrollment is current enrollment
- As K2 - 5 enrollment has declined by nearly 5,000 students in 5 years, we expect those smaller cohorts to lead to smaller enrollment in grades 6 - 12 as current students age



The declines are a function of fewer new students, not of more students exiting the system

Over the last 5 years:

- Total K0-12 enrollment has declined by 7,100 students (blue line)
- The number of students in grades K2 to 11 leaving the system (red line) has stayed relatively stable
- The number of students new to BPS in grades K2 to 11 (yellow line) has declined by 2,237 students, or 32%

**Internal slides - please do not circulate**

# English Learner Enrollment



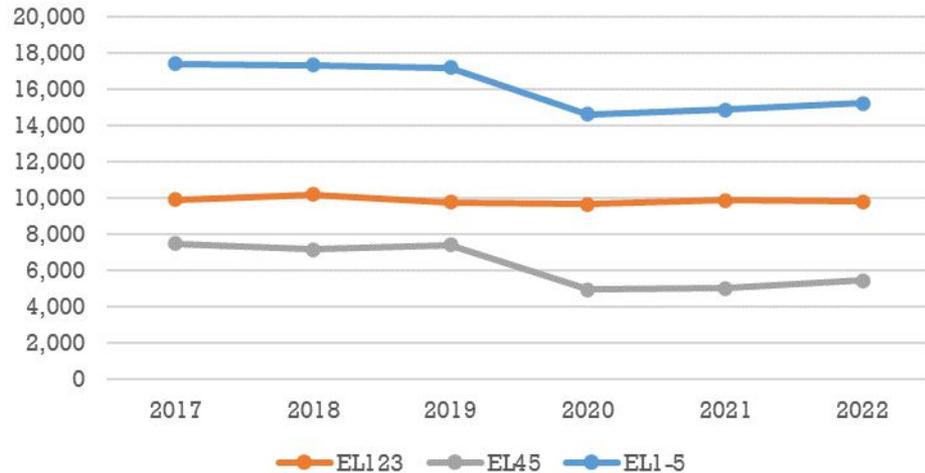
The total number of English Learners increased slightly this year but is still down 14% compared to 3 years ago

### Change in English Learner Enrollment by ELD Level

ELD Level	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	Δ 1-year	%Δ 1-year	Δ 3-year	%Δ 3-year
EL123	9,674	9,872	198	2%	-302	-3%
EL45	4,949	4,999	50	1%	-2,150	-30%
<b>EL1-5</b>	<b>14,623</b>	<b>14,871</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>-2,452</b>	<b>-14%</b>

## English Learner Enrollment by ELD Level

EL Enrollment by ELD Level



Enrollment in English Learner programs declined 5% this year and is down 19% compared to 3 years ago

#### Change in Total Enrollment by Program Type

Program Type	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	Δ 1-year	%Δ 1-year	Δ 3-year	%Δ 3-year
English Learner	5,192	4,948	-244	-5%	-1,143	-19%
General Ed	39,779	38,264	-1,515	-4%	-3,830	-9%
Special Ed	6,288	6,109	-179	-3%	-299	-5%
<b>All Programs</b>	<b>51,259</b>	<b>49,321</b>	<b>-1,938</b>	<b>-4%</b>	<b>-5,272</b>	<b>-10%</b>

The declines were largest in elementary grades

#### Change in EL Program Enrollment by Grade Band

Grade Band	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	Δ 1-year	%Δ 1-year	Δ 3-year	%Δ 3-year
K0~K1	353	382	29	8%	-11	-3%
K2~05	2531	2279	-252	-10%	-737	-24%
06~08	643	639	-4	-1%	-184	-22%
09~12	1665	1648	-17	-1%	-211	-11%
<b>All Grades</b>	<b>5,192</b>	<b>4,948</b>	<b>-244</b>	<b>-5%</b>	<b>-1,143</b>	<b>-19%</b>

## Enrollment in English Learner Programs

# Enrollment in English Learner Programs

## Change in EL Program Enrollment by Program

Program	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	Δ 1-year	%Δ 1-year	Δ 3-year	%Δ 3-year
BLC	208	247	39	19%	-47	-16%
BLH	131	90	-41	-31%	-155	-63%
BLK	286	200	-86	-30%	-134	-40%
BLM	1820	1707	-113	-6%	-230	-12%
BLS	1728	1620	-108	-6%	-568	-26%
BLV	121	76	-45	-37%	-84	-53%
TLH	27	22	-5	-19%	4	22%
TLS	640	679	39	6%	78	13%
TLV	4	7	3	75%		
BIH	17	15	-2	-12%	-33	-69%
BIK	28	20	-8	-29%	-13	-39%
BIM	31	39	8	26%	7	22%
BIS	151	223	72	48%	80	56%

- SEI Enrollment is down across all language groups
- Enrollment in low-incidence, language specific SLIFE has declined
- Spanish SLIFE enrollment is up nearly 50% this year, which is connected to an increase in the proportion of ELs identified as requiring SLIFE programs

The number of ELs with disabilities has not decreased at the same rate as ELs in general, which is consistent with broader district trends

### Change in EL SWD Compared to Total ELs

ELD Level	Oct 2020	Oct 2021	$\Delta$ 1-year	% $\Delta$ 1-year	$\Delta$ 3-year	% $\Delta$ 3-year
EL SWD	3549	3481	-68	-2%	-365	-9%
EL1-5	14,623	14,871	248	2%	-2,452	-14%

### Annual Enrollment Change, by Student Type



# English Learners with Disabilities

## Implications for Projections

Future year projections are primarily driven by the number of students currently enrolled

- BPS tends to lose students as they age except in entry grades (K2, 7, 9)
- A small K2 cohort does not typically grow as it progresses through BPS
- Enrollment news from our key grades is not promising
  - K2 enrollment is down
  - 7th and 9th grade growth is down

Even with a rebound in K2, 7th and 9th grade next year, low enrollment in these cohorts of students are likely to persist