

## LOWELL TEACHER ACADEMY (LTA) PROPOSAL

---

REPORT DATE	PROJECT NAME	PREPARED BY
March 6, 2019	Communication & Literacy MTEL Workshop	Pina Maggio, LTA Facilitator

### BACKGROUND:

---

The Lowell Teacher Academy (LTA) offers a workshop entitled, "Communication & Literacy MTEL," to LPS paraprofessionals with a Bachelor's and/or Master's Degree who desire to become teachers. One of the requirements, regardless of which content area one wishes to teach, is to pass the Communication & Literacy MTEL. In this workshop, participants will become familiarized with the structure of the Communication and Literacy Skills of the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL). Participants will go over test-taking strategies to help manage their time and reduce test anxiety. In addition, participants will be able to apply in a timely manner the basic aspects of reading and writing to create an effective summary and essay that MTEL Communication and Literacy skills require. Furthermore, participants will be provided with individualized feedback so they may take the test well prepared and know what to expect. The is a 15-hour workshop offered at Lowell High School by a highly-qualified instructor with 32 years of experience in teaching at the high school level as well as at the college level. The cost to the paraprofessional for this workshop is \$100 which is reimbursed from the participant's annual \$1,000 Tuition Reimbursement Allotment.

### PROPOSAL:

---

We are proposing to offer the Communication & Literacy MTEL workshop to Lowell Residents desiring to enter the teaching profession with the Lowell Public Schools.

---

### BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:

---

- A \$100 fee will be charged to participants, the same fee charged to LPS employees.
- A separate account will be established to collect the fee. Participants will be able to pay with credit card or cash.
- Instructor(s) will be paid according to LTA Workshop Stipend: \$600 per workshop
- Funds for paying the Instructor Stipend will be deducted from the account that is established to collect the fees.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

---

- We will have a statement to prospective participants the test may be very challenging, requiring a certain level of proficiency in reading and writing in English and computer technology.
- An attorney will review literature disseminated relative to this workshop to ensure it is not discriminating, elitist, or makes false promises.

### RECOMMENDATION:

---

We are well aware of the need to hire a more diverse staff that represents the rich ethnicity of our student population. Our focus is to seek out and retain the highest quality, expert and diverse workforce to serve our diverse learners and their families. We believe by reaching out to our Lowell residents, we will be attracting a rich resource of applicants who will reflect our diverse student population. Offering this workshop to Lowell residents is the first step in supporting those residents who desire to become LPS teachers. We are hopeful we will be able to offer a licensure program right here in Lowell sometime in the near future that will facilitate their journey.

---