President **First Vice President** Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan **Recording Secretary** Treasurer/BBP Appointee

Steve Stowe Jennifer Hu Vito LaBella **Marie Brugueras**



Council Members Ghada Amin Li Ping Jiang

Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP Kevin Zhao-BBP Appointee

Administrative Assistant: Natalia Mondesir

Community Education Council District 20

December Special Meeting – Candidate Interviews

Date: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 Meeting ID: https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/84514344957?pwd=UXRvQkZWTHRWemh3Z20xUmt3dIJVZz0 Meeting Start Time: 6:11 pm **Present:** Steve Stowe, Elizabeth Chan, Vito LaBella, Marie Brugueras, Li Ping Jiang, Jennifer Hu, Absent: Maya Rozenblat, Ghada Amin, Excused: Kevin Zhao

- I. Meeting Called to Order: Steve Stowe, President
 - a. Roll Call: Natalia Mondesir, Administrative Assistant
- II. **Opening Statements**
 - a. Candidates were given time to make their opening statements
 - i. Jona Isufi, iii. Maira Kazmi,
 - ii. Daniel Lewis,
 - b. Candidate Marya Shuksta notified that she would be unable to attend the interview
 - i. Efforts will be made to reschedule her interview

III. Questions

- **a.** President Steve Stowe asked the first question:
 - i. Besides overcrowding, what do you think is the most important education issue in District 20?
- **b.** First Vice President Jennifer Hu asked the second question:
 - i. Please describe a time where you had to work with a team of people to set a goal and accomplish it
- c. Second Vice President Elizabeth Chan asked the third question:
 - i. Parents are often ignored by the Department of Education on important issues. What should the CEC do in response?

IV. **Closing Statements**

a. Candidates were given one minute to make closing statements

V. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn-Steve Stowe, Second: Vito LaBella
 - All in favor
- **b.** Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm

Submitted: Natalia Mondesir Date: December 2, 2021

President First Vice President Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan **Recording Secretary** Treasurer / BBP Appointee

Steve Stowe Jennifer Hu Vito LaBella Marie Brugueras



Council Members Ghada Amin Li Ping Jiang Mei Yun Lin

Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP Kevin Zhao-BBP Appointee

Administrative Assistant: Natalia Mondesir

Community Education Council District 20

October Special Meeting – Remote Learning Discussion

Date: Thursday, October 7, 2021 Meeting ID: https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/85181804114?pwd=TUJWbm1IRkg2WVNqY3pKejVJMTdzdz09 Meeting Start Time: 6:30 pm **Present:** Steve Stowe, Elizabeth Chan, Vito LaBella, Kevin Zhao, Mei Yun Lin, Li Ping Jiang, Jennifer Hu. Ghada Amin Absent: Maya Rozenblat,

- I. Meeting Called to Order: Steve Stowe, President
 - a. Roll Call: Natalia Mondesir. Administrative Assistant

Remote Learning Resolution П.

- a. Comments from Council Members on Remote Learning
 - i. Kevin Zhao confirmed that the resolution is not calling for schools to be closed, but children who are at high-risk or living with adults at high-risk of getting COVID be granted the option to learn remotely
 - ii. Steve Stowe favors in-person learning, and believes the option should only be permitted for serous health cases
 - iii. Vito LaBella believes in parent choice and is disappointed that the DOE has not provided a high quality remote option
 - iv. Elizabeth Chan stated that some children are not mentally prepared for a return to normalcy, especially since many children lost caregivers to COVID; read about a school district giving children mental health days
- **b.** Public Comments
 - i. Yamina Kezadri stated that the option should be available without needing to prove that there is a need to learn remotely; since parents are not allowed in the building without being vaccinated, what happens if something happens to a child whose parent is not vaccinated, we cannot impose or infringe on peoples' rights if they are uncomfortable with the vaccination
 - **ii.** Libby spoke to parents across the country, who stated that their children felt isolated, and having children separated is damaging to their mental health
 - iii. Devin Lin (translated by Kevin Zhao) stated that New York is very populated and schools are too crowded; government workers and companies are still working from home; children under 12 who are not vaccinated would be exposed to the risk
 - iv. Carrie (in the chat) stated that children with special needs are being ignored and the current home instruction provides little time for education

- c. President Steve Stowe read the Remote Learning Resolution out loud
- d. Comments from Council Members on the Remote Learning Resolution
 - i. Vito LaBella believes that remote learning be extended for the full 2021-2022 school year; the DOE is being let off the hook and would request full synchronous education for students who cannot be in class
 - **1.** Steve Stowe commented that he believes COVID will be more under control by next semester with the vaccine
 - **ii.** Kevin Zhao stated that he understands the concern that remote learning is not at the same standard as in-person learning, but that is why the resolution is asking for a high quality remote option
 - **iii.** Ghada Amin suggested adding a remote option for 3-K students for areas that do not have 3-K programs until more programs are established
- e. Public Comments (37:29)
 - i. Yunqian Lin (translated by Kevin Zhao) his son gets special services, but with the current remote option, there is limited support for his son's education
 - **ii.** Esther (in the chat) stated that as of September 27, only the student diagnosed with COVID is isolated for 10 days while other students in the are not
- **f.** Motion to amend the resolution and present it at the Calendar Meeting: Steve Stowe, Second: Vito LaBella
 - i. Steve Stowe-Yes
 - ii. Jennifer Hu-Yes
 - iii. Elizabeth Chan-Yes
 - iv. Vito LaBella- Yes
 - v. Marie Brugueras- Absent

- vi. Ghada Amin-Yes
- vii. Li Ping Jiang- Yes
- viii. Mei Yun Lin-Yes
 - ix. Maya Rozenblat Absent
 - x. Kevin Zhao- Yes
- g. Motion passes unanimously with 8 Yes votes

III. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn: Jennifer Hu, Second: Elizabeth Chan
 - i. All in favor
- **b.** Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm

Submitted: Natalia Mondesir

Date: October 13, 2021