President Steve Stowe
First Vice President Jennifer Hu
Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan
Recording Secretary Vito LaBella
Treasurer/BBP Appointee Marie Brugueras



Council Members
Ghada Amin
Jona Isufi
Li Ping Jiang
Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP
Joyce Xie
Kevin Zhao-BBP Appoint

Community Education Council District 20

April Calendar Meeting

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 pm

Present: Steve Stowe, Li Ping Jiang, Joyce Xie, Jona Isufi, Elizabeth Chan, Vito Labella, Kevin Zhao, Marie

Brugueras, Jennifer Hu, Maya Rozenblat

Excused:

Unexcused: Ghada Amin

I. Meeting Called to Order: Steve Stowe, President

II. Roll Call: Vito LaBella, Recording Secretary

III. New Business

a. Presentation from Principal Frank Andrew on J.H.S. 223 and their community

- Shares progress on Grow Trees and gardening. 10 agriculture growth towers are in the school and engage students with the science of agriculture. J.H.S. is also planning to bring back gardening activities with students to have outdoor class engagements.
- Highlights events in May including, 3rd annual Montauk 5K, visit from NASA representative, Family Science Day, and Mystic Seaport Trip.
- Plans to limit phone use of students with the new safety system, Yondr. Yondr is a pouch
 that is given to a student at the beginning of the school day, students place their phone
 inside the pouch and carry the pouch all day until dismissal. The pouch is magnetically
 locked and can only be unlocked at certain access points in the school that can release
 the magnet.

b. Report from Dr. David Pretto

- Summer Rising: Based on feedback from parents and school communities, the Summer Rising Program has been updated, it now prioritizes students mandated for summer school for academic reasons, students in temporary housing and students in foster care, provides an application window instead of a first-come, first-served approach, and input a new simpler sign-up process.
- District Comprehension Education Plan Goals for D20: By June 2023, increase reading proficiency by 3% and decrease students in level 1 by 5%; a 3% increase in proficiency and 5% decrease of level 1 in student performance on NYS ELA Exams; reduce chronic absenteeism by 5% in targeted schools; a 3% increase in proficiency and 5% decrease of level 1 in student performance on NYS math Exam; introduction of targeted professional development to school staff; all D20 students will participate in D20 STEAM Initiatives and Civics for All Project Soapbox Initiative; Strengthen bilingual programs.

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- Steam Expo & Math Olympiad: STEAM Projects from all of District 20 schools (PK-8) were represented at the D20 STEAM Expo. 21 schools from D20 participated in the Math Olympiad, 100,000 students participated worldwide. Multiple tests are given to students and are given points based on correct answers. A student from 20K686 received a perfect score. P.S. 127 will receive a plaque for being top 10% and P.S 60 will receive a certificate for being top 11-20%. D20 Science Olympiad will be on May 24th at JHS 227.
- D20 Team School Support Update: Data of the support given to District 20 schools is still being reviewed,
- D20 2023-2024 Priority Update: District 20 schools struggle with providing daily access to grade-level text, standards-aligned instruction and learning tasks for all students. A possible act that can address this issue is if D20 schools implemented a standard-aligned curriculum that leverages grade-level text and learning tasks across the four core content areas for all students, leveraging scaffolds and supports to ensure daily access and exposure to grade-level learning for all students. In regards to instructional priorities, all D20 principals will be trained in the LETRS Science of Reading framework and all school leaders and teachers will receive professional development programs.
- **Comments and Questions from Council**: Members of CEC 20 asked questions such as clarification on the use of grade-level text in D20, the proficiency goals, the utilization of I-Ready, initiatives for schools with lower performances, chronic absenteeism, and the choice of instruction regarding ELA and Math.

c. President Announcement

- Stephen Stowe is a member of a citywide working group to create recommendations for the Class Size Law.
- The Office of District Planning has a working team in relation to the new schools being open in Fall 2024. CEC is engaging with school and community members regarding the impact the new schools will have on their community.
- Introduction of bylaw Amendment, mainly to introduce a new public speaking session at the beginning of meetings.

d. Update from councilmember Jona Isufi on Citywide Wellness Advisory Council

- Good for our bodies, good for the Earth: Schools offer a powerful opportunity to help students develop healthy habits. Discussed the access and quality of drinking water available to schools. The Office of Food and Nutrition Service provided background regarding meals provided in schools. Discussed various initiatives in schools that improve the quality of food and reduction of waste.
- **e. Public Speaking Session:** Members from the public addressed concerns regarding the use of school budgets to provide professional training. The DOE should use their own resources to provide professional development. Dr. Pretto addressed these comments, noting that financial support will be available outside of school budgets in order to aid in professional development.

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Steve Stowe Jennifer Hu Vito LaBella Marie Brugueras



Council Members Ghada Amin Jona Isufi Li Ping Jiang Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP Joyce Xie Kevin Zhao-BBP Appoint

- Resolution 10 Supporting State Assembly Bill A04889 Delaying the Class Size Law Implementation and Including Additional Exemptions to Class Size Targets
- Motion to vote: Elizabeth Chan, Second: Maya Rozenblatt
 - i. Hu Yes
 - ii. Chan Yes
 - iii. Brugueras Yes
 - iv. Zhao Yes
 - v. Jiang Yes
 - vi. Xie Yes
 - vii. Rozenblatt Yes
 - viii. Amin Unexcused
 - ix. Isufi Yes
 - x. LaBella Abstained
 - xi. Stowe Yes
- IV. Old Business Approval of the March 2023 Calendar Meeting Minutes
 - a. Minutes unanimously approved

V. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn Elizabeth Chan, Second: Kevin Zhao
 - I. All in favor
- **b.** Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM

The full meeting recording is available here: YouTube

The Complete written Transcript is available here: Transcript

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant