



Community Education Council District 20

January Calendar Meeting

Date: 1/8/25

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Present: Steve Stowe, Yanqing Chen, Meifang Chen, John Ricottone, Wenming Chen, Kevin Zhao, Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio, Sabrina Mcnamara, Elizabeth Chan, Maya Rozenblat, Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio

Excused: Tamara Stern

Unexcused: Ryan Li

I. Meeting Called to Order: Stephen Stowe, President

II. Roll Call: Stephen Stowe, President

III. New Business

a. Public Speaking Session

A representative from the office of Council Member Alexa Aviles announced new office hours and provided contact information for the community.

b. Report of Superintendent

Superintendent Pretto introduced the new principal of J.H.S 227 Edward B. Shallow, Kathleen Mui. Dr. Pretto shared his gratitude to former principal, Ed Hernandez, for his impact on the community and wished him best on his retirement. D20 Athletics Initiative - With the formation of District Teams, the district was able to address the communities demands for sport programs. This initiative aims to provide students an opportunity to compete and play in an organized manner. Initially, this program started with an elementary basketball league with four teams, expanding to a middle school league, and an eventual fullwide district event. In the school year 2024 - 2025, District 20 has added new sport opportunities including volleyball and frisbee leagues. D20 Literacy Plan Overview - The district aims to partner with school leaders, literacy points/teams and central partners to provide professional learning, guidance, and resources tailored to district literacy needs which will aid in our schools capacity to implement high-quality core literacy curriculum and research-based instructional practices, enabling students to meet grade-level literacy proficiency. To reach this goal, District Literacy Teams support the district and school leaders in the use and understanding of district literacy goals, instruction materials, curricular expectations, HMH literacy implementation, identify district trends, determine district strengths and needs, assess the impact of literacy curriculums, and overall strategies. District Literacy Teams provide monthly meetings to discuss district progress and strategize ways to address challenges. The district uses Acadience and I-Ready as evidenced based screening tools with set expectations. These

assessments provide progress monitoring to support accurate grouping and academic intervention. Students who do not meet benchmarks in literacy screeners are met with intervention programs by the District Literacy Team. These programs include Sounds Sensible, S.P.I.R.E., Phonics for Reading, REWARDS, and Wilson. An overview of Assessment types and their purposes was given, focusing on Academic Screeners (iReady and Acadiance) and Summative Assessments (NYS Exams). The council engaged in dialogue with Superintendent Pretto.

c. Ranking and Vote of School Construction Authority Requests

CEC 20 discussed and ranked requests from schools in District 20 to submit to the School Construction Authority (SCA). Final submission can be found here -

[📄 CEC 20 - SCA Request](#)

IV. Old Business - Approval of the December 2024 Calendar Minutes

Calendar Meeting Minutes Approved

V. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn - Elizabeth Chan, Second: John Ricottone

I. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM

The full meeting recording is available here: [YouTube](#)

The Complete written Transcript is available here: [Transcript](#)

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant