

**Community Education Council District 20**

**December Calendar Meeting**

**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2023

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:00 PM

**Present:** Steve Stowe, Joyce Xie, Elizabeth Chan, Yanqing Chen, Meifang Chen, Tamara Stern, John Ricottone, Maya Rozenblat**,**  Kevin Zhao

**Excused**: Wenming Chen

**Unexcused**:

**I. Meeting Called to Order:** Steve Stowe, President

**II. Roll Call**:Joyce Xie, Recording Secretary

**III. New Business**

1. **Office of Food and Nutrition Services**

Representatives Annecia Virgo- Shakes and Andrew Goodman from the Office of Food and Nutrition Services introduced themselves to District 20 and announced new events and initiatives. These include Plastic Free Days where all food given will be finger friendly, utensils will be available upon request. Three schools will receive cafeteria makeovers, K062, K223, and K227. These projects will be completed before the end of the school year. Council members asked if food will still be provided to students when schools are on break, schools will be open for in-house food programs.

1. **Remarks made by newly-elected City Council Member Susan Zhuang**

Susan Zhuang thanks the community for their support and announces to the community that her office resources are available to anyone who needs them. She plans to have an education advisor in the future to make the best possible decisions regarding schools.

1. **Report from Superintendent Dr. David Pretto**

**HMH Literacy Program including Online Platform Access, Parent Communication & Module Assessments and grading:** In order for parents to view HMH Reading Iread Assessments, they must navigate to TeacHub and login with their students account information. TeacHub streamlines all school platforms such as Google Classroom and Envision Math, into one login. Parents have access to all their students' classroom material and module assessment related to the HMH Literacy Program as well as the ability to view the material in the language of their choice.. There are a total of 12 modules in the HMH Literacy Program, NYC public schools aim to complete 8 modules. Each module has one assessment. The goal with the modules and assessments is to determine the best means for delivery and implementation of the program. The curriculum does not provide a definitive grade to a student's report card. The grade a child receives is from their teacher based on the policies in their schools, attendance and lateness is not a factor into grading. Comparing IReady and HMH module assessment, IReady is a computer adaptive assessment, a computer assigns questions based on a students answers. HMH module assessments are standard aligned, all students answer the same question and they align to a specific standard. HMH assessments align more to NYS Assessments.

**School Facility Security Update:** District 20 has begun their Door Alarm Initiative, 5 schools have completed this initiative, with the rest of elementary schools slated to finish by Spring 2024 and middle schools in December 2024. Council members asked if this initiative would introduce a camera system into schools that do not have one. This program will install one camera that works with the designated door. The security of the system was also questioned as it records student information.

1. **Principal Angelo Sacco - PS/IS 180**

Principal Angelo Sacco announced that their Kindergarten applications are open and shared the programs and curriculums offered at P.S. 180

1. **Report of Council President Stephen Stowe**

The Class Size Working Group final recommendations were announced (12/11/23), some notable recommendations included: Cap enrollment in schools, though this may cause students unable to attend their zoned school and hiring more teachers, though this can lead to the hiring of inefficient teachers. The implementation of this program will put more pressure on an already constrained/non-existent budget.

1. **Report of Council First Vice President John Ricottone**

Council member John Ricottone introduced Resolution 5 which aims to hire more school safety agents (SSA). Under Mayor Adams administration, the new class and workforce of SSA was canceled. With the recent uptick in violent and dangerous situations, schools desperately need SSA. After discussions with various schools, VP Ricottone found that many schools lack sufficient SSA and that some schools do not even have one. Council members also discussed the inclusion of an alert system with this resolution. Some raised concerns citing that sensitive information should not be leaked, though others are noting that they would simply like to be informed that an incident has occurred and is being addressed, not to share confidential information.

1. **Resolution 5 - Enhancing Student Security By Increasing School Safety Agents**

Stephen Stowe - Yes

John Ricottone - Yes

Elizabeth Chan - Yes

Joyce Xie - Yes

Meifang Chen - Yes

Wenming Chen - Excused

Yanqing Chen - Yes

Maya Rozenblat - Yes

Tamara Stern - Yes

Kevin Zhao - Yes

**IV. Old Business** - Approval of the November 2023 Calendar Minutes

Calendar Meeting Minutes unanimously approved

**V. Adjourn**

a. Motion to adjourn - Elizabeth Chan , Second: Joyce Xie

I. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM

The full meeting recording is available here: [YouTube](https://youtu.be/Q3s1W9rodSU?si=RDyn1GhEe4WHvBOS)

The Complete written Transcript is available here: [Transcript](https://www.cec20.org/minutes)

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant