

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 Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP
Jona Isufi Joyce Xie
Li Ping Jiang Kevin Zhao-BBP Appointee

Administrative Assistant: Natalia Mondesir

Community Education Council District 20

January Business Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022

Meeting ID: <https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/87448802025?pwd=NGR5UEJPbEIEL2pCR0NqTzdRRjY2dz09>

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 pm

Present: Steve Stowe, Elizabeth Chan, Vito LaBella, Marie Brugueras, Li Ping Jiang, Jennifer Hu, Maya Rozenblat, Kevin Zhao, Ghada Amin; Jona Isufi; Joyce Xie

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Steve Stowe, President
 - a. **Roll Call:** Vito LaBella, Recording Secretary

- II. **Old Business**
 - a. Approval of December Business Meeting Minutes
 - i. Minutes unanimously approved
 - b. Approval of December Special Meeting Minutes
 - i. Minutes unanimously approved

- III. **Open Discussion**
 - a. President Steve Stowe opened with a discussion on the English Language Learning programs in the district
 - i. What can the council do on this issue?
 - ii. Maya Rozenblat discussed diversity in the district, the need for services in both Special Education and ELL, concern as to whether there are there enough programs in the district
 - iii. Vito LaBella asked for clarification where schools are listed twice on the list, whether the programs accept students who are not zoned to the school
 1. Jennifer Hu stated that her child was denied a seat in a dual language program because they prioritized children within the school zone and their process of acceptance was not transparent
 - iv. Dr. Pretto responded on applying for language programs; the formation of classes and the demand for them; if bilingual Special Education classes are not available, they will be offered ESL classes in addition to a bilingual paraprofessional
 1. Vito LaBella asked if there is a lottery system for enrollment
 2. Elizabeth Chan stated that if English is chosen as the first language spoken at home, a child would not be placed in a language program; once a child does not get accepted into a Kindergarten program, they are unable to get into any program in the future

3. Jennifer Hu supported Elizabeth Chan's statement on her child not being placed in a dual language class because she indicated that English is the main language spoken at home
 4. Maya Rozenblat asked how parents should communicate to the district that they are interested in getting more classes open
- b.** Marie Brugueras discussed the obstacles on planning a legislative breakfast or afterschool tea
- i. Venues- can only use approved DOE vendors (they would cater, but not host)
 - ii. Inviting all principals and elected officials for the district (approx. 80-90 people)
 - iii. Vito LaBella suggested the Italian American Cultural Center as a venue

IV. Adjourn

- a.** Motion to adjourn-Steve Stowe, Second: Jennifer Hu
 - i. All in favor
- b.** Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Submitted: Natalia Mondesir
Date: January 20, 2022

President Steve Stowe
First Vice President Jennifer Hu
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Council Members
Ghada Amin Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP
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Administrative Assistant: Natalia Mondesir

Community Education Council District 20

January Calendar Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2021

Meeting ID: <https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/87448802025?pwd=NGR5UEJPbEIEL2pCR0NgTzdRRjY2dz09>

Meeting Start Time: 7:02 pm

Present: Steve Stowe, Elizabeth Chan, Vito LaBella, Kevin Zhao, Maya Rozenblat, Li Ping Jiang, Jennifer Hu, Ghada Amin, Joyce Xie, Jona Isufi

Guests: David Pretto, D20 Superintendent; William Chin, D20 Family Leadership Coordinator; Sergey Chuprik, Brooklyn Liaison from the Office of New York City Comptroller Brad Lander; Jaynemie Capetenakis; CSA Representative and P.S. 69 Principal; Holli Sanz, PS 170 Assistant Principal; Yuqing Hong, PS 310 Principal; Brian McCormick;

- I. **Meeting Called to Order:** Steve Stowe, President
 - a. Roll Call: Vito LaBella, Recording Secretary
 - b. Council members introduced themselves

- II. **Old Business**
 - a. Approval of December Calendar Meeting Minutes
 - i. Minutes unanimously approved

- III. **Blue Ribbon Award Recipient**
 - a. Council member Ghada Amin introduced PS 310 Principal, Yuqing Hong
 - i. Principal Hong spoke about PS 310's goals and instruction model
 - ii. Students read essays on their experiences at the school

- IV. **Acknowledgement of the Respect for All Competition Winners**
 - a. PS 170 Assistant Principal Holli Sainz introduced the winners from her school
 - i. Two students shared their winning entries; one poster and one essay
 - b. PS 127 Principal Agatha Alicandro introduced the winner from her school
 - i. One student shared her winning essay
 - c. PS/IS 229 Principal William Kirk introduced the winner from his school
 - i. The student was unable to log in

- V. **Capital Funding Request Ranking**
 - a. Steve Stowe created a preliminary ranking spreadsheet
 - i. Safety/operational issues or requests that are more likely to be approved are located at the top
 - ii. Requests that would be approved as Reso A projects are located at the bottom

- b. Brian McCormick, from the School Construction Authority, listed the funding source for the categories of requests
 - i. Technology requests will be Reso-A projects
 - 1. SCA will renovate libraries and give you computers, but there will be no funding for laptops and carts
 - ii. Bathrooms will be approved with ADA compliance through both SCA and Reso-A
 - iii. Audio upgrades in Auditoriums have a better chance through Reso-A, SCA will renovate the room
 - iv. SCA will replace individual doors if they are broken, but not change all in a single facility the Department of School Facilities (DSF) maintains what is already there
 - v. Water fountains were replaced as part of a separate program, but can be done through Reso-A
- c. Council discussed why the schools made the requests, order of the projects
 - i. Jennifer Hu asked if council members could request to see what needs to be repaired/changed in the schools
 - ii. Ghada Amin shared her and her son's experience with the boys bathroom at PS 102
 - iii. Marie Brugueras described the state of the auditorium seats at PS 48
 - iv. Steve Stowe discussed the remaining requests on the list
 - v. Ghada Amin believes the priority of the requests should focus on safety issues and the state of the bathrooms
 - vi. Vito LaBella stated that it is unconscionable that PS 48 is in such a state because if it was a private [owned] public space, the city would issue violations, the age of the buildings should be taken into consideration
 - vii. Jona Isufi asked if the projects are similar, would it make sense for them to be ranked together
 - viii. Jennifer Hu suggested prioritizing safety and need-based requests because the school might not have had updates in a long time
 - ix. Vito LaBella expressed concern that PS 748 needs air conditioning for the auditorium when it is a relatively new building
- d. Vote on the changes to the order of the requests: Steve Stowe; Second- Vito LaBella

i. Steve Stowe- Yes	vii. Jona Isufi- Yes
ii. Jennifer Hu- Yes	viii. Li Ping Jiang- Yes
iii. Elizabeth Chan- No Response	ix. Maya Rozenblat- No Response
iv. Vito laBella- Yes	x. Joyce Xie- Yes
v. Marie Brugueras- Yes	xi. Kevin Zhao- Yes
vi. Ghada Amin- Yes	
- e. Motion passes with 9 Yes; 0 No, and 2 No Response

VI. Report of Council President

- a. Steve Stowe discussed the District Leadership Team meeting where they started discussing the District Comprehensive Education Plan (DCEP) and incorporating the Chancellor's six areas of focus
- b. PS 160 Principal Margaret Russo quickly shared that her school is doing well and have some events coming up

VII. Public Speaking

- a. No one signed up to speak or raised their hand

VIII. Resolution on School Governance

- a. Steve Stowe introduced a resolution on school governance to start a discussion on changing mayoral control
- b. The flowchart at the end indicates the strength of the relationship between each box

IX. Report of Superintendent

- a. Dr. Preto discussed the plans of new Chancellor David Banks and gave updates about health and safety in the schools and admissions
 - i. Four pillars of success:
 1. Scale, Sustain and Restore What Works
 2. Fully Reimagine The School Experience for Students
 3. Prioritize Health and Wellness and Measure Its Impact
 4. Engage All Parents and Families
 - ii. As of January 10, 2022, there have been 11, 825 student cases and 2,298 staff cases
 1. Test kits have been distributed to each school
 2. The student testing threshold has doubled; calculated on the number of unvaccinated students in each school
 - iii. The admissions period is now open
 1. Kindergarten application deadline is January 18, 2022
 2. Middle School application deadline is February 28, 2022
 3. High School application deadline is February 28, 2022
 4. DOE will phase in a sibling priority for middle school applicants
 - iv. There will be a middle school admissions virtual event on January 20, 25, and 28
 1. The information will be the at each one, but the interpretation services will be different:

Date & Time	Language	Available Interpretation
January 20 5pm-6pm	English	বাংলা Bangla, 한국어 Korean, Español Spanish
January 25 5pm-6pm	English	普通話 Chinese (Mandarin), Kreyòl Ayisyen Haitian-Creole Urdu اردو
January 28 1pm-2pm	English	Français French, Русский Russian, العربية العربية

2. Sign up using the QR code:



- v. DOE will continue to pause screening for fall 2022 middle school applicants
- b. Questions from the council
 - i. Steve Stowe asked if the slides were found on the DOE website; asked if middle schools can still group students by academic ability since they cannot use screenings; asked if Arts off 3rd can still conduct auditions and what is the process of changing a school's admissions criteria; asked if there is ever a threshold of when the weather prevents children from eating lunch outside; asked if staff absences are

- from them testing positive or just out of concern of catching it; asked if there is a new Deputy Chancellor for Admissions
- ii. Vito LaBella asked if Dr. Pretto asked anyone about changing the admissions process, stating that one D20 school has changed from being a zoned school to a screened school; stated that the sibling priority not qualifying for seventh graders would impact families who want to keep their children together and that the admissions team does not want to give preference to students who were screened to get into the school
 - iii. Ghada Amin stated that parents are complaining about being told of positive Coronavirus cases late, stated that children line up close together which may help to spread the virus, questioned the purpose of the Health Screening Form when there are so many cases in the schools
 - iv. Jennifer Hu asked about the status of the staff shortages in D20 compared to the rest of the city, is concerned about the rate of absence affecting the academic goals for the year

X. Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn: Steve Stowe, Second: Jennifer Hu
 - i. All in favor
- b. Meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm

Submitted: Natalia Mondesir

Date: January 20, 2022