



Community Education Council District 20

August Calendar Meeting

Date: Wednesday, August 14th, 2024

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Present: Steve Stowe, Joyce Xie, Yanqing Chen, Meifang Chen, Tamara Stern, John Ricottone, Wenming Chen, Kevin Zhao, Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio, Sabrina Mcnamara, Elizabeth Chan, Ryan Li

Excused:

Unexcused: Maya Rozenblat

I. Meeting Called to Order: John Ricottone, First Vice President

II. Roll Call: Joyce Xie, Recording Secretary

III. New Business

a. Public Speaking Session

A representative from Michael Tannousis' office let the community know they sent a letter to the governor's office to request funding restoration for afterschool programs. A representative from Iwen Chu's office sent letters to NIA, OCFS, and FIAO, requesting transparency surrounding funding. Lester Chang spoke on the loss of the after school program funding and declared that his office will work to address this issue. Parents also raised concerns surrounding the lack of funding for afterschool programs in the district, noting the fact that there are multiple Title 1 schools in D20. Students are missing out on social, emotional, and academic growth. Parents had questions regarding where funds are being allocated to, how approval for funding is processed, and possible solutions.

b. Vote to Approve CEC participation at Asian American Traditional Culture Festival Parade

Steven Stowe - Yes

John Ricottone - Yes

Elizabeth Chan - Yes

Joyce Xie - Yes

Meifang Chen - Yes

Tamara Stern - Yes

Wenming Chen - Yes

Yangqing Chen - Yes

Kevin Zhao - Yes

Maya Rozenblat - Absent

Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio - Yes

Sabrina Mcnamara - Yes

c. Report from Superintendent Pretto

Dr. Pretto introduced CEC 20s new student member, Ryan Li. Currently attending John Dewey High School, Ryan is a former D20 elementary and middle school attendee. Dr. Pretto also provided an overview of D20 Team including personnel from Leadership, Instructional Coaches, Student Services Support, Compliance and Policy Support.

District Goals and Action Plan aligned with the Chancellors Priority. All students learn to read well - implement foundational phonics curricula and strategies with a priority for students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and Hispanic/Latinx students. All students are physically and emotionally safe - develop after infrastructure and systems including staff training, collaboration with external partners, and implementing new physical and mental wellness supports. All students have a high quality academic experience - Strengthening mathematics instruction with a priority for students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and Hispanic/Latinx students. All students graduate college and career ready and have a strong plan and pathway to economic security. All districts and schools are more inclusive and responsive for parents and families, including having more families choose NYC public schools - develop strong partnerships with families through more effective engagement to understand needs.

Council members engaged in conversation with Superintendent Pretto regarding cell phone policy, uniform policy, ASD/Nest program, seats for D75 students, the change from Metrocards to OMNY cards, and addressing the loss of funding

d. First Vice President Report - John Ricottone

CEC 20 has contacted various outlets to inquire about the loss of funding for afterschool programs. No direct and clear answer has been given but we will continue our efforts to find solutions and funding.

e. Office of Student Engagement - Tamara Stern

CEC 20 member, Tamara Stern, attended an info session from OSE. They introduced a new app to ease the process for the high school application process. This app will provide a clearer understanding of the application process. The app will also provide useful information such as a score highlighting the probability of being admitted into the school, means of transportation if the student attends the school, and filtering schools by programs and zones.

f. [Resolution Calling for Restoration of After-School Funding For District 20 Schools](#) - Various schools in District 20 did not receive necessary funding to maintain existing levels of after-school programming for the upcoming academic year 2024-2025. CEC 20 approved a resolution that seeks to understand why the funding was pulled and to ultimately restore the funding.

Steven Stowe - Yes

John Ricottone - Yes

Elizabeth Chan - Yes

Joyce Xie - Yes

Meifang Chen - Yes

Tamara Stern - No Vote

Wenming Chen - No Vote

Yangqing Chen - Yes

Kevin Zhao - Yes

Maya Rozenblat - Absent

Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio - Yes

Sabrina Mcnamara - Yes

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

Calendar Meeting Minutes Approved

V. Adjourn

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

I. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM

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

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

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant