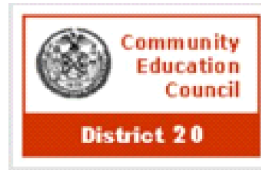


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Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan  
Recording Secretary Vito LaBella  
Treasurer/BBP Appointee Marie Brugueras



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

## Community Education Council District 20

### May Calendar Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, May 10, 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, Ghada Amin

**Excused:**

**Unexcused:**

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

**II. Roll Call:** Vito LaBella, Recording Secretary

### III. New Business

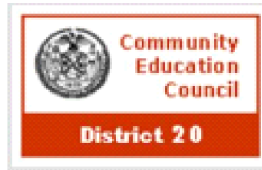
#### a. Presentation from Office of Food & Nutrition Services

- Edward Boamah and Annecia Virgo Shakes, supervisors from the OFNS, presented on their roles, goals of their department, and provided clarity on their organization.
- New York City schools have 25 different menus and over 500 different recipes from different cultures. OFNS serves a majority of NYC public schools, and provides over a million breakfast meals to students.
- OFNS relies heavily on the feedback and needs of the students, schools, and communities such as CEC while also following nutrition regulations from the city, state, and federal level.
- One of the current goals of the OFNS is promoting healthy eating and an initiative they have introduced is Power Plant Fridays and Meatless Mondays, meals that focus on fruits and vegetables and meals without meat.
- CEC members engaged in questions with OFNS, some questions include, the process for requesting specific meals such as Halal food, longevity of their initiatives, process for tracking meals eaten on certain days,

#### b. Presentation from Office of District Planning

- Representatives from the Office of District Planning presented on Seat Needs and New Buildings Recap and Rezoning Overview.
- District 20 has a deficit of approximately 1,900 elementary school seats and an average utilization rate in elementary schools of approximately 109%. Middle schools in D20 have an average utilization rate of approximately 92%. D20 has a deficit of 130 K-8 District 75 seats and the estimated travel distance is among the highest in the borough for these students.
- Four new school buildings are planned to open in September 2024 and are expected to alleviate the aforementioned seating issues.
- The Office of District Planning, Office of Student Development, Superintendents partner with CEC, potentially impacted schools and other community members are set to

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determine the admission process for these new schools such as zoned and non-zoned schools.

- Rezoning in regards to schools, is the process of changing existing school zone lines and/or creating new zones. This process is managed by the ODP and Superintendent in partnership with CECs and school communities. CECs vote on rezoning proposals for their own community,
- By rezoning a district can improve education access and learning conditions and increase diversity. It can alleviate overcrowding and reduce waitlisting students. Factors that impact zone lines include new residential construction, geographical barriers, and travel distance for students.
- ODP bases their proposed zoning lines on historic student residential data, enrollment patterns, school demands, demographics, and school's building capacity.
- The ODP engaged in a discussion and feedback session and addressed questions and comments from the public. These include the inclusion of specialized programs, the reduction of travel distance for students, and initiatives for the new schools to aid non-English speaking students.

**c. Report from Dr. David Pretto**

- **Testing:** Final end of year screener for I-Ready and Acadience Learning is open to students. NYSESLAT, which tests English-language learners on five proficiencies, will begin being administered.
- **District 20 Initiative Events:** Science Olympiad will be held at J.H.S 227 on May 24th and Civics for All Symposium on June 7th.
- **NYC Reads Initiative:** The goal of this city-wide initiative is to address the issue of students reading below grade level. Classroom material is not meeting the needs of the students in regards to their reading curriculum. District 20 will adopt HMH interreading curriculum as this curriculum will address the specific needs of District 20. This specific curriculum can target both advanced and developing readers and has a social emotional learning component. Other reasons for selecting this curriculum includes progress monitoring and comparison to other students, a strong writing component, and project based learning.
- **Comments and Questions from Council/Public:** Clarification of event dates and start time and training sessions for teachers regarding HMH.

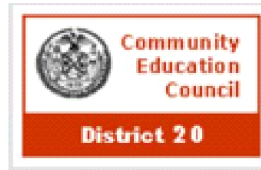
**d. AAPI Presentation**

- Council member, Elizabeth Chan, spoke on Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage month. Notable points include the district's large AAPI population, economic status, and effects of pandemic.
- Council member, Vito LaBella, expanded and spoke out against hate towards other minorities and the need to address it in our schools.

**e. President Announcement**

- Stephen Stowe is a member of a citywide working group to create recommendations for the Class Size Law.

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- 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.
- f. Public Speaking Session:** Members from the public spoke on the admission process, pointing towards the deception they felt regarding the process. Representative from Iwen Chu shared the senators availability and willingness to collaborate with CEC 20. Council members also requested data regarding students' grade percentages. Other members spoke on the need for training programs for NYC school instructors.
- g. Motion to amend By-laws:** Stephen Stowe; Vito LaBella - Second - Motion passes unanimously

In order to increase parent engagement and community input, a public session will be held at the beginning of the meetings instead of towards the end.

#### **IV. Old Business** - Approval of the April 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 8:07 PM

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

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

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant