Community Education Council District 20

February Calendar Meeting

Date: 2/11/26

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Present: John Ricottone, Wenming Chen, Na Lin, Steven Mahoney, Tamara Stern, Ken Li, Kelly Clancy, Alina Lewis, Elizabeth Chan, Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio, Meifang Chen

Excused: Kevin Zhao

Unexcused:

I. Meeting Called to Order: President John Ricottone

II. Roll Call: Administrative Assistant, Kevin Vizhnay

III. New Business

a. **Public Speaking Session**

Council Member Kayla Santosuosso: Introduced herself as the newly elected representative for the district. She announced free tax prep and immigration services at her office (82nd St and 3rd Ave) and free ice skating for kids in Coney Island during mid-winter break. A representative from Council Member Alexa Avilés: Updates were shared regarding her new committee assignments, including Finance, Economic Development, General Welfare, and Immigration. Donovan Swanson, representing the Brooklyn Borough President's Office, noted the February 27th deadline for families to enroll in 3K and Pre-K and offered the Borough President's office as a direct resource for any families requiring assistance with the application process. The office of Alexa Aviles and Borough President noted the deadline for Reso A funding (past)

Superintendent Report

Dr. Pretto announced winners of District 20s Annual Respect for All art competition. Respect for All is a boroug-hwide initiative to foster and maintain safe learning environments that are supportive, inclusive, and free from discrimination, harassment, and intimidation of any kind. Students were recognized for their creative output which included various mediums such as video, artwork, and essays. Early Childhood Enrollment: A reminder was issued that the deadline for 3K and Pre-K applications is February 27th. Members engaged in conversation with Dr. Pretto regarding HMH curriculum, Artificial Intelligence in student teaching, curriculum contracts, parent involvement and student participation, and CEC participation.

b. **Presentation from District 75 Specialized Programs**

Michelle Netzler, Senior Executive Director, Specialized Instruction and Program Development of District 75. Michelle Netzler provided an overview of Specialized

Programs in community schools (D1-32) which include Nest, Horizon, Acquisition, Integrated Services, Meaningful Communication, and Social Skills (AIMS), Academic, Career, and Essential Skills (ACES), and Bilingual Special Education (BSE). CEC members, Superintendent Pretto, and Netzler engaged in conversation regarding District 20 programs, seats, teaching structure, and program involvement.

c. Presentation from New York Safe Streets Coalition

Rose Uscianowski, Staten Island and South Brooklyn Organizer of Transportation Alternatives, provided a presentation from New York Safe Streets Coalition. In response to recent safety incidents, CEC 20 invited a representative from the Safe Streets Coalition which advocates for passage and implementation of a set of life-saving bills that will address the crisis on our roadways. This includes discussing physical safety (traffic and street layout) to ensure that students can travel to and from school without fear of traffic accidents.

d. Resolution 6 - Ensure Fair and Reliable Transit Access for All NYC Students

John Ricottone - Yes

Elizabeth Chan - Yes

Wenming Chen - Yes

Na Lin - Yes

Meifang Chen - Yes

Steven Mahoney - Abstain

Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio - Yes

Tamara Stern - Yes

Ken Li - Yes

Alina Lewis - Yes

Kevin Zhao - Excused

Kelly Clancy - Yes

IV. Old Business - Approval of the January 2026 Calendar Minutes

Calendar Meeting Minutes Approved

V. Adjourn

a. Motion to adjourn - Elizabeth Chan, Second Alina Lewis

I. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 PM

The full meeting recording is available here: YouTube

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant