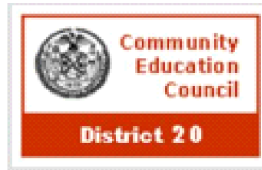


President Steve Stowe  
First Vice President Jennifer Hu  
Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan  
Recording Secretary Vito LaBella  
Treasurer/BBP Appointee Marie Bruguera



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

## Community Education Council District 20

### September Calendar Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, September 14, 2022

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:00 pm

**Present:** Steve Stowe, Elizabeth Chan, Marie Bruguera, Ghada Amin, Li Ping Jiang, Maya Rozenblat, Joyce Xie, Kevin Zhao, Jennifer Hu

**Excused:** Vito LaBella, Jona Isufi

**Guests:** City Councilmember Alexa Aviles, Donovan Swanson - Borough President Office, Sergey Chuprik - Comptroller Office, Susan Zhuang - office of State Assemblyman William Colton; District 20 Superintendent Dr. David Pretto, Deputy Superintendent Dr. Joseph O'Brien, Family Leadership Coordinator Bill Chin, Family Support Coordinator Sylwia Jasinski, UFT Representative Ariel Arroyo, CSA Representative Jaynemie Capetenakis,

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

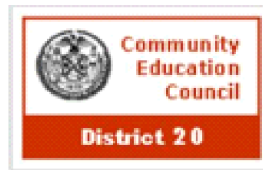
**a. Roll Call:** Steve Stowe, President

### II. New Business

- a. Report of Superintendent Dr. David Pretto** - discussed his priorities for the upcoming year including ....; Dr Pretto recently held a meeting with the NYPD precincts covering District 20; any incidents should be reported to 911 for criminal activity or 311 for complaints; harassment is a crime; if submitted online, can include pictures; hate crimes are low using CompStat data but suspected many incidents go unreported; every precinct has a Neighborhood Community Officer and a Youth Community Officer; the District expects to have a website online in the near term;
- b. Councilmember Alexa Aviles** - despite City Council resolution asking for reinstatement of \$469 million in funding reductions, the Mayor has not responded; the court appeal will begin at the end of the month; deeply disturbed about the resolution calling for the reinstatement of academic screens which are discriminatory; all children should get quality education; urges the Council to vote no on the resolution and look more deeply into the data;
- c. President Steve Stowe** - commented on the Career Readiness and Modern Youth Apprenticeship program announced this week by Mayor; shared data showing District 20's very low placement rate in middle and high school admissions under the lottery-based system;
- d. By laws** - Introduced a proposed by-law reform to eliminate a line requiring the CEC to hold meetings in schools accessible to disabled. The change would better align with the rest of the by-laws, state law and allow the Council to utilize all District facilities.
- e. Public speaking** -

President  
 First Vice President  
 Second Vice President/IEP Rep  
 Recording Secretary  
 Treasurer/BBP Appointee

Steve Stowe  
 Jennifer Hu  
 Elizabeth Chan  
 Vito LaBella  
 Marie Brugueras



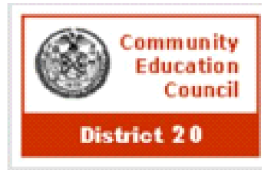
Council Members  
 Ghada Amin  
 Jona Isufi  
 Li Ping Jiang  
 Maya Rozenblat-ELL REP  
 Joyce Xie  
 Kevin Zhao-BBP Appoint

- a. Maria Garcia - believes the District changed the admissions policies at MS 936 without being aware of the issues impacting the community
- b. Susan Zhuang - AM Colton working to restore funding to school budgets; Colton's office offering free workshops to improve reading and writing
- c. Michelle Magnuss - lowering standards does not provide equity; support for all kids; would like more info on proposed programs, for example the STEM initiative;
- d. Donovan Swanson - education policy analyst from BP Reynoso's Office. Will be trying to attend CEC meetings regularly. Also connecting with Superintendent Pretto. BP priorities include equity, civic engagement, literacy and restorative justice.
- e. Yiatin Chu - supports reinstating screens in middle and high school admissions
- f. Al Suhu - supports resolution on reinstating screens
- g. Vincent Lu - noted the lower placement rates for Asian students under the current system in stating support for merit-based admissions
- h. Yesmenia Placencia - opposes screens as many families will not have the resources or time to do things like pay private tutoring for kids to prepare for the tests
- i. Effi Zachery - screening helps run programs more efficiently and ensures students are matched to their correct learning level
- j. Yifang Chen - families may consider leaving the system if the lottery is renewed

**f. Resolutions** - Council discussed and voted on 2 resolutions

- a. Vote on COVID-19 Mandate Resolution
  - i. Stowe - Yes
  - ii. Hu - No
  - iii. Chan - Yes
  - iv. Brugueras - Yes
  - v. Zhao - Yes
  - vi. Jiang - Yes
  - vii. Xie - Yes
  - viii. Rozenblatt - Yes
  - ix. Amin - Yes
- b. Vote on Middle and High School Admission Reforms
  - i. Stowe - Yes

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

- ii. Hu - Yes
- iii. Chan - Yes
- iv. Brugueras - Yes
- v. Zhao - Yes
- vi. Jiang - Yes
- vii. Xie - Yes
- viii. Rozenblatt - Yes
- ix. Amin - Yes

### **III. Adjourn**

a. Motion to adjourn-Steve Stowe, Second: Jennifer Hu

1. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

The full video recording is available here: [September 2022](#)

The Complete written Transcript is available here: [Transcript CEC 20 General Meeting 09 14 2022.pdf](#)  
[Opens in a new browser tab](#)

Submitted by Steve Stowe, President