

f. Vote to Approve the K053 Proposed Zoning Lines

Steven Stowe - Yes

John Ricottone - Yes

Elizabeth Chan - Yes

Joyce Xie - Yes

Meifang Chen - Yes

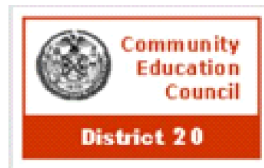
Tamara Stern - Yes

Wenming Chen - Not Present

Yangqing Chen - Yes

Kevin Zhao - Not Present

Maya Rozenblat - Yes



Community Education Council District 20

November Calendar Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 8, 2023

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 PM

Present: Steve Stowe, Joyce Xie, Elizabeth Chan, Wenming Chen, Yanqing Chen, Meifang Chen, Tamara Stern, John Ricottone, Maya Rozenblat

Excused:

Unexcused: Kevin Zhao

I. Meeting Called to Order: Steve Stowe, President

II. Roll Call: Joyce Xie, Recording Secretary

III. New Business

a. Opening Remarks

Principal Mandel welcomed CEC 20 and the community to P.S. 205. Dr. David Pretto announced that starting in the school year 2024, P.S. 939 will have an ASD/Nest Program with an initial start in the Kindergarten grade level. In the coming years, these programs will expand into other grade levels. Senator Iwen Chu spoke on the recent incidents surrounding school safety and reminded the community that her office resources are always available.

b. Public Speaking Session 1

In response to the announcement of P.S. 939's new programs, a representative from the Office of councilmember Alexa Aviles requests more community engagement with the DOE. Noting that while the addition of these programs

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should be celebrated, extreme actions were taken to do so. A member from the public spoke on the repair needs for the playgrounds at P.S. 205. Other members also shared their appreciation of the ASD/Nest programs at P.S. 939 but also mentioned the need for these programs in middle schools. The need for a D75 representative was mentioned by a member of the public.

c. Report from Superintendent Dr. David Pretto

MS407 Project Director Introduction: Stephen Lombardo, the director of Middle School 407 introduced himself and background information of this school. Stephen Lombardo has worked in District 20 for over 13 years and has extensive experience with STEAM, Special Education, and Art programs. MS407 will be the premier medical and STEAM school in District 20 with a strong focus on engineering, medicine, and science. Some course offerings include, STEAM project based learning, drama, interactive media, and social/emotional learning.

District 20 Accelerated Learning Structure for SY 2024 - 2025: Based on research, community feedback and professional development with schools, accelerated learning programs have been designed. This includes the Gifted & Talented Programs for elementary school Superintendent program and the Algebra Honors program which will be introduced to middle schools

District 20 2023 - 2024 Bullying/Suicide Ideation Action Plan: District 20 has several mandated yearly trainings for specific school staff, this includes, Respect for All Liaison, Child Abuse Liaison, Sexual Harrasement Liaison, Crisis Team Leaer, and Suicide Prevention Liaison. There is a larger District 20 Support Team that connects with students and schools. Social and guidance counselors are given monthly training which includes individual progress review, ASD student support, students in temporary housing, and at-risk students. Other programs and initiatives include Creating Suicide Safety in Schools (CSSS), Therapeutic Crisis Intervention in Schools (TCIS), and Child Mind Institute Partnership. Parents whose child is being bullied should report the incident to the RFA liaison and/or the school administrator. Parents are also eligible to seek assistance from escalation staff to coordinate the completion of an open investigation. Once a

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student returns to school following an assistance program, the Re-entry Restorative Circles program is in place to welcome students back to the school community. Council members asked questions regarding when student transfers are utilized, students have a right to attend the school they are enrolled in and only the parents can request a transfer and when escalation services are utilized.

Civics for All - Hidden Voices AAPI Curriculum Release: This project focuses on teaching students about diverse influential historical figures that are often hidden from traditional historic records. This project aims to help students better understand the factors that contributed to the birth, growth, and development of the nation. A recently released curriculum is Hidden Voices: Asian American and Pacific Islanders in United States History

d. Report of Council President

President Stowe updated the community regarding the Class Size Working Group and shared his concerns about the effects this law will have in District 20. While smaller class sizes are attractive, schools in District 20 are already overcrowded with limited facilities. Limiting class sizes will mandate certain students to attend schools out of their zone. The law will also impact budgeting and may force some schools to cap enrollment. The research behind the benefits of smaller class sizes is limited.

Councilmember Tamara Stern asked to have an advocate from the Class Size Working Group to present at the next meeting to share their perspective on the potential impact this law will have in District 20 schools.

e. Public Speaking Session 2

A member from the public shared an initiative at J.H.S. 62 which provides students the ability to “purchase” thrifted clothes (not monetary) and would like organize a coat drive to support J.H.S. 62. A charter school is looking at potential spaces in District 20.

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Calendar Meeting Minutes unanimously approved

V. Adjourn

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

I. All in favor

b. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

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

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

Submitted by Kevin Vizhnay, Administrative Assistant