



# Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

239 Lido Blvd., Long Beach, NY 11561 • 516-897-2175 • www.lbcta.com

## Executive Board Minutes

November 28, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm by Keith Harvey.

### I. President's Report—Keith Harvey

#### A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

12/12/22, 1/9/23, 1/23/23, 2/13/23, 3/13/23, 3/27/23, 4/24/23, 5/8/23, 5/22/23, 6/13/23

#### B. Long Beach Food Pantry Donation

At this year's Superintendent's Conference Day, we were able to start collecting donations for our Long Beach Food Pantry to assist with holiday meals in our community. Thank you to everyone that donated.



#### C. Toy Drive 2022

This year we will continue with our annual toy drive by continuing to collect money through gift cards, cash and Venmo @Keith-Harvey-20. Cash and gift card donations can be given to your union reps or sent directly to me at the Middle School.



Keith Harvey  
@Keith-Harvey-20



#### D. New York State Teachers Retirement System (NYSTRS) Seminar

The LBCTA will be hosting a NYSTRS Seminar towards the end of January. The date will follow in a separate email. This seminar is intended to provide NYSUT TRS Members with a broad overview of our defined benefit pension plan. Additional topics that will be discussed:

- The System
- Benefit Profile
- Disability Retirement
- Credit for Prior Service
- Pension Calculation
- Resigning & Retiring
- Pension Options
- Getting Paid & Paying Taxes
- COLA & Working in Retirement
- Prepare Now for Retirement

You may want to have a copy of your latest NYSTRS Benefit Profile which is mailed to you every November and can also be accessed as a pdf on your MyNYSTRS account, most recent paystub, and any questions.

These programs are only intended for members of the New York

Keith Harvey  
*President*

Karen Bloom  
*Executive Vice President*

Beth Prostick  
*Vice President for  
Elementary Schools*

Amy Leder  
*Vice President for  
Secondary Schools*

Patricia Van Loon  
*Recording Secretary*

Ellen Parks  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Jonathan Bloom  
*Treasurer*

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State Teachers Retirement such as Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Psychologists, Social Workers, Teaching Assistants, and Administrators

#### **E. First Eligible Retirement Incentive**

If you are considering retiring in June, under the terms of our first eligible retirement incentive, you must notify the district of your intention by January 17, 2023. First eligible means that you are able to retire without an age or service reduction. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, you can look at your NYSTRS Benefit Profile or contact NYSTRS directly at; NYSTRS website- <https://nystrs.org/Retirement-Planning> NYSTRS Number - (800) 348-7298.

#### **F. Study Money Dates - Reminder**

There are two more opportunities to participate in the Study Program. Winter – Friday, December 9, 2022 and Summer – Friday, May 12, 2023. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. The application is available online at [Request for Participation in Study Program— Group A](#).



#### **G. Coaching Pay Dates**

Below are the payroll dates for coaches for 2022-23 school year:

##### **High School**

Winter: First Check: 12/23, Second Check: 2/17

Spring: First Check: 4/14, Second Check: 5/12

##### **Middle School**

Winter I: First Check: 12/9, Second Check: 1/20

Winter II: First Check: 2/17, Second Check: 3/17

Spring: First Check: 4/28, Second Check: 6/9

## **II. Committees**

### **A. Grievance Committee—Karen Bloom**

1. There are no grievances to report at this time.
2. Please contact me if you have any issues that you feel are a violation of our contract.

### **B. New Members—Alison Katulka**

1. Please save the date for the 6th Annual Bowling Fundraiser on March 30th at Maples Lanes in RVC. This event is a lot of fun and we encourage new members to take part. You can form a team, join a team, or participate in the many raffles held during the event. It is a fun and worthwhile event!
2. We are currently exploring dates for our Spring New Member gathering. Please check your emails for a “Save the Date”. Remember, all new members, buddies, and mentors are welcome to join us.
3. If you know of a new member who is in need of a buddy please email me at [akatulka@lbeach.org](mailto:akatulka@lbeach.org)

### **C. Political Action Committee—Jennifer Garrett**

1. It is important that PAC has a way to contact members to disseminate information in a timely fashion. Please email [LBCTAPAC@gmail.com](mailto:LBCTAPAC@gmail.com) with an active personal email address so the contact list can be updated.
2. As always, please feel free to share your ideas on how LBCTA PAC can better serve our members. You can email your thoughts to [LBCTAPAC@gmail.com](mailto:LBCTAPAC@gmail.com).

### **D. Public Relations Committee—Amy Leder and Beth Prostick**

1. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo Keith @Keith-Harvey-20. Thank you.
2. Please consider attending the LBMS Drama this weekend, “Once Upon A Time.” The show will be December 1st & 2nd in the LBMS Auditorium starting at 7 pm. Please click [here](#) to buy tickets.

3. A friendly reminder that this year's club stipends will be paid in two payments, like coaching; one payment on the payday nearest to half-way through, and the second payment on the payday nearest to the end of the club term/season. This means if you are a seasonal club, you will be paid twice during your season. All other clubs will be paid half the stipend in the 12/9/22 check, and half in the 5/12/23 check.
4. Save the date for our annual Bowling Fundraiser! Thursday, March 30, 2023! We are looking for new local organizations to donate to. Please send your suggestions to Amy or Beth. Start thinking about your building themed raffle baskets now. They are always a huge hit.



#### **E. Social Committee—Elleen Parks**

1. We would appreciate it if everyone can please fill out the Google form to give us information on how to proceed with the planning of our End of the Year celebration. It would be appreciated if this can be completed by December 9th.

#### **F. Long Beach Teacher Center—John Marr**

1. The Teacher Center is currently working on a needs assessment with the district to determine the direction of PD for next year. Please consider filling out the survey when it arrives within the next two months.
2. If you have heard of any engaging PD opportunities, please let us know or if you are interested in running PD please contact the director at [lbtc@lbeach.org](mailto:lbtc@lbeach.org).

### **III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom**

- A. We are hoping that our central office administrators will reconsider having a midterm week at the High School, especially considering the recent push to use and value data from testing. We cannot provide exams that simulate Regents, IB or AP tests if we do not have the time to administer and grade them.

#### **B. APPR**

1. You should have received your form stating who your evaluators are.
2. Please take an active role in the observation process. Keep in mind that the Danielson framework that we use is based on best practice and observable measures. You should not see opinions from your evaluation team. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.
3. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
4. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

#### **C. Health & Safety**

1. **HS Pool:** The district installed a new pool boiler a couple of months ago but they are having malfunctions that they believe are manufacturer defects. Our mechanics are doing their best to work around the malfunctions and the service people have visited and are due to return on Monday.
2. **HS Sewer Back-up:** There was a major sewage backup on Wednesday, 11/23 that required bathrooms on the 1st and parts of the 2nd floor to be closed as well as water being shut off in multiple areas in the high school on Monday, 11/28. A class had to be relocated due to the smell emanating while fixing the sewers. Although the situation was resolved around 9:00 am, it seems that a delayed opening would have been an easy fix, as the company was not able to arrive until about 7:30 am, as students and staff were arriving to work. The next meeting date is January 5, 2023. The last one is April 20th, 2023. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at [kbloom@lbeach.org](mailto:kbloom@lbeach.org).

**D. Other**

1. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
2. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at [www.lbcta.com](http://www.lbcta.com).

**IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools' Report—Beth Prostick**

- A. Parent Conferences are coming up. Please be reminded that they are virtual.
- B. Please consider donating to our annual toy drive.
- C. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
- D. If you have any questions or concerns that you were unable to work out at your building, I can be reached at [bprostick@lbeach.org](mailto:bprostick@lbeach.org).

**V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Leder**

- A. Save the date for our annual Bowling Fundraiser! Thursday, March 30, 2023! We are looking for new local organizations to donate to. Please send your suggestions to Amy or Beth. Start thinking about your building themed raffle baskets now. They are always a huge hit.



- B. Below are the payroll dates for coaches for 2022-23 school year:

**High School**

Winter: First Check: 12/23, Second Check: 2/17  
Spring: First Check: 4/14, Second Check: 5/12

**Middle School**

Winter I: First Check: 12/9, Second Check: 1/20  
Winter II: First Check: 2/17, Second Check: 3/17  
Spring: First Check: 4/28, Second Check: 6/9

- C. A friendly reminder that this year's club stipends will be paid in two payments, like coaching; one payment on the payday nearest to half-way through, and the second payment on the payday nearest to the end of the club term/season. This means if you are a seasonal club, you will be paid twice during your season. All other clubs will be paid half the stipend in the 12/9/22 check, and half in the 5/12/23 check.
- D. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo Keith @Keith-Harvey-20 Thank you.
- E. Please continue to communicate with your building reps about new and old items that are a concern to you. We encourage you to also keep the lines of communication open with administration about any personal issues and/or items you feel comfortable discussing with them.

**VI. Treasurer's Report—Jonathan Bloom**

- A. As the month has not ended yet, the November financial results will be reported in the minutes of our December 12th Executive Board meeting.
- B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank and try to attend an upcoming School Board Meeting. Thank you for reading the minutes and please encourage your fellow members to do the same.
- C. Union dues for 2022/2023 for full-time members will remain at \$1,022.76. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$239.76 AFT dues and \$8 for PTA membership. \$102.28 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "Dues-Teachers". We are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.



## **VII. Building Reports**

### **A. West School**

1. Congratulations to Jessica Donato on her engagement to Terry.
2. Thank you to Dan Bailey and Bryan Rosen for organizing a terrific Turkey Trot. The students had a great time!
3. West School STEAM Night was a great success! Thank you to Hannah Gallo for organizing and all the teachers who coordinated activities for the students and their families.
4. Thank you to Anne LaPenna, Chelsea Way, Dana Wachter and Vanessa Krywe. Our Kindergarten Friendsgiving event was AMAZING. The Kindergarteners sang songs, recited poems, and completed a centerpiece with family members to celebrate the fall holiday. Everyone was sent home with a placemat and centerpiece to decorate their family holiday.
5. We want to thank our PTA for our monthly Book Swap during the lunch periods. The students truly enjoy trading in books for the love of reading.
6. Save the date for our LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, 3/30/2023.
7. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

### **B. Lindell School**

1. Congratulations to Phil Cabasino and his wife on the birth of their son, Crew Thomas.
2. Lindell's Balloons Over Broadway was a wonderful way to kick off the 4 day Thanksgiving weekend. The students made amazing balloon characters to parade around the building.
3. Thank you to Dr. Pullara and Ms. McGovern for the delicious breakfast treats on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving break.
4. The SEL Families gathered to read "My Gratitude Jar" by Kristin Wiens. Gratitude jars full of grateful notes and quotes were made by each family.
5. Please consider donating a day to the CTA sick bank.
6. Please consider donating to the toy drive. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo Keith @Keith-Harvey-20. Thank you.

### **C. East School**

1. Thank you to Edward Courtney for creating the fun Fall Festive Week calendar.
2. If you would like to donate to the LBCTA toy drive please Venmo Keith Harvey @Keith-Harvey-20. If you prefer to donate cash or gift cards, they may be given to your building reps.
3. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
4. Save the date for the annual bowling fundraiser on March 30th at the RVC Lanes.

### **D. Lido School**

1. Please consider donating to the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You can give cash or gift cards to one of the Building Reps or Venmo Keith @Keith-Harvey-20. Any contribution would be greatly appreciated.
2. Staff members enjoyed participating in the Thanksgiving Luncheon Feast with delicious foods, treats, and great conversations amongst all in attendance.
3. Congratulations to Lynda D'Alessio on her retirement. Wishing her all the best as she will be missed by the Lido School family of students and staff.
4. Save the date for our LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, 3/30/2023.
5. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

### **E. Pre-K**

1. Thank you to the Pre-K PTA for our book fair.
2. Thank you to the Lido staff for the lovely Thanksgiving meal, it was delicious!
3. Thank you to those who donated for the LBCTA food drive.
4. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA toy drive. The toys will be distributed locally to children in need. You may make a donation through cash or gift card to your building reps or through Venmo @Keith-Harvey-20.
5. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.

### **F. LBMS**

1. Thank you again to everyone for successful Parent Teacher Conferences! After much discussion with building administration, we look forward to having a set allocation of time for teachers to adequately prepare. Also, we look forward to future discussions to better streamline the scheduling process.
2. Thank you to Mr. Gartung, National Junior Honor Society, and all that donated to our holiday food drive. Many boxes of food were collected and donated to the local food bank.
3. On 11/15/22, LBMS students had the pleasure to Zoom with several NASA employees that promoted the message that employment at NASA is diverse and for everyone! Special thanks to Mrs. Espinet for organizing this opportunity for our students. Mrs. Espinet, Mrs. Nurse, and Mr. Van Nostrand did a great job emceeding this event. Also, thank you to our Science dept., Mrs. Tursi and Dr. Kiley-Rendon for helping to make this event a success!
4. On 11/23/22, our ELL classes held their annual Thanksgiving celebration. This is a special celebration as some of our ELLs were celebrating their first Thanksgiving in the United States! Special thanks to Mrs. Delany and Mrs. Salazar for organizing this wonderful event.
5. Congratulations to Wally Kramme on his marriage to Nicole.
6. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. We will continue to collect funds via cash or Venmo @Keith-Harvey-20. Cash and gift card donations can also be given to your building union reps.
7. Save the date for our 6th Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, March 30, 2023.
8. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating if you have not done so already.

### **G. LBHS**

1. Congratulations to all coaches and athletes for a successful fall sports season.
2. Congratulations to the cast and crew of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and to Mr. Hue on a very entertaining production.
3. Thank you to everyone that supported the PTSA fashion show. It was a successful night. Thank you Mrs. Bloom for all of your hard work in the planning of this event.
4. The HS Staff is still concerned about the impact of the district's decision to eliminate the midterm exam week in January. This week was instrumental in allowing for the students to have longer exams that served as valuable practice in preparing students for their Regents, AP, and IB Exams. It is impossible to provide these exams during the regular school day.

5. In the interest of school safety and security, staff would like to see the district require students to wear student ID cards during the school day.
6. We would like the district to explore and fix the causes of sewage backing up into the ground floor classrooms. Aside from obvious health concerns, it becomes very problematic when several bathrooms throughout the building need to be closed during the school day because of sewage issues.
7. We are appreciative of the continuing open dialog between administration and the building reps and hope that the actions that result improve the quality of teaching and learning in the building.
8. Save the date for the LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at the RVC Lanes on Thursday, March 30th.
9. Please consider serving on a district committee.
10. Please consider donating to the LBCTA toy drive via Venmo to Keith Harvey @KeithHarvey-20.
11. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.

#### **VIII. New Business**

- A. A motion was made by Amy Leder to donate to the LBCTA Toy Drive. It was seconded by Karen Bloom. The motion passed unanimously.

At 4:55 pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by John Marr.

#### **In Attendance:**

**West:** Anne LaPenna

**Lindell:** Susan Simons, Cathleen Barone, Heather Puckhaber

**East:** Jennifer Diamond, Melissa Canner

**Lido:** Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti

**Pre-K:** Molly Drake

**LBMS:** Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, John Marr, Grace Parisi

**LBHS:** Lisa Casey, Anthony Balsamo, Pamela Bankey, Camila Gamboa

**Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC):** John Marr

**Retiree Representative:** Frank Volpe


**Executive Officers:** Keith Harvey, Karen Bloom, Beth Prostick, Amy Leder, Patricia Van Loon, Elleen Parks, Jonathan Bloom

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

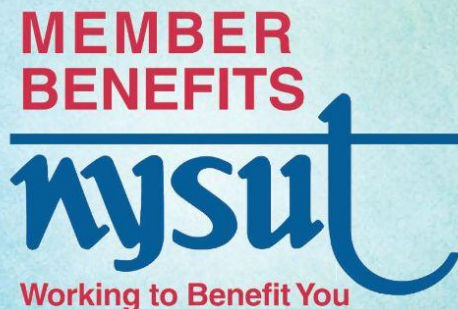


Life is complicated. NYSUT Member Benefits can help.

# PEER SUPPORT LINE



The Peer Support Line is a new service available through NYSUT Member Benefits that's offered at no cost to all NYSUT members and their families.



The Peer Support Line can help with:

- Finding mental health services or support groups
- Answering questions about Medicare and Medicaid
- Managing work-related stress
- Providing support to new members
- Sourcing elder care or caregiving services
- Assisting with marital, relationship or child rearing concerns
- Reducing feelings of isolation and loneliness

The Peer Support Line is a partnership between NYSUT Member Benefits and Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care.

For more information or assistance, call toll-free 844-444-0152.

Nov/Dec 2022