



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

May 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:20pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Date

6/14/21

B. LBCTA End of Year Celebration

Please join us as we celebrate the end of the 2020-21 school year and honor our 2020 and 2021 retirees on June 9. Click on this [link](#) for more information.



C. Board of Education and Budget Vote

Thank you to the Long Beach community for passing the School Budget. Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his reelection, and welcome to the newly elected School Board Trustee Alexis Pace.

D. Long Island Teacher Benevolent Fund- Scholarship

I am pleased to announce that two of our member's children were awarded the Len Motisi Memorial Scholarship. Congratulations to Michael Van Loon, son of Patty Van Loon and Cole Parenti, son of Lori Parenti.

E. Remote Snow Days

As you know this year, on our third snow day, we were able to utilize our remote learning model as part of the NYSED, 2020-21 School Year COVID-19 Snow Day Pilot Program.

As part of the Department's ongoing efforts to provide districts with flexibility in meeting local needs, the Department is extending the pilot through the 2021-22 school year to enable school districts to pivot to remote instruction on what would otherwise be a day of school closure due to weather and non-weather emergencies, including but not limited to snow, floods, tornadoes, and building fires. With the approval of the LBCTA Executive Board and the School District, we will continue to utilize this model for the 2021-22 school year. This means that for our third snow day and all subsequent snow days we will provide remote instruction for our students as per the NYSED guidance issued May 2021.

F. APPR and Tenure Legislation-Passes Both Houses of the Legislature

On Wednesday, the Assembly passed the APPR/Tenure bill, which the Senate passed last week. The bill that has passed both houses ([S.5576-C](#) (Mayer)/[A.6750-B](#) (Benedetto)) ensures that educators

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

Elleen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

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are not subject to APPR this school year, creates a process for educators appointed between 2017-18 and this year, to be granted tenure, and ensures school districts will not be harmed financially for not conducting APPR this year. NYSUT is working with other education stakeholders and the governor's office to expedite action on this bill. This will go into effect once the bill has been delivered to and signed by the Governor. Above are links to the bills so you can track their progress.

G. Union Sick Bank

Thank you very much to all who have donated so far. Unfortunately, the bank currently has more requests than days available, leaving the bank at zero. Please consider making a donation to help fill those requests. The bank runs on our members' generosity. [Donation Form](#)

H. Annual Turn-In of Sick Days

If you have accumulated at least 75 sick days and wish to exercise your option of selling back unused sick days earned this year (up to 12 or 14 if you worked at Summer School) you must submit a "[Request for Payment in Exchange for Accumulated Unused Sick Days](#)" form to Dr. Natali's office. The rate is \$97.08 per day. Please be aware that you can accumulate up to 200 days in your sick day bank. Any days in excess of 200 should be sold back to the district or donated to the Sick Bank.

I. Study Money Dates

Those who applied for the May 14th summer study money will be notified shortly of their approval status. Looking ahead to next year the tuition reimbursement dates will be Fall-10/1/21, Winter-12/10/21, and Summer-5/13/22. The application is available online at [Request for Participation in Study Program— Group A](#).

J. Pay Options

Each year you have three pay options:

21 equal bi-weekly payments (September through June)

25 payments; 21 payments (September through June)

+ 4 payments on the last day of school

26 payments; you will receive 1/26 of your annual salary every two weeks from the first pay date in September through the last pay date in June when you will receive the remaining paychecks as separate checks, all dated June 30, which you may deposit at any time from June to August. Direct deposit will not be available for the last six paychecks.

All deductions will be spread out over the 26 pay checks.

To elect an option other than the one you currently have; you must enroll prior to June 30 and the new option may not be changed until the start of the following school year. The form is available online at: [Pay Options](#)

K. Packing and Unpacking

If you are directed to pack up your room in anticipation of construction, summer school or summer camp you are entitled to be compensated for your efforts. The rate is \$25.91 per hour. However, your claim cannot exceed \$100. The work must be done outside of the school day and a record kept of the dates and times.

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. Negotiation Committee - Chief Negotiator's Report - Keith Harvey

1. The committee met with the district on May 5, to exchange demands and have the next meeting scheduled for May 27.

C. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. After several discussions and investigations, we have decided that it was not possible to set up a new member gathering in June. We will be looking to have an in person gathering at the beginning of next school year. Keep the date of October 1st open! Keep reading the minutes!
2. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org. Please contact us if you do not have a buddy or mentor. Do not be afraid to ask questions. There are many people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. Thank you to all who came out and voted YES to approve our school district budget.
2. Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his re-election and to Alexis Pace on her election to the Board of Education.
3. Thank you to all members that helped endorse our school district budget.
4. 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.

E. Public Relations – Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. Congratulations to Mr. Malizia and the Business Department for hosting a successful Business Olympics. First place honors went to LBHS students for their project, “Long Beach Sweepstakes.” More details about their venture can be viewed on the team’s website, <https://digitalmattl.wixsite.com/website>.
2. Congratulations to Mr. Krywe and his Television Studio Production students who participated and hosted the annual Broadcasting Awards from the LBHS studio.
3. Save the date... Sunday, October 17th, 2021 is the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Jones Beach. As of right now, the walk is going to be back in person on the Jones Beach Boardwalk. Our team LBCTA 11561 is already registered and our donation page is set-up to start receiving donations. <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/LBCTA11561>

F. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. Our end of the year celebration will take place at JJ Cooper's on June 9th at 5:30 (if we have enough participants). Please make sure you reply by **Thursday, May 27th**. This year's live music and hors d'oeuvres are sure to be memorable. We are hoping many of our members will join us to honor our retirees!
2. Hoping everyone has a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day weekend and takes a few moments from their busy lives to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

G. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. The LBTC is currently working on offering some virtual classes over the summer. We will send an email when the classes are posted. If anyone is interested in running a summer class please contact the director at lbtc@lbeach.org.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

A. We would like to thank the community for passing the school board budget and capital project proposition. Congratulations to Sam Pinto and Alexis Pace! We are looking forward to working together!

B. APPR

1. In the next few weeks we should get more information about APPR and whether or not it will be waived this year. See Mr. Harvey’s report for more details.
2. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
3. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

C. Health & Safety Committee

1. As we are approaching concert and graduation season, we are looking forward to being able to share these occasions with families. We were assured that all COVID guidelines will be

followed and that proof of negative test or vaccination will be required to attend, unless guidelines change before the events take place.

2. Potholes at the high school are continually an issue. More material will be ordered to attempt to fix them again until the summer work is completed.
3. The community approved the Capital Projects Proposition, so work can begin at the high school this summer!
4. Please continue to keep your building reps aware of any health and safety issues in your buildings so that we can address them as needed.
5. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

D. Other

1. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible. They are back to being in-person! Come join us!
2. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Elementary Vice President – Beth Prostick

- A. Our start time for next year is 8:55-3:40. The students will begin dismissal at 3:30 and the buses should be pulling away by 3:40. We will continue to get our professional period as stated in our contract.
- B. The Elementary Building rep election will take place on May 27. You will receive the ballot in your school email as a google form. The ballots will be available from 9:00 am -12:30 pm.
- C. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
- D. Please send me any issues you are unable to work out at your building. I can be reached at bprostick!@lbeach.org

V. Secondary Vice President – Amy Leder

- A. The Secondary Building rep election will take place on May 27. You will receive the ballot in your school email as a Google form. The ballots will be available from 7:45am - 11:00 am.
- B. Please send me any issues you are unable to work out at your building. I can be reached at aleder@lbeachg.org.
- C. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.

VI. Treasurer’s Report – James Fiola

- A. As the month has not ended, the May financial results will be reported at our June 14th Executive Board meeting.

Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his reelection and Alexis Pace on her election to the Long Beach School Board. I hope everyone has an enjoyable Memorial Day weekend.

I encourage everyone to attend the Union Year End gathering on June 9th at JJ Coopers.

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.

If you have any changes to your personal file (address, name, etc.), please email them to me at jfiola@lbeach.org.

- B. Union dues for 2020/2021 for full-time members will be \$1,017.96. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$234.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$101.80 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column “MDED-03.” 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.

The 2020 union dues for tax purposes for full time members was \$1,018.

VII. Building Reports

A. LBVE

1. Thank you to Sonique Graham & her husband for setting up the LBVE T-shirt shop. Staff and students are able to purchase the limited edition LBVE T-shirt until May 31, 2021. Thank you Deb Cupani for the original logo design. Thank you to Stephanie Portillo for arranging the link and idea for LBVE School T-shirts. <https://lbve2021.itemorder.com/sale>
2. Thank you to Amanda Betz and Lisa Pignataro for the “ABC Countdown to Summer 2021 Calendar”. The students are having a great time celebrating the remaining days of the school year.
3. As the virtual students take the final round of NWEA without the physical presence of a classroom teacher, we have concerns with the efficacy of the results and how it can or will be used.
4. Thank you to the Long Beach Community for passing the school budget. Congratulations to Sam Pinto and Alexis Pace on being elected to their seats on the School Board.
5. Please join us for the LBCTA End of the Year Celebration at J.J. Coopers on June 9th at 5:30 PM.
6. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.

B. West School

1. Congratulations to Sam Pinto and Alexis Pace as elected School Board Trustees for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. Thank you to ALL who voted on the recent School Board budget.
3. Congratulations to Travis Van Nostrand and all those receiving tenure this week!
4. Congratulations to Mary Roberts on her recent wedding this past Friday.
5. We are happy to welcome back to Chris Johnson Jr.
6. Thank you to all who donated pet food and supplies for Melissa Miller’s - Baxter’s Pet Pantry Drive. Pet food and supplies were donated by students and faculty and donated through a Long Island Cares program.
7. The new West School fence looks AMAZING!! Thank you to our PTA for purchasing the materials and to Amy, Steve, and the Crew for the beautiful display on our Beech Street fence.
8. Please join us on June 9th to celebrate the LBCTA End of Year Celebration Dinner to celebrate our 2020 and 2021 retirees at J.J Coopers.
9. The 2021-2022 Building Rep elections will be held on Thursday, 5/27. The ballot will be sent to your district email as a Google Form. If you do not receive a ballot on Thursday morning, please contact Elementary Vice President Beth Prostick.
10. Please consider donation a sick day to the sick day bank.

C. Lindell School

1. Congratulations to Dr. Pullara on her appointment as Lindell’s new principal.
2. Congratulations to RoseAnn Malizia-Pinto on receiving her tenure.
3. Congratulations to Crysti Busching on the birth of her son, Brandon Thomas.
4. Congratulations to Lindsey Smith on her recent engagement.
5. Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his re-election to the school board.
6. Congratulations to Alexis Pace for getting elected to the school board.
7. Welcome back to Bruce Cummings, our custodian.
8. Condolences to Joanna Clancy on the loss of her father-in-law.
9. Condolences to MaryEllen Toscano on the loss of her son.
10. Condolences to Emily Ciavarella on the loss of her grandmother.
11. Thank you to all the voters in Long Beach for supporting our schools and passing the School Budget.
12. Please remember to vote for our 2021-2022 Union Reps on May 27, 2021.

13. Please consider attending the CTA end of the year party at JJ Coopers on June 9th at 5:30pm. This event will be held providing there is enough participation. Please encourage other members to attend this exciting event.
14. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on October 17, 2021.
15. Please consider donating a sick day to our district sick bank.

D. East School

1. Congratulations to Melissa Canner on her tenure.
2. Congratulations to Sam Pinto and Alexis Pace on their elections as school board trustees.
3. Thank you for passing the school budget.
4. Congratulations to Nicole Kossefis & James Reid on their engagement.
5. Thank you to Edward Courtney and Gina Patronaggio for creating East School's ABCs countdown to summer.
6. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

E. Lido School

1. Congratulations to Michelle Root on receiving tenure!
2. Congratulations to Darlene Ventre on receiving tenure!
3. Congratulations to Kylie Nicholls, and her family, on the birth of her daughter, Hayley Rae!
4. We are appreciative of the School Budget passing. Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his reelection to the School Board and also to Alexis Pace on her election to the School Board.
5. Lido School is looking forward to this Thursday's Hance Family Run/Walk in honor of the Hance Family. Thank you to Mrs. Keiser and Ms. Weiss for organizing this event!
6. Thank you to Peter Russo and the Special Education department for helping organize the purchase of t-shirts for Mental Health Awareness Day!
7. Thank you to Dr. Jamila Balooch for the virtual dentist visit and treats! Our K-2 students really enjoyed it!
8. Congratulations to Rob Maggio and the Long Beach High School Boys Golf team on an undefeated season and Conference Championship!
9. Building Rep Elections are coming up on Thursday, 5/27/21. The ballot will be sent in a Google Form to your District Email. Please don't forget to vote.
10. Consider joining us for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration at JJ Cooper's on Wednesday, June 9th.
11. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

F. Pre-K

1. Thank you to the Pre-K PTA for our spring picture day and the Bubble Show!
2. Thank you to Maris Lynch and our readers for our Pre-K Author's Day!
3. Congratulations to Kylee Nicholls and family on the birth of her daughter.
4. Condolences to Marisa Lorenzo on the loss of her uncle.
5. Thank you to Peter Russo for coordinating the Mental Health Awareness t-shirt sale and day.
6. Thank you for supporting our school budget! Congratulations to our returning board member, Sam Pinto and welcome to Alexis Pace!
7. Please consider donating a day to our LBCTA sick bank.

G. Middle School

1. Thank you to all who came out and voted YES to approve our school district budget.
2. Congratulations to Sam Pinto on his re-election and to Alexis Pace on her election to the Board of Education.
3. Congratulations to all involved in our newly opened LBMS Greenhouse! The official ribbon cutting ceremony was a big success. **Many** participated to help make our new greenhouse a

reality. Special thanks to Mr. Pross for all of his time and effort, Mrs. Kalner, Mrs. Berman, Mr. Brecher, our science and technology depts., our bldg. custodial staff, and our Wood Tech students that built the greenhouse tables. A heartfelt thank you to Dr. Romanelli, our PTA, our Building Admin., and Buildings and Grounds. It could not have been done without your support and assistance. This project truly took a village! It is a beautiful space and will serve our students for years to come.

4. Kudos to Wally Kramme for arranging and organizing an author visit for our 7th grade students with Joelle Charbonneau. It was very inspiring and our students really enjoyed the experience.
5. Thank you to Lindsay Pichichero, Nicole Vasheo, and Barbara Vahey for organizing our Sunshine Social event on May 14th.
6. Continued get well wishes to Lorie Beard.
7. Elections for LBCTA middle school reps will be held on May 27th. The ballot will be sent to your district email as a Google form. Please contact Amy Leder if you have any questions.
8. Please join us at the LBCTA End of the Year party on Wednesday, June 9th at 5:30 at JJ Coopers.
9. 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.

H. High School

1. Thank you to all who voted to support the school budget. Congratulations to Sam Pinto and Alexia Pace on their election to the school board.
2. Thank you to the LBHS PTSA for a wonderful staff appreciation picnic. It was really very thoughtful and appreciated. We wish we could have seen you face-to-face; it wasn't the same without you.
3. Congratulations to Tom Gaynor and Jordan Hue on being granted tenure by the Long Beach Board of Education.
4. Congratulations to Kerri Sinatra on the birth of her daughter, Taylor.
5. Thank you to Mr. Myers, Mr. Epstein, Adriane Glassberg, Karen Bloom, Richard Pellegrini, Cristianne Vella, Geoffrey Noss, and The LBHS PTSA for hosting the recent Morning Madness Fashion Show. It was so nice to see the senior class enjoying themselves.
6. Congratulations to Blake Malizia and the DECA students on hosting the annual Business Olympics celebrating the theme "Restimulating the Long Beach Economy."
7. Congratulations to Eric Krywe and the Long Beach High School Television Studio Production students on hosting the annual High School Broadcasting Awards.
8. Congratulations to Dr. Kiley-Rendon and the teachers and students of the Technology Department for hosting a successful Car/Technology Expo.
9. Thank you to Dr. Gallagher for arranging for student notification of vaccine appointments.
10. Building rep elections will be held on Thursday May 27. Please look out for the email containing the ballot. Please be sure to vote.
11. Staff have concerns regarding the closing of NIKE. They remain eager to see the comprehensive plan that will support the at-risk students and staff for next school year.
12. Thank you to the Building Administration for handling the contact tracing that goes along with suspected cases.
13. Cleaning logs for each classroom are displayed in each classroom. Cleaners should be signing the log to indicate that the room has been cleaned and disinfected pursuant to the cleaning checklist. Staff members whose log is not being signed should notify the head custodian and CC Mr. Myers.
14. Staff would like to see the district require students to wear student ID cards during the school day.
15. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.

16. Please join us in celebrating our 2020 and 2021 Retirees at the LBCTA end of the year celebration on June 9th at JJ Coopers. This event is contingent on people attending. Please consider attending so our retirees can get the sendoff they deserve.
17. Thank you to EVERYONE for all your efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe. Please remember to wear your mask.
18. Thank you to EVERYONE for going above and beyond for the students for Long Beach.

At 5:22 pm, a motion was made by Matthew Hartmann to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jim Fiola.

In Attendance:

Long Beach Virtual Elementary (LBVE): Heather Puckhaber

West: Cheryleann Fontenot

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathy Barone, Lisa Rundo

East: Jennifer Diamond, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Diana Armada, Dana Monti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Lauren Behan, Alison Katulka, Stacey Mason

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Lisa Casey, Matthew Hartmann

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC):

Retiree: Frank Volpe

Officers: Keith Harvey, Karen Bloom, Amy Leder, Jim Fiola, Patricia Van Loon, Elleen Parks

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

Not sure where to start with your summer to-do list?

Whether it's assisting NYSUT members with everyday essentials, important choices about insurance needs, or making prudent decisions about financial and legal concerns, NYSUT Member Benefits can help.



Scan the QR code below to learn more about the following endorsed programs and services.

Saving you money: MB Discounts & Deals

With the Member Benefits Discounts & Deals program, NYSUT members can save up to 50% at more than 700,000 merchants nationwide (including thousands throughout New York State). Save on groceries and food delivery; restaurant dine-in or takeout; gasoline, oil changes and vehicle maintenance; clothing and shoes; and much more. You can even request that your favorite merchant join the network.

Saving you money: Every \$\$\$ counts

Whether your summer plans include home renovations, replacing or upgrading appliances, getting a new car, stocking up for the return to school, or even just hanging out and enjoying some time off, Member Benefits has a variety of endorsed programs -- Purchasing Power, Buyer's Edge Inc., Office Depot/OfficeMax, Bose, Powell's Books -- that might be able to minimize the impact on your wallet and maximize your enjoyment of the all-too-fleeting summer months.



Protecting your family: Insuring yourself and your family

Member Benefits endorses a number of competitive insurance programs that are available to NYSUT members. These include auto/home/renters, life, disability, long term care, dental, vision, and even pet insurance. Some of these programs are also available to or cover spouses/domestic partners of members, dependent children, dependent parents, and grandparents. Most offer payroll & pension deduction as payment options.

Planning for the future: Have a plan for wherever life takes you

It's never too early or too late to make a plan. Just starting a career or looking at retirement? Beginning to pay off loans or building a nest egg? Looking to buy a new home or refinance the one you're in? Welcoming a new child or adopting? Now would be a good time to look into the ways to put a plan in place or make adjustments to your existing one. Explore the Member Benefits Financial Learning Center for assistance; while you're there, check out our Legal Service Plan and Financial Counseling Program.

NYSUT Member Benefits offers dozens of programs and services that are available to NYSUT members and their families, including the following options:



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TRAVEL & TOURS



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LIFE INSURANCE



AUTO & HOME



LONG-TERM CARE & DISABILITY

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org, call 800-626-8101 or scan the QR code above.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

The Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

End of the Year Celebration

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

5:30 - 8:30PM

JJ Coopers, Long Beach

\$75.00 per person

Honoring our 2020 & 2021 retirees:

Rosemary Antonik*, Lori Burrell*, Cheryl Carroll*,
Michelle Duggan*, Cheryelann Fontenot, Adriane Glassberg,
Gavin Jones, Nancy Josephs*, Mandy Kovel*, Michael Lundwall*,
Faith Moskowitz*, Lori Niloff*, Gwen Panoff*, Marilyn Pilo*,
Suzanne Presberg*, Iris Resnick*, Gary Ribis*,
Ann Marie Scandole*, June Schecter, Arlyne Skolnik, John Skudin*,
Jessica Vetter*, Kathryn Virgona, and Linda Weiss*

*unable to attend event

Open bar... hors d'oeuvres... live music... celebrating...

In light of the current circumstances, the party is contingent upon participation.

Please RSVP using the QR code below by

Thursday, May 27th.

