



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

April 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report—Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Dates

5/6/24, 6/10/24

B. National Teacher Survey

Please be advised that some of you may be contacted by the US Department of Commerce to participate in the National Teachers and Principals survey via email. This request is legitimate, not a scam, and responding to the survey is encouraged by NYSUT.

Thank you.

C. Long Beach Board of Education

The Long Beach Board of Education will vote on April 16th, for the proposed 2024-2025 School Budget. The Board will put the budget up for a vote to the community on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. The community will have the opportunity to vote on the Budget and two School Board Trustee positions.

D. NYSTRS Delegate

Congratulations to Lisa Rundo on her recent retirement announcement. I would like to thank you for her years of service as a union representative. With her announcement, Justin Sulsky will move from his current position, as Alternate NYSTRS Delegate, to NYSTRS Delegate.

E. Executive Vice President of Elementary—Succession

With Beth's recent announcement for retirement, and as per the LBCTA constitution, "The Executive Board shall fill the vacant Vice Presidential positions from their membership. Such officers will serve for the remainder of the term." Having met the requirements and with the approval of the Executive Board, Jenn Maggio was appointed as the Executive Vice President of Elementary effective July 1, 2024. She will fill the remaining one year of the term.



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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F. Eyeglass Reimbursement

We are in year two of a two-year cycle for eyeglass/contact purchases. Members have \$400 to spend on glasses/contacts. Such coverage may be used for the members and their family. Completed [claim forms](#) with receipts attached must be sent to the HR department in Administration.

G. Study Money—Reminder

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Money Program: Summer – Friday, May 10, 2024. 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](#).



H. Coaching Pay Dates

Below are the payroll dates for coaches for 2023-24 school year:

High School

Spring: Second Check: 5/10

Middle School

Spring: First Check: 4/26, Second Check: 6/7

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. Our Spring New Member gathering was very well attended! Thank you to the building reps, union buddies, and our wonderful mentors for encouraging our new members to participate. We are stronger together.
2. Please join us at the LBCTA End of the Year Celebration on May 16th at The Ocean Club.
3. Please contact me if there is someone in need of a union buddy at akatulka@lbeach.org.

C. Political Action Committee—Jennifer Garrett

1. We continue our fight to restore proper funding for our schools!

If you haven't done so already, you can find the latest MAC app blast here:

<https://mac.nysut.org/action/856> Please take a minute to add your name to the list of people urging our state legislators to Fully Fund our Public Schools.

While it is encouraging that the Governor's office has recently indicated she might be open to rethinking her proposal, **WE CANNOT LET UP THE PRESSURE!**

2. Please follow us on Instagram at Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association.



LONGBEACHCLASSROOMTEACHERS

D. Public Relations Committee—Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. Congratulations to our Long Beach Music Department who has been honored for the 14th consecutive year with the Best Communities for Music Education Award from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. This award designation recognizes that Long Beach music educators, administrators, students, and parents have demonstrated outstanding achievement and commitment to providing access to music education and to instill an appreciation of music as part of the district's philosophy of offering a well-rounded education for national recognition.
2. Great job Ali Katulka on another successful Buddy party.
3. Save the date! Saturday, May 11th, 2024 Long Beach Art Show, Car/Tech Show & Wellness Fair 2024. Doors open at 10 am. At 10:30 am there will be a Zumba Master Class, 10-1pm will be the wellness fair with vendors, raffles, and giveaways, and at 10-2pm student art displays will be out.

4. Please go out and vote in your local School Board Budget and Elections on May 21st.

E. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

1. I'm pleased to say our seats are filling up for our end of the year celebration taking place on **Thursday, May 16, 2024 at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach**. We are excited to celebrate our 2024 retirees: Lauren Breen, Jennifer Diamond, Terriann Eidt, Robert Gallopini, Beth Prostick, Debra Rabiner, Mary Jane Rochford, and Lisa Rundo. Please RSVP by May 2, 2024.

F. Long Beach Teacher Center—John Marr

1. The Teacher Center is currently looking for instructors to run summer PD. Please email the director at lbtcc@lbeach.org or put a proposal in via mylearningplan. Please indicate that this is for the summer.
2. The new printer has been set up and we are working on developing a procedure to make posters. Please be on the lookout for my email to announce the creation of posters on 11x17 paper.
3. The grant continuation application has been released so I will be working on this for the next month. Please be sure to reach out if you would like to be included in the application.
4. Have a wonderful week!

G. Pre-K Committee—Molly Drake

1. The NYS UPK Quality review visit was a success. Thank you to the Pre-K staff and buildings that made our visit so successful!
2. Pre-K registration for the 2024/2025 school year is still ongoing. Information can be found on our website [Pre-K registration information](#) or at the registration office at Lido.
3. Thank you to Cristie Tursi for all of the Solar Eclipse resources that were developmentally appropriate for our Pre-K students!
4. Save the Date for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
5. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

- A. Thank you to Dr. Gallagher and Mr. DeVito for continuing to keep us involved in conversations surrounding the budget and the upcoming school year.
- B. We are still awaiting an email from Mr. Pettas regarding our changes in streaming in the upcoming months.
- C. We look forward to continued discussions regarding an alternative high school and credit recovery for our students, as this is a pressing issue that needs to be addressed before next school year.

D. APPR

1. There is a potential bill being presented that would eliminate the use of student test scores to be used in teacher evaluations. More information to come!
2. You should have received something stating who your evaluators will be for this school year. If you did not, please contact your immediate supervisor and let them know.
3. 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.
4. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
5. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

E. Health & Safety Committee

1. We are still waiting to hear what the plan for the Lido Multipurpose room is, as the one put in place does not seem to be adequate. In addition, the MS & Lido Complex is still having an issue with the mice. We hope that this situation can be addressed as soon as possible.
2. The next Health & Safety meeting date is May 6th.
3. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

F. Other

1. Save the date for our end of the year party on Thursday, May 16th at the Ocean Club.
2. Enjoy the Passover Break with friends and family! Try to relax and get some well deserved rest!
3. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
4. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools’ Report—Beth Prostick

- A. If you are interested in serving as a Building Rep for the 2024-2025 school year, please email me at bprostick@lbeach.org or send a letter of interest to me c/o Lido School. The letter or email must be received by the close of business Wednesday, May 8th. All Elementary Schools need 3 reps and 3 alternates.
- B. The election for Elementary Building Representatives will take place on May 21, 2024. You will receive your electronic ballot in your email.
- C. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on April 15, at 4:00 in Lido room L25.
- D. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- E. Send me any issues that you were unable to work out at your building.
- F. I hope everyone enjoys their Spring vacation.
- G. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools’ Report—Amy Leder

- A. If you are interested in serving as a MS or HS Building Rep, please email me at aleder@lbeach.org or send a letter of interest to me c/o High School. The letter or email must be received by the close of business Wednesday, May 8th. This will also allow any new Building Reps to attend our last meeting of the year on June 10th. The Middle School needs 5 Reps and the High School needs 8 Reps.
- B. Secondary Building Rep elections will occur virtually on Tuesday, May 21st from 7:45-10:30 am.
- C. Please consider attending our 2024 LBCTA End of the Year Celebration honoring our retirees at the Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
- D. Please go out and vote in your local School Board Budget and Elections on May 21st.
- E. Wishing everyone a nice Passover/Spring recess.

VI. Treasurer’s Report—Jonathan Bloom

A. March Financial Results

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT Dues	\$16,327.15	Union Dues	\$41,983.42
AFT Dues	\$10,001.55	Retirees	\$306.00
Officer & Rep Stipends	\$27,684.10	TOTAL	\$42,289.42
Payroll Taxes and Fees	\$9,161.61		
TOTAL	\$63,174.41		

- B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. I would encourage you to attend a few School Board meetings during the year. Your presence is always noted.
- C. Save the date for the LBCTA End of the Year Celebration at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
- D. Wishing everyone a restful and relaxing spring recess.

For Tax purposes, the 2023 Dues were \$1026.92

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

- 1. Thank you to Alison Katulka for a fabulous Buddy Party. We had such a nice time getting to know our new members.
- 2. Save the Date for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
- 3. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

B. Lindell School

- 1. Thank you Ali Katulka for organizing our Spring New Member gathering. It was a nice opportunity for us to connect.
- 2. A special thank you to Dr. Pullara, Ms. McGovern and the entire staff for coming together today and safely dismissing approximately 250 students early before the eclipse. The given time frame from 1:00-2:00 made it very difficult to manage dismissal with a Pre-K through 5 building. We appreciate all your efforts.
- 3. Save the Date for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
- 4. Enjoy the Passover break.
- 5. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.

C. East School

- 1. A special thank you to Alison Katulka for planning and organizing the New Member Gathering. A fun time was had by all who attended.
- 2. Thank you to Cristie Tursi for providing solar eclipse resources for teachers to use with their students.
- 3. Please join us for our End of Year Celebration on Thursday, May 16th at the Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach.
- 4. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
- 5. Happy Passover. Wishing everyone a restful and relaxing spring recess.

D. Lido School

- 1. Congratulations to Dr. Justin Sulsky on his recent engagement.
- 2. We are still having issues with mice throughout the building despite efforts made by the custodial staff.
- 3. Thank you Ali Katulka for organizing the Spring New Member party.
- 4. Save the date for our LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club on **Thursday, May 16, 2024.**
- 5. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.
- 6. Wishing everyone a restful Passover Break!

E. LBMS

1. Mouse sightings continue throughout the building. We are also starting to see a large amount of ants. We look forward to additional measures to finally address the issue and bring it under control.
2. Kudos to our MS Student Organization (advisors Mr. Kramme and Mr. Papetti) on their service trip to Stop and Shop where they purchased needed items for the LB Soup Kitchen. The money for their purchase was raised via the group's fundraising efforts.
3. A very special thank you to Mrs. Espinet for organizing the daily Women's History Month videos shown during morning announcements. Each video was informative, engaging, and enjoyed by all!
4. Sending continued love and healing prayers to Sandra Hnis.
5. Condolences to Megan Kalner on the loss of her father in law, Bruce Kalner.
6. Special thanks to Ali Katulka and our New Members Committee for our Spring Buddy Party. Fun time was had by all!
7. Save the date for our LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club on Thursday, May 16, 2024.
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.

F. LBHS

1. Congratulations to Blake Malizia on the birth of his daughter.
2. Thank you to Ali Katulka for hosting the spring new member party.
3. Congratulations to Karen Bloom on a very successful Morning Madness Fundraiser.
4. Congratulations to the theater department on a wonderful performance of *Chicago*.
5. Best wishes to all AP and IB students and teachers on their upcoming exams.
6. Teachers are disappointed with the District's decision to eliminate after school review sessions for IB, AP and Regents exams. As the exam dates are quickly approaching, we have found many students rely on this extra time to be successful on their exams.
7. Please consider attending the End of Year LBCTA Celebration on Thursday, May 16th at The Ocean Club.
8. Please go out and vote in your local School Board Budget and Elections on May 21st.
9. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.

At 4:58 pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Melissa Canner.

In Attendance:

West: Julie DeBruin

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Susan Simons

East: Jennifer Diamond, Melissa Canner, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti, Lori Parenti

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Sean Miller

LBHS: Lisa Casey, Brian Petschauer, Rachel Yousha

Pre-K Committee: Molly Drake

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC):

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.

Check out all your union membership has to offer!

NYSUT Member Benefits offers dozens of endorsed programs and services that can save you money, assist you in protecting your family, and help you plan for the future.

Legal Service Plan

Plan benefits include:

- Crucial estate planning documents (Simple Will, Health Care Proxy, Living Will & Durable Power of Attorney)
- Free telephone consultations
- Guaranteed maximum fees for specific legal matters

Financial Counseling Program

Plan benefits include:

- Unbiased objective advice
- Free telephone & virtual consultations
- Assistance with retirement planning, 403(b) savings, college savings, tax planning and more

For an annual fee, the Legal Service Plan -- provided by the law firm of Feldman, Kramer & Monaco, P.C. -- offers legal expertise on a variety of personal legal matters such as dealing with a speeding ticket or handling estate planning. Plan participants receive unlimited access to toll-free advice weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST) as well as a toll-free hotline for urgent legal assistance outside of these hours.

Meanwhile, the Financial Counseling Program -- provided by Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. -- offers unbiased, objective advice customized to your specific financial situation. The full-service program provides up to six hours of objective toll-free telephone or virtual consultations with a Stacey Braun Certified Financial Planner. *



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org, or calling 800-626-8101.

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



Mar/Apr 2024

The Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association



End of the Year Celebration

Thursday, May 16, 2024

5:00 - 9:00 pm

The Ocean Club, Atlantic Beach

\$85.00 per person

Honoring our 2024 Retirees

**Lauren Breen, Jennifer Diamond,
Terriann Eidt, Robert Gallopini,
Beth Prostick, Debra Rabiner,
Mary Jane Rochford and Lisa Rundo**

**Open Bar... Hors d'oeuvres...
Dinner... DJ... Dancing... Photo Booth**

Please return the completed form along with a check made out to LBCTA to Elleen Parks c/o West School, 91 Maryland Avenue, Long Beach, NY 11561. If you prefer, use the Venmo QR code and make sure to include your name, who you would like to be seated with and what building you are from.

Your name(s) _____

Please name one person you would like to be seated with: _____

Building: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Seating Requests will be honored if payment is received by May 2nd.

Last 4 digits of Elleen's Cell: 1923

