



# Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

239 Lido Blvd., Long Beach, NY 11561 • 516-897-2175 • [www.lbcta.com](http://www.lbcta.com)

Executive Board Minutes

January 22, 2018

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

## I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

**Happy New Year!**

### A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

2/12/18, 3/12/18, 3/26/18, 4/9/18, 4/23/18, 5/14/18, and 6/11/18

### B. 2017 Holiday Toy Drive



The LBSEA and the LBCTA hosted their annual Holiday Toy Drive, and once again we were overwhelmed with support. This year toys were distributed to the MLK Center, Circulo De La Hispanidad, and the Literacy Zone After-School Program. Thank you very much to Lynda D'Alessio, Andrew Frey, Stephanie Meyer, Beth Prostick and Noelle Poliscastro for coordinating the 2017 Toy Drive, and to everyone that donated.



### C. LBCTA Annual Bowling Fundraiser

We look forward to seeing everyone at this year's event on February 1, at the RVC Maple Lanes. Click [here](#) for more information.

### D. Janus v. AFSCME

The Supreme Court has scheduled to begin arguments for the Janus case on Feb. 26. It is expected we could have a decision as early as April 2018.

### E. Health Insurance Rates 2018

Below are the 2018 monthly rates for health insurance.

Empire	2017	2018
Individual	944.39	1014.98
Family	2160.64	2348.15

### F. IRS Mileage Rate 2018

Beginning on Jan. 1, 2018, the standard mileage rates for transportation will be: 54.5 cents for every mile of business travel driven, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017.

### G. FICA 2018

The Social Security Administration announced that the maximum amount of wages in 2018 subject to the 6.2% Social Security tax will rise from \$127,200 to \$128,400, an increase of a little more than 1%.

Keith Harvey

*President*

Karen Bloom

*Executive Vice-President*

Amy Leder

*Vice-President for Secondary Schools*

Beth Prostick

*Vice-President for*

*Elementary Schools*

Patricia Van Loon

*Recording Secretary*

Elleen Parks

*Corresponding Secretary*

James Fiola

*Treasurer*

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**H. 403(b) and 457 2018 Maximum Allowable Contribution Limits**

The IRS announced the 2018 Maximum Allowable Contribution limits. While the catch-up limits remain unchanged at \$6,000, the elective deferral limits have increased from \$18,000 to \$18,500. Employees age 50 and over are entitled to contribute the additional \$6,000 to their plan(s) thereby increasing the elective deferral limit to \$24,500.

Individuals with at least 15 years of service with their current employer may be entitled to contribute up to an additional \$3,000 above their age-based limit, potentially increasing the limit to \$27,500 for a participant utilizing both the age based and the full amount of the service based catch-up provisions. For more information please contact your financial advisor or click [here](#) for more information.

**I. FLEX Spending**

Flexible Benefits may be used for unreimbursed medical or dental expenses or dependent care. The District has opted for a 2.5 month extension plan. Participants may incur expenses through March 15th of the calendar year following the year of the election; all requests for reimbursement must be submitted to the plan administrator (Preferred Group) no later than March 31st.

**J. Study Money Dates**

Those who applied for the winter Study Program can check the January 11th Board of Education agenda for approval. You should have been notified by HR if your application was approved. There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program: Summer- May 11, 2018. 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](#).



**K. Coach Pay Dates**

**High School Winter:** 2/2

**Middle School Winter II:** 2/16 and 3/16

**High School Spring:** 4/13 and 5/11

**Middle School Spring:** 4/27 and 6/8

**L. NYSUT Member Benefits**

Please see [Appendix A](#) for information describing the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed MetLife Auto and Home insurance.

**M. Credit Swap**

Debra Cupani- LIU Post for Brentwood, Riverhead and Westbury 1.5 credits

**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. I have signed the new Permanent Sub and CTA Contracts and they are currently being printed.
2. The negotiating team continues to review and consider the potential changes for the sick bank.

**C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola**

1. I hope your New Year is off to a great start!
2. Please look out for an announcement of the date and place of the Spring Buddy/New Member

party. Before that, please plan to attend the Bowling night fundraiser on Feb 1<sup>st</sup>. It is a fun time and we raise money for a great cause.

3. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at [jfiola@lbeach.org](mailto:jfiola@lbeach.org) or Alison Katulka at [akatulka@lbeach.org](mailto:akatulka@lbeach.org). **Please contact us if you don't have a buddy or mentor.** Please ask questions. There are **many** people here who will help you.

**D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick**

1. If you are not receiving my emails, please email me at [LBCTAPAC@gmail.com](mailto:LBCTAPAC@gmail.com) from your personal email account so I can add you.

2. Our next PAC meeting will be held on February 27, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.

**E. Public Relations—Amy Leder**

1. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes is less than two weeks away. We are overwhelmed by the love and support our members have shown. To date, we have 26 teams (only two spots left) participating.

2. A gentle reminder to please send all payments to me at the high school ASAP. Checks can be made out to LBCTA. On the day of the event we will have some great baskets to raffle off. We can't wait to see you all there.

4. All proceeds will go to Sunrise Day Camp, LI. Sunrise Day Camps are the world's only dedicated day camps for children with cancer and their siblings, provided completely free of charge. It's a wonderful opportunity for these children to enjoy camp without feeling restricted and escaping the stigma of being "sick."

3. Building Reps please drop your school raffle baskets off to me no later than this Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.



**F. Teacher Center—John Marr**

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is investigating an online program through Stony Brook University for a 5-6th grade extension.

2. If you are interested in running a class, please contact the center at [lbtc@lbeach.org](mailto:lbtc@lbeach.org).

3. The LBTC will be hosting an open house for those interested in an online administration program as well as an all online three graduate class Google cluster. If you are interested in either of these options that run through Stony Brook, please contact the director at [LBTC@lbeach.org](mailto:LBTC@lbeach.org).

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

**A. APPR**

1. You should have received a document letting you know who your evaluators are. If you have not, please ask your immediate supervisor. Some of these have changed, but you should receive notification of any changes made to your observer schedule.

2. Please be sure to remain actively engaged in the APPR process. Your SLOs should be completed or at least in the process of being completed. Be sure to discuss your targets with your lead evaluator. Remember, you should not see opinions from your evaluation team when classroom observations take place. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.

3. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

**B. Health & Safety Committee**

1. The next Health & Safety meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2/1 at 11:00 am at Lido. We are hoping to get some information concerning our outstanding issues.

2. If you have any health and safety issues that are not resolved at the building level, please email me at [kbloom@lbeach.org](mailto:kbloom@lbeach.org).

**C. District Safety Team**

- 1. The next District Safety Team meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2/1 at 11:00 am at Lido. We are hoping to get some information concerning our outstanding issues.
- 2. If you have any District Safety issues that are not resolved 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).
- 3. Don't forget to sign up for our Bowling event on February 1<sup>st</sup>! It's a great time and a worthy cause!

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

- A. Thank you to all who donated to our toy drive.
- B. Our annual Bowling Event will be held on February 1. Even if you do not want to bowl, you are still welcome to participate in this worthy fundraiser. We hope to see you there.
- C. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on February 5, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- D. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- E. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at [bprostick@lbeach.org](mailto:bprostick@lbeach.org).

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

- A. Our next Secondary meeting will be on Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 PM in HS Guidance Suite. Please only let me know if you cannot attend this meeting.

**VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola**

**A. December Financial Results**

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$14,535	Union Dues	\$40,242
AFT	8,817	Retiree Dues	73
Taxes and Insurance	7,055		_____
Meeting Expenses	1,425	Total	\$40,315
Officer and Rep Stipends	22,567		
Training	642		
	_____		
Total	\$55,041		

- B. I hope you all had a Happy and Healthy New Year with your friends and loved ones and that 2018 is off to a great start.

Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. Please save the date of February 1, 2018 which will be the Bowling Night Fundraiser. Lastly, please try to plan on attending a couple of School Board meetings this year.

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

- C. Union dues for 2017/2018 for full-time members will be \$1,014.36. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$231.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$101.44 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 2017 union dues for tax purposes for full-time members was \$1,004.80.**

## VII. Building Reports

### A. West School

1. Welcome back!
2. Condolences to our Librarian Ellen Maleszewski on the passing of her father Dave DeBruin.
3. Condolences to Anne LaPenna on the passing of her father Nicholas Ippolito.
4. Thank you to all who participated and planned our Unity Day Assembly this past Friday. Mrs. Krywe made sure that each grade had their own spin on their musical numbers celebrating unity and togetherness.
5. BIG got off to a successful start. Be Into Geography is a District wide program run by our PTA where students answer questions related to geography with the use of map skills.
6. Congratulations to Travis Von Nostram on his engagement to Rose.
7. Engagement congratulations to Stacie Kaufer!!!!
8. Congratulations to new daddy Steven Peppe (of West) and his wife Nicole, as well as new Grandmas Cheryleann Fontenot of West and Mary Peppe of Lido on the arrival of Tristan Henry Peppe.
9. We are collecting donations for our building wide basket donations for next week's LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser.
10. Please consider donating at least one sick day to our Sick Bank this year.

### B. Lindell School

1. Happy New Year 2018!
2. Thank you Sunshine Committee for organizing a wonderful holiday party.
3. Congratulations to Stacie Kaufer on her engagement to Tim Seaman.
4. The students at Lindell once again enjoyed an amazing lazer light assembly sponsored by the PTA.
5. Thank you Lindell PTA for the PARP kickoff assembly. Mad Science Marvels in Motion was mesmerizing. Guest readers made the week extra special.
6. Thank you to all the generous members of Lindell for donating toys to the LBCTA/LBSEA toy drive and contributions to our families in need organized by Deb Bernardino-Arden.
7. Kudos to Noelle Policastro (Orchestra), Leigh Rynecki (Chorus, Band and Recorder Director and Music Teacher) and our talented 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students for an outstanding holiday concert.
8. Condolences to Margaret Fraser on the passing of her husband Duncan.
9. Wishing Darlene Glasser a speedy recovery.
10. A warm welcome to Casey Fee in joining our Lindell staff as an interim health teacher.
11. Congratulations to Chelsey DiRocco on the birth of her son Luca Chase!
12. Thank you to all the staff members that contributed to the CTA bowling fundraiser basket supporting Sunrise Day Camp. Lindell put together a Night Out basket with movie tickets, a Starbucks gift card and a generous donation from Mo'nelisa Restaurant.



**C. East School**

1. Congratulations to Jackie Eiger on the engagement of her son, Brian.
2. Congratulations to Chelsey DiRocco on the birth of her son Luca.
3. Thank you to Michelle Bennett and Craig West for a fabulous musical performance at the Winter Concert and a special thanks to Stephanie Meyer for helping with the decorations.
4. Thank you to the PTA for helping to make our Unity Day a success. The students enjoyed painting their rocks that will be used as a border for the walkway at East School.
5. Bus 40 continues to be late arriving to East School.
6. Thank you to those of you who have already donated days to the LBCTA sick bank. Please consider donating if you have not done so already.

**D. Lido School**

1. Wishing Edelmira Morales, lunch aide, a speedy recovery!
2. Wishing Mandy Kovel, teacher, a speedy recovery during her medical leave. All the best to Brittany Kosta as she continues to fill in for her!
3. Condolences to Stayles Harris, custodian, on the loss of his mother. Kindergarten students and parents happily participated in the annual *"Books and Buddies"* event. A fun time was had by all.
4. Condolences to Jimmy Pangarliotas, security guard, on the loss of his mother.
5. Condolences to Ellen Maleszewski, librarian, on the loss of her father.
6. Wishing Darlene Glasser, teacher, a speedy recovery during her medical leave. Welcome to Casey Fee who will be filling in for her!
7. Congratulations to Mary Peppe on the birth of her grandson Tristan Henry.
8. Kudos to fifth grade students and teachers for hosting parents to their *"Let it Snow"* event. It was enjoyed by all who participated.
9. Condolences to Edie Yarwood, Morning/Aftercare, on the loss of her mother.
10. Condolences to Yolanda Franklin, teacher assistant, on the loss of both her brother and father.
11. Congratulations to Chelsey DiRocco, ENL, on the birth of her son Luca Chase.
12. Congrats to Stacie Kaufer on her recent engagement.
13. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students went with their teachers to the exciting Hofstra University Career Day event. They had a lot of fun!
14. Condolences to Jose Lopez, custodian, on the loss of his father in law.
15. All students enjoyed the Kickoff Assembly organized by Lido's Fifth Grade Student Government and their teachers for Lido School's Kindness Week. The daily theme will vary with school challenges every day, and a daily quote to reflect upon as well.
16. Save the date for the Second Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes on Thursday, February 1st, 4-6 pm.
17. Thanks to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating.

**E. Pre-K**

1. Welcome back and Happy New Year. We hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season.
2. Thank you to all who donated a toy to our toy drive. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
3. Welcome back to Vivian Kramer.

## **F. Middle School**

1. Happy New Year!
2. Kudos to Glenn Gartung for organizing a successful Holiday Drive for our students. Thank you to our very generous Middle School Staff for supporting the many holiday fundraisers. Thank you for all you do!
3. Congratulations to Liz O'Brien, Dave Lobenstein, Doug Renoud, Christina Farrell and all student performers for an amazing winter concert series.
4. A very special thank you to our Sunshine Committee for a wonderful holiday celebration. A good time was had by all!
5. Kudos to Mr. Bajit and Ms. Darkeh for their very informative presentations to our 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students as they begin to prepare for next year.
6. Kudos to our custodial staff for effectively clearing our walkways after the recent snowfall.
7. A very special KUDOS to the administration, faculty and staff of both the middle school and Lido School and to our transportation department for their teamwork and flexibility on the morning of January 17<sup>th</sup>. A car accident on Lido Blvd. caused significant travel delays, detours and even a brief power outage. In true Long Beach fashion everyone pulled together to ensure all students arrived to school safely and were seamlessly welcomed to their school day.
8. Condolences to Eugenia Atsalis on the loss of her mother.
9. Condolences to Patty Van Loon on the loss of her mother-in-law.
10. Condolences to Raquel Lopez on the loss of her grandfather.
11. Condolences to Eydie Yarwood on the loss of her mother.
12. Get well wishes to Rob Gallopini. We wish him a speedy recovery!
13. Get well wishes to Darlene Glasser. We wish her a speedy recovery.
14. Congratulations to Jillian Fernandez on the birth of her daughter, Ariana Skye.
15. Congratulations to Janna Arkow on the birth of her daughter, Agnes Jae Denise.
16. Save the date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 from 4-6 pm. If you already know your team name and members, you can email Amy Leder at [aleder@lbeach.org](mailto:aleder@lbeach.org).
17. Thank you to the members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating, if you have not done so already.

## **G. High School**

1. We look forward to seeing you on February 1st at the LBCTA fundraiser at Rockville Centre Lanes. It is a great event to help a good cause.
2. Thank you to the Sunshine Committee. Elena Frishman, Neal Campbell and Phil Bruno have been working extremely hard to boost morale throughout the building. They put together a wonderful breakfast for the staff before the holiday vacation providing many staff members time to socialize. Please consider joining and help Sunshine to stay informed of the events that occur in the lives of faculty and staff members. They will be hosting their annual Snowball Party on Thursday, January 25th. Please consider attending.
3. Congratulations to Joe Van Wie on his marriage.
4. Condolences to Louanne Gaudiosi on the loss of her father.
5. Condolences to Stephanie McAvoy on the loss of her mother-in-law.
6. Condolences to Cathy Clarke on the loss of her father.
7. Condolences to Suzanne Presberg on the loss of her father.
8. Thank you to Mr. Myers for continuing to assist teachers in processing their help desk tickets. We look forward to the arrival of new copiers in offices.

9. Thank you to the administration for beginning to gather data on the utilization of the dean's office. We hope that this will result in plans that will ensure the support of all staff and student concerns and will work to improve school climate.
10. There were teachers who were taken by surprise at the discontinuation of their School World websites. We hope that in the future any communication about cancellation of services teachers rely on will be relayed in a timely fashion.
11. Many teachers have not been paid for homebound instruction dating back to October. The problem is being looked into and we hope that it will be resolved in a timely fashion.
12. Thank you to the Administration for ensuring that student IEPs at NIKE are able to be viewed and accessed by teachers and that student needs are being met.
13. The wires and dripping water are still issues in science rooms but we understand that possible solutions are being explored and we hope that it will be addressed as soon as possible.
14. We hope that the district is looking into a solution for the large class sizes in applied chemistry due to safety reasons as well as to allow students who would like to change level to have a place to go. We hope that the district continues to meet the needs of students who require ICT in all classes necessary for graduation and will have those classes available for students next year.
15. 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.
16. Please consider donating days to the sick bank.

At 5:20pm, a motion was made by Karen Bloom to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jim Fiola.

**In Attendance:**

West: Cheryleann Fontenot

Lindell: Susan Simons, Heather Puckhaber, Lisa Rundo

East: Jennifer Diamond

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Elizabeth Fichtelman

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Stacey Rice

LBHS: Chris Brown, Neil Campbell, Elena Frishman

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.



## Membership has its privileges!

*Your union is steadfast in its fight for better contracts, safer working conditions, fair pay, advocacy, and upholding the labor rights of the dedicated women and men proudly working in the education and health care industries on a daily basis.*

**But your NYSUT membership does so much more!** It also provides you with the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of more than 40 endorsed programs & services offered by NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality, competitive insurance plans.

Endorsed By:



**As an Example: With the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed MetLife Auto & Home insurance program, NYSUT members receive special group rates on auto insurance, homeowners insurance as well as motorcycle, boat, personal property and other types of insurance -- rates that are NOT available to the general public.**

That is why we encourage you to always look for the "Endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits" logo before you or your loved ones make any purchasing decisions.

Visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or call **800-626-8101** for specific information about this program.



### Newly endorsed Member Shopping Program available for use!

We heard the requests of the NYSUT membership and spent months diligently researching new member shopping program options. The NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation is pleased to announce that the Purchasing Power Member Shopping Program is now available for use by eligible NYSUT members.

Purchasing Power is an online shopping option that offers another way to purchase brand-new, brand-name products and pay for them over time through the ease of payroll deduction or ACH withdrawals. Eligible NYSUT members can enjoy access to products such as computers, appliances, jewelry, furniture, televisions, electronics, travel packages and much more.

While Purchasing Power is not a discount program, it can save you money and stress compared to high-interest credit cards or rent-to-own stores. As always, you are encouraged to shop and compare before making any purchasing decisions.

Visit [nysutmbc.purchasingpower.com](http://nysutmbc.purchasingpower.com) or call **800-537-3135** to learn more.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.



Jan./Feb. '18

Please join us for a fun afternoon of friendly competition at the 2018

# LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser

Thursday, February 1st  
4-6 pm \$30.00/person

RVC Lanes, 100 Maple Ave, Rockville Centre

Includes donation to Sunrise Day Camp.  
2 hours of bowling, shoe rental, and pub grub.  
A cash bar will be available.



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUNRISE DAY CAMP, LI  
Sunrise Day Camps are the world's only dedicated day camps for children with cancer and their siblings, provided completely *free of charge*. It is a wonderful opportunity for these children to enjoy camp without feeling restricted and escaping the stigma of being "sick".

## 50/50 Raffle, Raffle Prizes, Prize for Highest Team Game

Please complete the form below with cash or a check made payable to "LBCTA" and send to Amy Leder (HS). If you would like to participate but do not have a team, please submit the form and we will place you on a team. 100% fun guaranteed!

**PLEASE RSVP BY January 25th to Amy Leder, [aleder@lbeach.org](mailto:aleder@lbeach.org)**

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain and personal email: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Members (6 people per lane):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

