



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

January 22, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:06pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report—Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Dates

2/12/24, 3/11/24, 3/25/24, 4/8/24, 5/6/24, 6/10/24

B. LBCTA Sick Bank

Since its inception, hundreds of days have been donated.

Unfortunately, the bank currently has more requests than days available, leaving the bank at zero. Please consider donating to help fill those requests. The bank runs on our members' generosity.

[Donation form.](#)

C. 2024 LBCTA Scholarship

I am pleased to announce that the association will once again be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who are children of CTA members. Elena Frishman has graciously volunteered to continue as the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. To be eligible for a CTA scholarship, the student must graduate from their high school in either January or June of 2024. They may attend high school in any city or town. A parent must have been a dues paying member of the CTA for at least three full years and currently paying dues unless on family or medical leave. Those interested and eligible may request an application from Elena, by email at EFrishman@lbeach.org. The closing date for receipt of the completed application and all supporting documents, submitted in duplicate, is 2 PM on Friday, March 8th. The evaluation of these applications will take place during the week of March 18th. Please contact Elena if you are interested in helping evaluate the applications. It would be wonderful if every building was represented.

D. LBPTA—PTA Teacher Fellowship-

Deadline for Applying: February 15, 2024 – Now Open!

The LBPTA wanted to make you aware of a grant funded fellowship for Long Beach teachers. The fellowship provides an opportunity for teachers to improve their skills, update their professional knowledge, and expand their professional perspectives. This grant



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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can ONLY be used for course work completed after submission of the application and can be used anytime up to August of next year. Click [here](#) for more information.

E. LBCTA Apparel

At this time all ordered apparel has been delivered. If you did not order, and are still interested in an item, please email me at kharvey@lbeach.org. There was a small amount of overage that was delivered.

F. IRS Mileage Rate 2024—Reminder

The IRS has announced the official standard mileage rates for 2024. The standard business mileage rate for transportation expenses paid or incurred as of January 1st, 2024 is 67 cents per mile.

G. Study Money Date—Reminder

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study 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

Winter: Second Check: 2/16

Spring: First Check: 3/27, Second Check: 5/10

Middle School

Winter II: First Check: 2/16, Second Check: 3/15

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. Please join us for our annual LBCTA bowling fundraiser on February 1st at Maple Lanes in RVC. This event is a lot of fun and all proceeds will go to the Bats Out for Lazar Foundation.
2. Please be on the lookout for a “Save the Date” email for our Spring New Member gathering.
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 are currently in the planning stages for the next edition of the LBCTA Newsletter. Each year we expand the distribution list of the second edition to include our NYSUT brothers and sisters residing in the City of Long Beach, Lido Beach, Point Lookout and East Atlantic Beach to keep them informed of all the great happenings in our district. If you have any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions for content for our next newsletter please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com. All suggestions are greatly appreciated!
2. NYSUT is once again asking that all members please download the NYSUT MAC (Member Action Center) app to your phone. You can find it at the following link: <https://mac.nysut.org/> NYSUT will be utilizing this app to disseminate information to members.
3. Help Fix Tier 6! NYSUT has launched an initiative for Fix Tier 6. Fixing Tier 6 is about justice and dignity in retirement. It's about solidarity and fairness. It's about keeping talented educators in the classroom and recruiting new educators into the profession. We have work to do to make public service retirement fair for everyone and we can't do it without you. If you are interested in joining our Fix Tier 6 Team please email lbctapac@gmail.com. NYSUT is asking everyone to [sign up \(https://fixtier6.org/get-involved\)](https://fixtier6.org/get-involved) to receive updates on how you can get involved to Fix Tier 6. Also, if you are interested in joining our LBCTA Fix Tier 6 team please email lbctapac@gmail.com. We will be in touch with updates and actions you can take.



D. Public Relations Committee—Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. We are very excited for our annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser. We cannot wait to see everyone there on February 1st. There will be food, drinks, raffles and lots of fun at the event. A reminder that this year we will be donating to the Bats Out for Lazar Foundation.



E. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

1. We're very excited to receive the names of some of our 2024 retirees. We will be reaching out to them with information about our celebration on Thursday, May 16th at The Ocean Club.
2. Looking forward to seeing many of you at our LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, February 1st.

F. Long Beach Teacher Center—John Marr

1. The Policy Board continues to work to provide high quality courses for our teachers. If you wish to run a PD class for the Teacher Center, please reach out to the director at lbtc@lbeach.org to discuss times and topics.
2. The Policy Board has just authorized the purchase of a professional level poster printer to allow teachers to easily print 17 inch wide posters. We will announce when the printer arrives and has been set up. We look forward to seeing how creative our teachers will be with its use.
3. The Teacher Center is currently looking for a representative from Lindell schools. If you would like to support professional development and volunteer one hour per month, on the third Tuesday of each month, please contact the director at lbtc@lbeach.org

G. Pre-K Committee—Molly Drake

1. Pre-K is looking forward to our information session on 2/14. Thank you to Dr. Ostroff for the conversation before the event.
2. Thank you to Cristie Tursi for our science grade level meetings. They are informative and helpful to expose the implementation of NGSS standards to our youngest learners.
3. Thank you to Dr. Radice for the One Beach shared read aloud. Our Pre-K students enjoyed the beautiful story!
4. Looking forward to the bowling fundraiser on Thursday, February 1st. Please support this wonderful event!
5. Please consider donating a sick day to the sick bank.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

- A. We are waiting to hear more about the Alternative School at the HS for next year, as budget season is in full swing, and hope that this is still being considered. In addition, we are waiting to hear more about the PLAN Pilot and if we will be participating as a district next year.

B. APPR

1. 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.
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 Committee

1. **HS Roof:** Apparently the majority of the repairs cannot be done until the weather is warmer, and can be done by our own general mechanic staff. It was reported that this work should be done in April. Although the roofers were called in to fix some of the leaks, it appears that the work is still not right. We are hoping that these leaks can be addressed as soon as possible, as they are causing many safety hazards in classrooms, stairwells, and hallways. We requested that air sampling be done in the areas of the HS that have had leaks recently. It was reported that a few of the areas were tested on Friday, January 19th and that all samples came back within normal ranges. I am still waiting for the written results, and also asked why certain areas were tested and not others.
2. There are no new updates for the boiler work at the MS. We hope that the work will be done this summer and spring.
3. The next meeting date is January 29th. The spring meeting will be May 6th.
4. 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. Looking forward to our annual bowling event on February 1st!
2. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
3. 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. We are looking forward to our annual Bowling event which will be held on February 1st. I am excited to see all the beautiful raffle baskets from each school.
- B. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on January 29th at 4:00 in Lido room L25.
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- D. 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. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our bowling fundraiser at Maple Lanes RVC on February 1st.
- B. Congratulations to Mrs. Farrell, Mr. Hue, Mrs. Katulka, Mr. Pross and the cast and crew on a successful run of *The Spongebob Musical, Youth Edition!*
- C. Please continue to keep all lines of communication open and reach out to your building reps when needed.

VI. Treasurer's Report—Jonathan Bloom

- A. As the month of January has not ended yet the January financial results will be reported in the minutes of the February 12th Executive Board Meeting.
- B. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our bowling fundraiser event on February 1st, 2024.
- C. 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.
- D. **For Tax purposes, the 2023 Dues were \$1026.92.**

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Condolences to Monica Martin on the loss of her mother, Vivian Monaco.
2. Thank you to Mariana Rotenberg, Sarah Kugelman and our fabulous fifth graders for putting together a wonderful Unity Day assembly for our students.
3. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Bank.

B. Lindell School

1. The Lindell Pre-K & Kindergarten were entertained and educated by the Mad Science Assembly field trip.
2. ONE BEACH READ was a great success. Thank you Dr. Radice for organizing this district wide event. The students loved the “Bear Book” and its powerful message.
3. Condolences to Monica Martin for the loss of her mother.
4. Congratulations to Terriann Eidt on her retirement.
5. The Lindell CTA members are grateful for the new Swag.
6. The lack of available printers is creating more technology problems throughout our building. Teachers being asked to share printers is causing more problems than a solution. Every teacher needs their own working printer in his/her classroom.
7. Welcome back Courtney Elliot.
8. Save the date: Thursday, February 1st is our annual bowling event. Get your teams together. Don't miss out on this fun event.
9. Thank you to those members who have donated to the sick bank. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank if you haven't already done so.

C. East School

1. Thank you for donating towards the bowling fundraiser 50/50 raffle. Due to your generosity, we are able to create a lottery ticket basket for the Bats Out For Lazar Foundation bowling fundraiser. We are looking forward to seeing everyone for a fun evening.
2. The heat inconsistency across the building has become unbearable. We appreciate Carl and the building staff in trying to assist by being proactive and checking on us. We look forward to this issue being fixed soon.
3. Thank you to the LBCTA for the new SWAG.
4. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
5. Congratulations to Lauren Breen, Jennifer Diamond, and Mary Jane Rochford on their official retirement announcement at the latest board meeting. You all will be greatly missed.

D. Lido School

1. Congratulations to Beth Prostick on her formal announcement at the Board Meeting of her retirement at the end of this school year. We are already missing her!
2. Thank you to LBCTA for our swag. It was so greatly appreciated.
3. The lack of available printers in many classrooms continues to create technology problems throughout the building.
4. Students were excited at receiving the fun and engaging new board games for their classrooms.
5. Condolences to the family of Marguerite Henigman, former retired TA and sister-in-law of Theresa Acosta.
6. Congratulations to Bennett Collier and her family on the birth of Remi Reuben Alton.
7. Condolences to our security guard, Mario D'Amore and family on the loss of his wife, Wendy.
8. Looking forward to seeing everyone at our LBCTA Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 1, 2024.
9. Save the date for our LBCTA End of Year Celebration at The Ocean Club on **Thursday, May 16, 2024.**
10. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. LBMS

1. We are concerned with the ongoing mice sightings throughout the building. We hope this will be addressed in a timely fashion.
2. Thank you to the LBCTA for our new swag!!
3. Congratulations to Mrs. Farrell and Mr. Hue and the cast and crew of the middle school production of *The Spongebob Musical, Youth Edition*. The show was a tremendous success.
4. Kudos to Ali Katulka and Brian Pross as well as the students in the Art and Wood Clubs for creating a beautiful set and props for the middle school production of *The Spongebob Musical, Youth Edition*.
5. Congratulations to Deb Rabiner and Rob Gallopini on announcing their retirement.
6. Condolences to Monica Martin on the loss of her mother.
7. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 7th Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 1, 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. Thank you to the LBCTA Executive Board for providing staff with its new CTA attire.
2. Thank you to all of those who contributed to our staff basket for the LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser.
3. 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.
4. Wishing Amy Leder a speedy and healthy recovery.
5. Thank you to the Sunshine Committee for putting together a wonderful lunch for the staff at the last faculty meeting, providing many staff members time to socialize.
6. Temperatures of classrooms vary greatly throughout the building. The issue of building temperature and climate concerns has been reported for many years by the HS Building committee. We urge the district to prioritize the addressing of the HVAC situation at the high school.
7. Teachers are very concerned about the District's decision to eliminate after school review sessions for IB, AP & Regents exams. Many students rely on this extra time to be successful on their exams.
8. Printers have become a big problem within the school. Students currently don't have access to printers in the library or anywhere else in the building. The staff are hopeful that a practical solution can be reached to have both office printers and photocopy machines functioning throughout the building. Having all prints/copies go through the office photocopy machines and not office printers is not productive and poses a problem when any confidential or timely information is needed.
9. There have been several sightings of unwelcoming creatures like mice and cockroaches throughout the building. We hope this will be addressed in a timely fashion.
10. Please consider serving on a district committee.
11. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.

At 5:00 pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Matthew Hartmann.

In Attendance:

West: Julie DeBruin, Anne LaPenna

Lindell: Cathy Barone, Susan Simons

East: Melissa Canner

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti, Lori Parenti

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Sean Miller, Grace Parisi, Dan D'Ottavio

LBHS: Lisa Casey, Matthew Hartmann, Brian Petschauer, Andrew Rossi, Rachel Yousha

Pre-K Committee: Molly Drake

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC):

Retiree Representative:

Guests:

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

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Jan/Feb. 2024