



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

January 13, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:07pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

Happy New Year!

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

1/27/20, 2/10/20, 3/9/20, 3/23/20, 4/27/20,
5/11/20, and 6/8/20

B. 2019 Holiday Toy Drive

The LBCTA hosted their annual Holiday Toy Drive, and once again we were overwhelmed with support. This year toys were distributed to the Circulo De La Hispanidad, Project Challenge, and Little Saint Nick. Thank you very much to all of the elves coordinating this year's Toy Drive, and to everyone that contributed.



C. 2020 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 and one \$1,000 scholarship to a Long Beach High School graduate going into education. Pat Fallon has graciously volunteered to continue as the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. To be eligible for a CTA scholarship, the student must graduate from his/her high school in either January or June 2020. He/she 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 Pat, by email at pfallon@lbeach.org. The closing date for receipt of the completed application and all supporting documents, submitted in duplicate, is 2 PM on Friday, March 13. The evaluation of these applications will take place on Wednesday, March 18 immediately after school at the High School. Please contact Pat if you are interested in helping evaluate the applications. It would be wonderful if every building was represented.

D. 4th Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser

This year's event will be at Maple Lanes RVC on Thursday, February 13th, 4-6 pm. Once you form your team, you can register online by [clicking on this link](#). Cash or check made out to LBCTA and sent to Amy Leder (MS, HS) or Beth

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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Prostick (Elementary). Each team can have up to six members. The cost will be \$30 per bowler. 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". There will be food, drinks and raffles at the event.

E. School Calendar - Revised

The revised 2020-2021 District draft school calendar was presented to, and approved by the Executive Board. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will vote on the calendar at an upcoming meeting.

F. OMNI- 403-B

Please see the attached update from OMNI, our 403b third party administrator. Elective deferral contribution amounts are up to \$19,500 for 2020 from \$19,000 in 2019. Also, the "catch-up" contribution for those of us over 50 is up to \$6,500 from \$6,000. If you are planning on retiring and will have a sick bank pay out, you will need to have a 403b account.

G. Empire Health Insurance—Rates 2020

Your bi-weekly medical deductions for 2020 were updated for the January 3rd payroll. The monthly premiums have **decreased** as follows:

Empire	2019	2020
Individual	1042.85	1031.82
Family	2412.77	2387.58

H. IRS Mileage Rate 2020

The IRS has just announced the official standard mileage rates for 2020. The standard business mileage rate for transportation expenses paid or incurred as of Jan. 1 is 57.5 cents per mile, down from 58 cents for 2019.

I. FICA 2020

On October 10, 2019, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that the 2020 Social Security wage base will be \$137,700, which is an increase of \$4,800 from \$132,900 in 2019. Earnings above this amount are not subject to the Social Security portion of the payroll tax.

J. Sellback of Health Insurance

If you elect to "sell-back" your health insurance you should have received your first half payment as part of your December 6th paycheck. If you did not receive your payment; call the payroll office at 2088 to verify your election. Please keep in mind that if even if you "sell-back" your medical insurance you are still entitled to family dental insurance.

K. Study Money Dates

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Money Program: Summer—May 8, 2020. 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](#).



L. NYSUT Leadership Training

Please let me know if you would like to attend any of the schedule workshops and conferences presented by the NYSUT Nassau regional office during the 2019-20 year.

M. Coach Pay Dates

Middle School Winter I: 1/17

High School Winter: 1/31

Middle School Winter II: 2/14 and 3/13

High School Spring: 4/8 and 5/8

Middle School Spring: 4/24 and 6/25

N. NYSUT Benefits

Please see [Appendix A](#) for more information about the Financial Counseling and Expert Legal Assistance programs.

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

Thank you for giving us your suggestions for contract negotiations. The committee has been meeting to review your suggestions and will use them to create our proposal. Once the proposal is prepared, the next step will be to request the opening of negotiations with the Board of Education.

Our strength is less about us sitting at the table, and more about the support we get from you. We look forward to representing you as a group and hope we can count on you, should we need to take collective action.

We are stronger together!

C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola

1. I hope you all had a wonderful New Year's and Holiday break.
2. Save The Date: The Spring New Member/Buddy party will be on Friday, March 27th. Location to be determined.
3. 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 don't have a buddy or mentor.** Don't be afraid to ask questions. There are **many** people here who will help you. Keep reading the minutes and look for a save the date announcement for the Spring New Member/Buddy party soon.

D. Political Action Committee—Jennifer Garrett

1. Ensuring that all members receive information is vital. A PAC email will go out to all members by the end of next week (Jan.24th). If you do not receive this email, please send an email to LBCTAPAC@gmail.com with your personal email address so you can be added. Also, you can follow the LBCTA Facebook page for information.
2. Lastly, if you haven't already, please download the NYSUT MAC (Member Action Center) app to your phone. You can find it at the following link: <https://mac.nysut.org/>
3. Our next PAC meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6th, at 3:45 in the MS Library. All LBCTA members are welcome to attend.

E. Public Relations—Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. Save the date for the LBCTA 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser event at Maple Lanes RVC on Thursday, February 13th, 4-6 pm. Lanes are starting to fill up so get your team together and join the fun. Once you form your team, you can register online by clicking on this [link](#). Cash or check made out to LBCTA and sent to Amy Leder (MS, HS) or Beth Prostick (Elementary). Each team can have up to six members. The cost will be \$30 per bowler. 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". There will be food, drinks and raffles at the event.

F. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

1. We are anxiously awaiting the name of our 2020 retirees that we are hoping to honor on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 5:00 at Bridgeview. Please save the date!
2. Hope to see everyone at our Bowling fundraiser on Thursday, February 13.

G. Teacher Center—John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is currently seeking individuals to run PD classes for an April/May start.
2. We are currently looking at becoming a DASA certified provider.
3. Effective 01/01/2020 ALL participants in Teacher Center classes will be charged a fee of \$40 cash/check, \$42 Paypal/Venmo to cover the stipend paid to the class instructor.
4. If you have any questions please contact the Director at lbtc@lbeach.org or call the center at 516-897-2083.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a fresh start and hoping to work with administration in the upcoming year to continually improve the quality of education for all students in Long Beach.

B. APPR

1. 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.
2. This plan is what we will be working under until we negotiate our new contract. Although things have changed with the State, we will still use these guidelines until a new plan is in effect.
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. We are hoping to see the plans for the updated traffic pattern for both the Lido Complex and the High School at the next meeting.
2. We are looking forward to continuing our discussion about single point of entry as well as ID's for students and how they can be used most effectively.
3. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23 at 11:00 am, place TBD. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.
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. District Safety Team

1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 23 at 11:00 am, place TBD. If you have any Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

E. **Other**

1. Don't forget to sign up for our Bowling Event on February 13th!
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. Thank you to all who donated toys to our annual toy drive.
- B. Our annual Bowling Event will be held on February 13. Please plan your teams and [sign up](#).
- 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. Save the date for the LBCTA 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser event at Maple Lanes RVC on Thursday, February 13th, 4-6 pm. Once you form your team, you can register online by clicking on this [link](#). Cash or check made out to LBCTA and sent to Amy Leder (MS, HS) or Beth Prostick (Elementary). Each team can have up to six members. The cost will be \$30 per bowler. 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". There will be food, drinks and raffles at the event. Here is the link to register your team!
- B. Condolences to Vinny Russo on the loss of his wife, Joanne.
- C. Please continue to communicate with your building reps regarding any new, old, or current concerns in your building.

VI. **Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola**

A. **December Financial Results**

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$15,354	Union Dues	\$40,916
AFT	9,440	Retiree Dues	81
Taxes and Insurance	6,616	Total	<hr/> \$40,997
Meeting Expenses	1,555		
Officer and Rep Stipends	24,861		
Donations	150		
Total	<hr/> \$57,976		

- B. I hope you all had a wonderful New Year's and Holiday break. Please enjoy this coming three day weekend.

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

Please Save the Date: February 13th is the Bowling Fundraiser

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

- C. Union dues for 2019/2020 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 (except September when it will be taken out of the second check on Sept 27th) 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.

2019 union dues for tax purposes for full time members was \$1,016.56

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Thank you to our PTA for another successful Book Swap. We appreciate your commitment to make sure every student has the opportunity to swap or take a book during lunch.
2. Congratulations to those who participated in the All County Recital.
3. Please join us for our 4th ANNUAL Bowling Fundraiser in February 13th.
4. Continued WELL wishes to Marlene Dougherty on a speedy recovery.
5. Condolences to former Special Education Coordinator Vinnie Russo on the passing of his wife, Joanne.
6. Condolences to Travis Van Nostrand on the passing of his grandmother.
7. Please consider donating a sick day to the bank. Forms are located on LBCTA website.

B. Lindell School

1. Happy New Year to all!
2. Please welcome, Mr. Hudson Georges (Art Teacher) and Mrs. Colleen Reilly (Special Education Teacher) to our staff. We are glad you're here at Lindell.
3. Save the date for the LBCTA 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser event at Maple Lanes RVC on Thursday, February 13th, 4-6 pm. Cash or check made out to LBCTA and sent to Amy Leder (MS, HS) or Beth Prostick (Elementary). Each team can have up to six members. Use this [link](#) to register your team!
4. The new heating system continues to be a problem. Children and staff are either too hot or too cold.
5. Congratulations to all students who participated in All County.
6. Condolences to Kathy Virgona on the passing of her mother-in-law.
7. Condolences to Retired Special Education Coordinator, Vinny Russo, on the passing of his wife, Joanne.
8. Thank you Lindell PTA for bringing the band “Squeaky Clean” in to kick off our “Reading Rocks” PARP week. Students and staff enjoyed the pairing of literature titles with rock and roll lyrics.
9. Please consider donating a day to the sick bank. Thank you to those who already donated.

C. East School

1. Welcome back and happy new year.
2. We welcome Hudson Georges to our East School staff.
3. Join us for fun and camaraderie at the CTA bowling fundraiser at Maple Lanes in RVC on Thursday, February 13th.
4. Please consider donating to the LBCTA sick bank.

D. Lido School

1. Welcome back Michelle Laforest!
2. Wishing a speedy recovery to Tova Markowitz and Lori Niloff!
3. Condolences to Lynda D’Alessio on the loss of her father.
4. Welcome to new Art teacher Hudson Georges!
5. Kudos to Andrew Frey, Christina Tomek, and Noelle Policastro on a successful Winter Concert. The students sounded amazing!
6. Thank you to all who donated to the LBCTA Toy Drive.

7. Kudos to the 5th grade student council for donating toys to the Sloan Kettering Children's Hospital.
8. February 13th is the Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes. Please register your teams ASAP.
9. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA Sick Bank.

E. Pre-K

1. Congratulations to Mary O'Brien on her marriage to David Berk.
2. We continue to experience transportation delays during the arrival of the PM students and the dismissal of the AM students. Now that the weather has changed, it is becoming more challenging to wait for the constant late arrival of a few buses. We have a place to stay with the students, but we still have to bring them with us to dismiss the students to the buses that have arrived.
3. Thank you to the district, the transportation department, and the public library staff for our field trip to the LB Public Library. It was a huge success!! Our students had a wonderful time! The Pre-K hopes to be included in the field trip funding in the future so our youngest learners can benefit from the experiences that field trips offer.
4. Welcome back to Dr. LaForest!
5. A tremendous thank you to our PreK PTA for paying for a visit from LICM for our students in March!
6. We are looking forward to the LBCTA bowling event on 2/13.
7. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.
8. Happy and healthy New Year to all!

F. Middle School

1. Happy New Year!
2. Problems with the heat are ongoing. Many rooms still have little or intermittent heat and other rooms are sweltering. We hope these issues will be resolved in a timely fashion.
3. Thank you to Glenn Gartung for organizing a successful Holiday Drive for our students. A very special thank you to our very generous Middle School Faculty and Staff for supporting the many holiday fundraisers. Thank you for all you do!
4. Congratulations to Liz O'Brien, Dave Lobenstein, Doug Renoud, Christina Farrell and all student performers for an amazing winter concert series.
5. Thank you to our Student Organization (advisor: Kate Smith) for planning and organizing a holiday decorating contest during the month of December. The contest raised holiday and school spirit building wide. Congratulations to Mrs. Berman, Ms. Gamble and their classes for winning the competition.
6. A special thank you to the LBMS Singers led by Mrs. Farrell for spreading holiday cheer caroling in the cafeterias during lunch periods.
7. Kudos to our PE Dept. and all those that participated in the Teachers vs. Students Volleyball matches. Everyone had a great time!
8. A special thank you to our Music Department led by Ms. O'Brien for greeting students, faculty and staff as they entered the building on December 20th to festive holiday music.
9. Thank you to our Sunshine Committee for a wonderful holiday celebration. A great time was had by all!
10. Thank you to the PTA for a successful holiday boutique.
11. Welcome to Amanda Bernstein.
12. Condolences to Christina Farrell on the loss of her father-in-law.
13. Condolences to Vinny Russo on the loss of his wife, Joanne.

14. Save the date for our 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 13th, 2020 from 4-6 pm. If you already know your team name and members, use this [link](#) to register!

15. 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. High School

1. Condolences to Bill Gibson on the passing of his father.

2. Thank you to the Music Department for spreading holiday cheer by playing holiday music in the commons before the winter recess.

3. Thank you to the HS Sunshine Committee for a wonderful Holiday Breakfast.

4. Thank you to the school counseling department for hosting our annual alumni day. It was wonderful to see our former students

5. Thank you to Building Administration and Custodial Staff for arranging to have the leaky sink in the East End Mens faculty restroom repaired.

6. Staff would like to see the District and Building Administration move towards requiring students to wear their ID cards throughout the building so that security and staff can properly identify if an individual belongs in the building.

7. Please remember that the doors are alarmed. Do not exit out of the alarmed doors. It is distracting to the nearby classes. Now that doors are newly alarmed, the staff is asking for clarification on what the procedure is when the alarm goes off during the school day.

8. Many of the classroom and department office computers in the HS are very old and are in need of updating.

9. Temperatures of classrooms vary greatly throughout the building.

10. HS Staff is concerned about the impact of the district's decision to eliminate the midterm exam week in January. We look forward to continuing the discussion regarding our concerns with building administration.

11. Save the date for the LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at the RVC lanes on Thursday, February 13th.

12. Please consider serving on a district committee.

13. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.

At 5:24pm, a motion was made by Karen Bloom to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jennifer Maggio.

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schecter

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Lisa Rundo, Susan Simons

East: Jennifer Diamond, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dana Monti, Dorothy Lopez, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Stacey Mason, Kaitlin Smith

LBHS: Neil Campbell, Matthew Hartmann

LBTC Director: John Marr

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

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Jan/Feb '20



LBCTA 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser

Thursday, February 13th

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.



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".

Raffle Baskets—including Snow Day Fun, Italian Night,
and so much more!

Prize for the Highest Team Game

Please register online by clicking this [link](#). Cash or a check made payable to "LBCTA" can be sent to Amy Leder (HS or MS teams) or Beth Prostick (Elementary teams). Please register and send in money by Friday, January 30th. 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!

