



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

February 1, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 4:15pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

2/29/16, 3/14/16, 4/11/16, 5/9/16 & 6/6/16

B. Long Beach Board of Education

At the January 28th Board of Education meeting, the first draft of the 2016-17 budget was presented. During this presentation, Mr. DeVito repeatedly stressed there would only be money added to the 2016-17 school budget to fund our expired contract. This means there will be **no new money** added to help settle our contract. This is most upsetting in light of the District's recent 1.75% increment settlements with Central Administration and their related staff. At the Board of Education meeting I requested the board re consider this proposal.

At the opening of school, we requested our membership to attend two specific Board of Education meetings. The second one is on March 10th. We selected this meeting because the Board of Education will be working on and beginning to finalize their budget. Please join me in this act of solidarity to remind the board who they are negotiating with and that we are a unified group who have dedicated our lives to this district.

*Long Beach Board of Education Meeting-
March 10, 7:30PM- LBMS Auditorium*

C. Sick Bank

Since its inception, over 100 days have been donated. Unfortunately they have all been used. With the bank empty, and request forms still coming in, I hope each of you sees fit to donate at least one day to the bank to ensure its continuation.

D. Scholarships

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. 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 2016. 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.



Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice-President

Amy Powers

Vice-President for Secondary Schools

Beth Prostick

Vice-President for

Elementary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

Elleen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

Table of Contents

- I. [President's Report](#)
- II. [Committees](#)
- III. [Executive Vice President](#)
- IV. [VP for Elementary Schools](#)
- V. [VP for Secondary Schools](#)
- VI. [Treasurer's Report](#)
- VII. [Building Reports](#)
 - A. [West](#)
 - B. [Lindell](#)
 - C. [East](#)
 - D. [Lido](#)
 - E. [Pre-K](#)
 - F. [HALB](#)
 - G. [Middle School](#)
 - H. [High School](#)
- [NYSUT Member Benefits](#)

Those interested and eligible may request an application from Pat, by either e-mail at pfallon@lbeach.org or by phone at 897-2062. The closing date for receipt of the completed application and all supporting documents, submitted in duplicate, is 2 PM on Friday, March 18th. The evaluation of these applications will take place on Wednesday, March 23rd 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.

AFT Robert G. Porter Scholars Program— This program offers four 4-year, \$8,000 post-secondary scholarships to students who are dependents of AFT members, as well as 10 one-time \$1,000 grants to AFT members to assist with their continuing education. Application deadline for students and members is March 31, 2016 (midnight). For more information go to <http://www.aft.org/about/member-benefits/scholarships>

E. Summer Study Money

Applications to participate in the Summer 2016 Study Money program must be received by the HR department by May 13th. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. [Request for Participation in Study Program - Group A.](#)

F. Flex Plan 2016

December 1, 2015 was the deadline to submit your 2016 Flex Plan election form. At this point in time changes to your 2016 election(s) may only be made in the event of: changes in legal marital status, changes in the number of dependents, cases where the dependent satisfies or ceases to satisfy the requirements for eligibility, changes in employment status or for the purpose of adoption assistance. Please keep in mind that the district's IRS Section 125 "Flex Plan" has been amended to include a two and a half month grace period. This means that you will have until March 15, 2017 to spend the funds in your 2016 account.

You do not have to wait until sufficient funds have been withheld in order to seek reimbursement. However, claims for 2016 Flex Plan child/elder care expenses will not be paid until sufficient funds have been withheld from your paychecks.

G. Coaching Pay Dates

High School

Winter: second check: 2/5/16

Spring: first check: 4/15/16; second check: 5/13/16

Middle School

Winter I: second check: 1/8/16

Winter II: first check: 2/5/16; second check: 3/18/16

Spring: first check: 4/29/16; second check: 5/27/16

H. District Technology Committee

Long Beach City Schools District is entitled to approximately \$2 million through the Smart Schools Bond Act. The committee has been working on a three year plan which will result in a 1:1 initiative for grades 7-12 in years one and two, and classroom devices for elementary students in year three. In addition to laptops, computers, and tablets, the district will also be investing in interactive white boards, computer servers, and high tech security.



I. Committee of a 100

NYSUT's Legislative Department lobbies state and federal representatives to help retain professional enhancements we fought for and won. Support for our public schools comes from the efforts of hundreds of grass-roots lobbyists. This statewide, grass-roots network of members-volunteers, called the Committee of 100, adds local political impact to NYSUT's effort.

If you are interested in volunteering for this committee please contact me.

J. State Budget and Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)

Governor Cuomo said his budget proposal would increase school aid over the next two years, but the amount is less than half of what the Board of Regents recommended for the next school year. The governor suggested in his budget address that his priority is to fully restore GEA. However, his plan only calls for approximately 30 percent of the GEA to be eliminated in 2016. Although this does mean an increase \$596,545 for Long Beach Schools, it is a far cry from the full restoration.

K. Cuomo Calling for Constitutional Convention

Gov. Andrew Cuomo is reiterating his support for a state constitutional convention which he says offers voters the chance to reform their state government. Every 20 years the people of the Empire State are asked a seemingly simple ballot question, "Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution? And amend the same?" Voters will be asked this question on November 7, 2017. Once it is open everything is on the table including current and future pensions, the right to free public education, workers compensation, and requiring that the state provide for social welfare needs. It is important that we stand together and vote against the convention to make sure these benefits and rights are not taken away.

L. Friedrichs v California Teachers Association

The U.S. Supreme Court's oral arguments in *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* have begun and there is expected to be a decision made by June of 2016.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjpPueCkF6o&feature=youtu.be>

M. Credit Swap

Jackie Kupferman - 1.5 credits from LIU Post Patty Van Loon - 1.5 credits for LIU
Heather Puckhaber - 1 credit Molloy College Migdalia Schneider - 1 credit Molloy College
Dana Monti - 1.5 credits for Hofstra

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

You should have received a copy of the recently approved and expired Professional Agreement. The team has been meeting regularly to discuss and review the district and association proposals. The district has postponed the next two scheduled meetings so that they can further analyze the current proposals.

C. New Members—Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

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. We will also be attending the mentor meetings to speak to the new members about various issues. The next meeting is at 4 pm on Feb. 23rd in the Middle School Library. At that meeting we will choose a date for the new teachers to meet with us to discuss how the year is going so far. I hope you are enjoying your career here at Long Beach. Please do not be afraid to ask for help if you need it. We (and many others) are here for you.

D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick

1. The first PAC meeting was held on Wednesday, Jan. 27th. We are currently working on updating the email list. When the list is finalized we will be using our new email which is lbctapac@gmail.com. Please contact me at bprostick@gmail.com if you would like to join the committee.
2. We are continuing to look into ordering sweatshirts for our members.
3. I am looking forward to attending the NYSUT Leadership Conference on February 6, 2016.

E. Public Relations Committee—Amy Powers

Our next public relations meeting will be this Monday, February 8th at Lido School in Room L25 at 3:45pm. Please encourage members to attend. We would love to see new faces.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. Keith and I will be meeting with Dr. Graham and Dr. Natali this week to discuss how we will move forward in regards to implementing APPR this year and next. We received some new guidance from the state that we will review as a group.
2. All lead evaluators have been assigned and you should contact your immediate supervisor or building principal if you are not sure who your lead evaluator is.
4. If you have not yet received information about your SLO's and/or targets, please contact your immediate supervisor. If you have no director, you can speak to your building principal.
5. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. The meeting that was scheduled for January 25th was cancelled. It has not been rescheduled as of yet. The next meeting is in March. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. District Safety Team

1. The meeting that was scheduled for January 25th was cancelled. It has not been rescheduled as of yet. The next meeting is in March. 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 consider donating days to our District Sick Bank, as we have little to none left. The form is available at our website, www.lbcta.com.
2. Please attend Board of Education meetings whenever possible. We are asking that you all try to attend the meeting on March 10th. Please do your best to reserve this date.

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

- A. We received a survey from Dr. Graham about the needs of technology in the elementary classrooms. Please make time to complete it so our voices can be heard.
- B. Elementary Council meeting will be held at Lido on Monday, February 22nd, at 3:45PM in Room 25.
- C. Public Relations meeting will be held on Monday, Feb. 8th at Lido room L25, at 3:45PM.
- D. Remember to attend the March 10th Board of Education meeting.
- E. Please consider donating one or more sick days to your colleagues in need.
- F. If you have any questions, I can be reached at bprostick@gmail.com.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Powers

- A. I met with Mr. Stroud today and inquired about when the Site Based meeting will occur to discuss the current traffic pattern. He shared with me that he has started the process of inviting parent, teacher and student members about three weeks ago. He believes that there may be a hold up due to certain groups having a difficult time deciding on who their representatives will be. He will follow up with Ms. Fowler tomorrow.
- B. As always, please continue to attend future board meetings. Let's use the power of our 1v1 to remind all members the importance of attending the Board of Education meeting on **March 10th, 7:30PM- LBMS Auditorium.**

C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank. We currently have a member in need of days.

D. Our next Secondary meeting will be Monday, February 22nd at LBHS Guidance at 3:45 pm.

E. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at amylo609@aol.com

VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

A. I hope everyone's second semester is off to a great start. Enjoy the upcoming winter recess. Please make every effort to join our members at the March 10th Board of Education meeting. Also, please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank.

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

Union dues for 2015/2016 for full-time members will be \$985.36. The break-out is \$384 local, \$368 NYSUT, \$225.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$98.54 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "MDDED-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 union dues for 2015 tax purposes were \$967.04

B. January's Results

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$13,230	Union Dues	\$39,470
AFT	8,010	Retirees Dues	126
Taxes and Ins.	149		
Meeting Expenses	101	Total	\$39,596
Donations	250		
Public Relations	546		
Training	65		
Total	\$22,351		

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Thank you to Rich Behr and his crew for clearing and maintaining walkways after the snow storm!
2. Condolences to Heather Fisher on the passing of her beloved grandmother.
3. We encourage all staff to continue to donate to our sick bank.
4. Be sure to attend the March 10th Board of Education meeting as a show of support for our negotiating team!

B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to the S.E.L. committee for a meaningful assembly on the **Power of One**.
2. A big round of applause to the **Lindell PTA** for the outstanding **PARP** events and final celebrations.
3. Kudos to our custodial staff for an outstanding job clearing the walkways and stairs after the January blizzard.
4. Condolences to Lisa Rundo on the passing of her mother.
5. Please consider donating a sick day to the district wide sick bank. **Your help is needed.**

C. East School

1. Kudos to our staff for another successful Multicultural Celebration. The students enjoyed singing songs from around the world.
2. Thanks to our fabulous custodial staff for a speedy cleanup after the blizzard.

D. Lido School

1. Third, fourth, and fifth grade students went with their teachers to the exciting Hofstra University Career Day event. They had a lot of fun!!
2. Many thanks to Wayne Hoffman and his custodial staff for a speedy clean up after the most recent snow storm.
3. Wishing a quick and healthy recovery to Revi Spinks!
4. Much appreciation to Lido PTA for sponsoring the MACHO Assembly. MACHO stands for "My Actions Can Help Others." Students have 10 days to record 500 MACHO moments. They are excited to reach their goal.
5. Congratulations to those Lido Staff Members who at this time have announced their retirement at the end of the school year! They include Carolyn Ciccone, Barbara Hirsch, and Ann Marie Tuzzolino!
6. To meet the social emotional needs of our students in Pre K- 5th grade, we would greatly benefit from having a full time psychologist and social worker at Lido. It is difficult to manage the demands of Pre K - 5th with the additional responsibility of the Pre K students.
7. Please consider donating sick days to the LBCTA-District Sick Bank.
8. Encouraging all members to make every effort to attend the March 10th Board of Education Meeting at LBMS 7:30 p.m. Let's show solidarity!!

E. Pre-K

F. HALB

G. Middle School

1. Welcome to Theresa Scudiero, our new Director of Humanities
2. Best wishes to Scott Knyper as he recovers from surgery.
3. We are hoping that repairs to the orchestra room are completed in a swift and safe manner. The roof and ceiling sustained damage after the significant snowfall, exposing possible hazardous material. The classroom is currently sealed until further notice.
4. Parent-Conferences: Mr. Romanelli reiterated how impressed he was with our faculty during conferences on January 7th. He received several compliments from several parents. Overall everyone agrees that the night went very smoothly.
5. Our members graciously agreed to reschedule parent teacher conferences due to the unforeseen circumstances of January 13th. We rescheduled for January 26th to give parents the opportunity to meet with teachers. This is evidence of the dedication of our members to our students' success.
6. The new Science rooms are near completion. The teachers were able to tour the new classrooms with Mr. Romanelli. Our administration is very appreciative of the flexibility and patience of our members during the duration of this project.
7. We are asking that all unit members attend the March 10th Board of Education meeting.
8. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

H. High School

1. Thank you to Administration for turning the key fobs back on.
2. Thank you to Administration for providing staff with Chromebooks. We are hopeful that they will continue to upgrade the state and access to technology for students and staff.
3. Welcome to the new Humanities Director, Theresa Scudiero.

4. We wish a speedy recovery to Bernadette Ciccarello as she recovers from her recent fire. Please consider donating to her and her family at the following webpage:
<https://www.gofundme.com/uhepuh78/donate>
5. While the building administration is aware of the recent rise of rodents and insects, and have taken steps to mitigate the issue, the problem still persists.
6. Currently, the library is being used as an alternate cafeteria. This causes a lot of garbage, and noise, which distracts students who have used the library as an area for work and study. In addition, this new use has inundated the librarians with overwhelming security issues. We are hopeful that recent discussions with building administration will result in addressing the library situation and developing ways to make the cafeteria more inviting.
7. We are concerned with the red signs that recently appeared on staff members cars who parked without a new parking pass. The signs warned of future consequences for teachers without a proper warning that these signs would appear.
8. The auditorium, as well as several science classrooms (Rooms 301, 335, and 337), have been experiencing ceiling leaks. The leaks have been an ongoing issue and continue to leak in areas over student lab stations and classroom desks. We are hopeful that the roof of the building will be addressed.
9. There is still great concern for the safety of students, staff and residents under the current traffic pattern. We believe that more than enough time has been provided for the issue to be studied at the site based committee.
10. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
11. Please make plans in advance to attend the March 10th Board of Education meeting at the LBMS Auditorium at 7:30pm.

At 5:30pm, a motion was made by Cheryleann Fontenot to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Camila Gamboa.

In Attendance:

West: Mary Ann Colucci, Cheryleann Fontenot

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Jane Quinton,

East: Barbara Lewy, Mary Jane Rochford

Lido: Cheryl Carroll, Dorothy Lopez, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K:

HALB: Gari Ann Harris

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Camila Gamboa, Jennifer Garrett, Stacey Rice

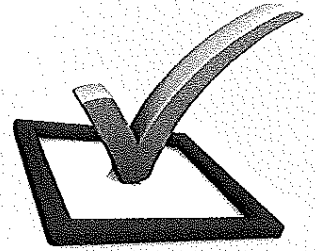
LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Erik Heck, Greg Milone

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

5

Benefits Of Being a NYSUT Member



1. Higher pay & better benefits
2. A contract you can rely on
3. A strong voice at work
4. Professional learning

5. NYSUT Member Benefits

NYSUT members & their families can choose from a variety of insurance, financial, legal, and shopping & travel programs designed with the NYSUT member in mind -- including term life insurance, auto insurance, legal & financial services, car rentals, vacation packages, and much more!

Member Appreciation Month is back again this February!

Since it was such a big hit last year, we're doing it again! Member Appreciation Month is coming February 2016.

To be eligible for these drawings, all you need to do is participate in our voluntary MAP Alert email service.

This year will be even bigger because it's a leap year... that means more chances to win even more great prizes!!!

Once again, Member Appreciation Month will be filled with a series of special prize drawings for items donated by Member Benefits and our endorsed program providers. Prizes will include gift cards, Beats headphones, a Go Pro camera and more.



We will announce the winners of these special prize drawings exclusively on the Member Benefits website throughout the month of February.

It's the strength of the more than 600,000 NYSUT members that makes it possible for Member Benefits to offer more than 40 endorsed programs & services designed with you in mind.

For more details about this exciting event, visit the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.



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.