



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

322 Lagoon Dr. W., Lido Beach, NY 11561 • (516)897-2175 • www.lbcta.com

President
Karen Bloom

Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Maggio

Recording Secretary
Patricia Van Loon

Executive Vice President
Amy Leder

Vice President for Secondary Schools
Jennifer Garrett

Corresponding Secretary
Elleen Parks

Treasurer
Jonathan Bloom

Executive Board Minutes

September 23, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm by Karen Bloom.

I. President's Report - Karen Bloom

A. Welcome Back to the 2024-2025 School Year

Thank you all and congratulations on a fantastic start to the school year! Your dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed by the Long Beach community and are crucial to our students' success. I also want to extend a heartfelt thanks to our administrators and SRP workers for your invaluable support in ensuring a smooth opening of the school year. I would also like to thank Keith Harvey for his many years of service, passion and dedication to our Union! He is a hard act to follow, and we were extremely lucky to have him. I'm sure that we will continue to use him as a resource and I look forward to working with Keith in his new role as Director of Technology! I am extremely excited to take on this new role, and I am lucky to have such an extraordinary group of officers by my side!

B. Executive Board Dates

10/28/24	12/9/24	1/27/25	3/10/25	4/28/25	6/9/25
11/25/24	1/13/25	2/10/25	3/24/25	5/12/25	6/23/25

C. Pay Dates

Below is a list of this year's pay dates. Please note that this year will be a 21.5 payment year for those choosing 21/21.5 payments.

9/13/24 - no direct deposit	1/3/25 - Paper checks 1/6/25	4/25/25
9/27/24	1/17/25	5/9/25
10/11/24	1/31/25 - no deductions	5/23/25
10/25/24	2/14/25	6/6/25
11/8/24	2/28/25	6/20/25
11/22/24	3/14/25	6/27/25 - no deductions
12/6/24	3/28/25	
12/20/24	4/11/25	

D. Club Pay Dates

This year's clubs will be paid half at the midpoint of the season, and half at the end of the season. This means if you are a seasonal club, you will be paid twice during your season. All other clubs will be paid half the stipend in the 12/6/24 check, and half in the 5/9/25 check.

E. Coaching Pay Dates

Below are the payroll dates for coaches for 2024-25 school year:

High School

Fall: First check: 9/27, Second check: 10/25
Winter: First check: 12/20, Second check: 2/14
Spring: First check: 4/11, Second check: 5/9

Middle School:

Fall: First check: 9/27, Second check: 10/25
Winter I: First check: 12/20, Second check: 1/17
Winter II: First check: 2/14, Second check: 3/14
Spring: First check: 4/25, Second check: 6/

F. District Committees

Dr. Ostroff emailed you on 9/11/24 with a list of District committees and their dates. It is extremely important that our voices are heard on these committees. Please consider joining a committee this year.

[CLICK HERE](#) to fill out the form to be a representative on one of our district-wide committees:

- Equity Committee (10/1, 12/3, 2/4, 4/29)
- Curriculum & Technology Committee (10/16, 1/8, 3/12, 6/4)
- Mental Health & Wellness Committee (10/10, 11/21, 1/23, 3/27, 5/31)
- Healthy and Safety (10/21, 1/27, 5/5)
- RTI/MTSS - Optimizing Student Interventions (STAFF ONLY: 10/24, 1/16, 3/20, 5/15)
- Professional Development Planning (STAFF ONLY: 9/25, 10/23, 1/15 & 4/2)

G. Mandated Reporting: GCN

All GCN Training Modules are due by December 13, 2024. Dr. Natali sent an email on 9/3 with all of the instructions on how to access and what modules need to be completed. This can be done on Professional Periods while you are at work.

H. Mandated Reporting: Child Abuse Training

The NYS Department of Education (per NYS Social Services Law § 413) now requires updated training to assist in recognizing signs of child abuse or maltreatment. Accordingly, all mandated reporters, including those who have previously undergone training, must complete updated training by April 1, 2025. Training is free, on-line, self-directed, and can be completed using the instructions sent by Dr. Natali. The NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is offering the 9-module (2-hour) training through the Human Services Learning Center (HSLC) website (<https://www.hslnys.org/hslc/>). It is not required that the entire training is completed at one time. Therefore, you can pace yourself and resume as you see fit prior to the April 1st deadline. (See memo provided for more details on submitting documentation.) This can be done on Professional Periods while you are at work.

I. Sexual Harassment Training

The mandates and requirements under the law, as they pertain to the LBCTA Executive Board were explained and reviewed.

J. NYSUT Leadership Training

NYSUT will be holding workshops and conferences throughout the 2024-2025 school year. Here is the link to register [Register here - NRO 2024 Fall Workshop Series](#) Registration for all workshops will close on Thursday, October 3, 2024.

- **Building Rep Intensive** - Tuesday – October 8, 2024
(4 hours: 4:00pm – 8:00pm) *Dinner will be served.*
- **Trends in Negotiations: Teachers** - Wednesday – October 23, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light refreshments will be served.*
- **Trends in Negotiations: SRPs** - Wednesday – November 6, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light Refreshments will be served.*
- **Running an Effective Meeting** - Tuesday, November 12, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light refreshments will be served.*
- **Nuts and Bolts of Negotiations** - Wednesday – November 13, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light refreshments will be served.*
- **Leaves** - Tuesday, November 19, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light refreshments will be served.*
- **ID'ing Candidates** - Wednesday, November 20, 2024
(2 hours: 4:00pm – 6:00pm) *Light refreshments will be served.*

K. NYS Paid Sick Leave - Still in effect until December 31, 2025

Should you need to quarantine for a positive COVID case you still have access to the NYS Paid Sick Leave. You can only access this benefit three times, and if you used it in years past it does not reset. Once someone uses Paid Covid Leave three times, that person is no longer eligible. Please remember this can only be used for lab confirmed positive cases, and that you should notify HR once positive. The State benefit is not for your child's quarantine or positive case. The COVID Leave Form is located in your main office and can be completed once you return to work.

L. Cancer Screening

Employees of the District may be excused from their duties for a sufficient period of time, not to exceed four hours on an annual basis (July 1-June 30). Please be sure to follow District procedures for notification of your absence so that appropriate coverage may be secured. Upon return from your screening leave, you must complete the [Cancer Screening Verification form](#). The original must then be submitted to the Office of Human Resources.

M. Study Money- Fall 9/27/24, Winter 12/13/24, and Summer 5/16/25

Applications to participate in the fall Study Money program should be received by the HR department by September 27th. 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](#).



N. Work Related Travel

If you are assigned to more than one building per day or attend a pre-approved out of district conference or meeting you are entitled to a travel stipend. The 2024 reimbursement rate is 67 cents per mile. Travel claims should be submitted to your direct supervisor for verification and signature. A list of dates and miles driven must be attached to your claim. For travel within the district a mile chart has been created and available on the Association's website. [Mileage Chart Link](#)

O. Conference Funds

Funds are available for you to attend pre-approved conferences outside the district. The maximum allocation per conference is \$500. Meals are reimbursed at the following rates: \$20 (breakfast), \$20 (lunch), and \$40 (dinner) per day IF NOT covered by the conference fees, plus tax and reasonable (15%-18%) gratuities, on pre tax amount. For one-day local conferences,

lunch is the only reimbursable meal. Receipts for all meals must accompany your claim form. You will also be reimbursed for travel at the rate of 67 cents per mile plus tolls or the actual cost of public transportation. Please keep in mind that the \$500 limit is inclusive of meals and transportation.

P. Packing and Unpacking

Teachers who are moving and/or packing due to an alternative use of their room or a room transfer shall be paid \$27.29 per hour up to a maximum of 4 hours. The work must be done outside of the school day and a record kept of the dates and times.

Q. Eyeglass Reimbursement



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

II. Committee Reports

A. Grievance Committee - Amy Leder

There are currently no grievances to report. If you encounter any issues that may violate our contract, please reach out to me.

B. New Members - Alison Katulka

1. Welcome back to our returning members and welcome to our new members. It was a pleasure to meet you at the new teacher orientation.
2. I am currently in the process of pairing our new members with a “buddy”. I will send an email out as soon as our pairings are finalized.
3. Please save the date for our Fall New Member gathering on November 1st at EGP Land and Sea starting at 4:00 pm. This event is open to all new members, union buddies, mentors, and executive board members.
4. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at akatulka@lbeach.org.

C. Political Action Committee - Jennifer Garrett

1. Welcome Back!
2. It is important that PAC has a way to contact members to disseminate information in a timely fashion. If you changed your email or are new to the district, please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com with an active personal email address so our contact list can be updated.
3. NYSUT will continue to push forward with the Fix Tier 6 initiative. We will be joining in this fight for fairness. Fixing Tier 6 is about solidarity, justice and dignity in retirement. It's about keeping talented educators in the classroom and recruiting new educators into the profession.
4. We are asking all members to join NYSUT’s Tier 6 Fix-It Team by simply scanning the QR code. Also, if you are interested in joining our LBCTA Fix Tier 6 Team please email lbctapac@gmail.com.
5. As always, please feel free to share your ideas on how LBCTA PAC can better serve our members. You can email your thoughts to LBCTAPAC@gmail.com.
6. Be on the lookout for the latest edition of our LBCTA newsletter due out soon!



D. Public Relations Committee - Jennifer Garrett and Jennifer Maggio



1. The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
 - a) **Music Bingo Fundraiser** - Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 is back! We are kicking off our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events with our first ever Music Bingo Fundraiser held October 10th at Riko's Pizza in Merrick! All proceeds will go to Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Campaign. Registration is open and spaces are filling up! Scan the QR code to reserve your spot!
 - b) **Wear Pink** - This will be followed by our **PINK OUT DAY** on Friday, October 11th. Please show your support in the fight against breast cancer by wearing pink or your favorite Team 11561 t-shirt.
 - c) **The Walk** - The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk will take place on Sunday, October 20, 2024 at Jones Beach.
 - d) **Donation Link** - Also, our [Donation Link](#) remains open! As always, we are overwhelmed by everyone's generosity and support towards reaching our goal. Thank you to everyone who has already donated.
2. Congratulations to Long Beach High School counselor, Mariela Giammarino. Mariela is being honored by the LB Latino Civic Association with their Educational Leadership Award at their 28th Annual Hispanic Heritage Gala on October 24th.
3. Please follow **Long Beach Classroom Teachers** on Instagram.
4. Save the Date! Our LBCTA 8th annual bowling event will be held on Thursday, March 6th at Maple Lanes in RVC. This year we will be donating to the G2H Foundation in memory of Gerrin Hagen. More information will be available soon



E. Social Committee - Elleen Parks

1. Welcome Back! We hope everyone has a successful school year. We are looking forward to participating in Music BINGO on Thursday, October 10th at 4:00 at Riko's in Merrick to support Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. It should be a fun event for a great cause!

F. Long Beach Teacher Center - John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher center is looking for instructors to run PD classes for the next semester. If you are interested in developing a 10 hour class that will pay you \$800, please contact the Director at lbtc@lbeach.org.
2. Please be sure to read Dr. Natali's email concerning the additional 2 hour course to maintain your certification. If you have any questions or encounter issues, I am happy to assist you.

III. Executive Vice President's Report - Amy Leder

- A. Welcome back! I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who helped ensure a smooth start to the school year. A special thank you goes to the custodial staff for preparing our buildings for opening.
- B. A big warm welcome and heartfelt congratulations to our new president, Karen Bloom. I look forward to your leadership and vision and I am excited to embark on this journey together. Additionally, congratulations Dr. Jennifer Garrett on her appointment as the Vice President of Secondary Schools. Your commitment, passion, and dedication to our members is deeply appreciated, we are fortunate to have you in this pivotal role.

C. APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review)

1. Observations will not take place until at least October 1st. We are optimistic about the possibility of renegotiating the current plan; however, if that does not happen, we will continue to follow the current plan until we reach an agreement. Regardless of the outcome, adjustments will be necessary to ensure that student performance is not factored into the plan.
2. In the meantime, please continue to actively participate in the observation process. Remember, the Danielson framework we use is based on best practices and observable measures, so you should not encounter opinions from your evaluation team. Address any issues during your post-observation conferences.
3. At this point, you should be able to view your composite score on MLP. If you cannot see it or are having trouble acknowledging it, please reach out to your Director.
4. If you have specific concerns about APPR, feel free to contact me.

D. Health & Safety Committee

1. Thank you to Mr. Kramer and Mr. DeVito for arranging mold testing in the Lido Elementary PPS Office, HS Weight Room, and ISS room with J.C. Broderick. We are pleased to report no elevated indoor levels were found.
2. Thanks also to Chris Genduso and his team, as well as Arnie Epstein, for their dedication to maintaining cleanliness and sanitation in the HS weight room.
3. The first Health & Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM via Zoom. If you have any Health & Safety issues that cannot be resolved at the building level, please email me at aleder@lbeach.org.

E. Other

1. Please make an effort to attend School Board meetings whenever you can. All meetings are posted on the district calendar.
2. Additionally, consider contributing days to our District Sick Bank. The form is available on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools' Report - Jennifer Maggio

- A. Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer break and the start to the 2024-2025 school year has been a great one.
- B. I would like to thank everyone in this room for such a warm welcome. While there is no way I can truly fill Beth's shoes - I do hope that I make her proud with my dedication to the LBCTA.
- C. I would like to welcome all our new teachers and staff. I would also like to welcome our new - and returning - elementary building representatives.
 1. At Lido, we have Dorothy, Dana, and Molly Drake is officially a union rep for Lido - not just a PreK liaison!
 2. At East School, Jeanne Richards is back with us this year. I would like to give a big welcome to two new reps, Tarmara Sommers and Melissa Zimmerman.
 3. At Lindell, we have our returning crew Sue, Heather and Cathy
 4. And last, but not least, West has Claudine, Annie and Julie returning. I would like to welcome Chelsea Way also - she is an alternate from West and is joining us today.

I look forward to working closely with all of you.

- D. Please sign up for the Music Bingo event on Thursday, October 10th from 6-10 pm at Riko's Pizza in Merrick (This is the LBCTA fundraiser for the Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk).
- E. The district wide "Pink Out" Day will be on that next day Friday, October 11th.

- F. Please join us for the annual Making Strides Walk on Sunday, October 20th..
- G. Hopefully, the buses are on time this year. Please let me know if they are late.
- H. You can email me any issues that you are unable to work out at your building.
- I. Our first Elementary Council meeting will be next week on Monday, September 30, at 4:00. We will meet at East School in the library upstairs.
- J. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at jmaggio@lbeach.org.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools’ Report - Jennifer Garrett

- A. Welcome back! I would like to extend a special welcome to our new teachers and building reps. We look forward to working with you!
- B. Thank you to Ketih Harvey for his service to the LBCTA as president for the past nine years. Congratulations to Mr. Harvey in his new role as the Director of Technology and Innovation.
- C. Welcome to Jennie Hoffman as our Director of Literacy PreK-12. We look forward to working with you.
- D. Your Building Reps are here to answer any questions or assist you with any issues/concerns you may have. HS Reps. are: Stephanie Mena - Senior Rep., Camila Gamboa, Loren Lang, Matthew Hartmann, Andrew Rossi, Calie Yousha, and Rachel Yousha. MS Reps. are: Ali Katulka - Senior Rep., Dan D’Dottavio, John Marr, Sean Miller, and Grace Parisi.
- E. Mandated Reporter Training must be completed by April 1, 2025. Please see Dr. Natali’s September 17th email for detailed instructions.
- F. Global Compliance is due December 13, 2024.
- G. Please consider volunteering to serve on a district committee. It is important we have member representatives on each of the committees to make our voices heard! For a complete list of District Committees and meeting dates, and to sign up, please complete the Google Form found in the September 11th email from Dr. Ostroff. The LBCTA looks forward to working with Dr. Gallagher and our Administration to meet many of the goals and initiatives for this year and moving forward.
- H. Thank you to our members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating to our sick bank if you have not done so already.
- I. If you have any unresolved issues from last year or current questions/concerns, please reach out to me at jgarrett@lbeach.org

VI. Treasurer’s Report - Jonathan Bloom

A. June Financial Report

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$16,288.55	Union Dues	\$41,844.11
AFT	\$9,977.33	Payroll Refund	\$174.78
Officer & Rep Stipends	\$27,684.07	Vote Cope	\$3,658.80
Payroll Taxes	\$8,601.23	TOTAL	<u>\$44,677.69</u>
Payroll Fee	\$334.66		
Worker’s Comp	\$22.50		
Disability Ins.	\$5.73		
Retirees Assoc Dues	\$424.00		
Retirees Gifts	\$365.46		
Tenure Pins	\$189.00		
Telephone	\$74.34		
Meeting Expense	\$42.51		

Election Costs	\$428.13
PAC Costs	\$421.38
Newspaper Ad	\$323.00
TALAT Costs	\$29.56
TOTAL	\$65,211.45

B. July/August Financial Report

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT Dues	\$16,249.95	Merged Accounts	\$25,272.80
AFT Dues	\$9,953.11	NYSUT Web Logo	\$100.00
Training	\$2,300.28	TOTAL	\$25,372.80
Meeting Expense	\$415.34		
Music Bingo DJ	\$00.00		
Disability Ins.	\$40.50		
TOTAL	\$29,359.18		

C. Thank you to Keith Harvey for your many years of service and dedication to the LBCTA.

Wishing you tremendous success as the new Director of Technology and Innovation.

D. Union dues for 2024/2025 for full-time members will be \$1,051.16 The break-out is \$407 local, \$394 NYSUT, \$242.16 AFT dues and \$8 for PTA membership. \$105.11 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column “Dues-Teachers”. 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.

E. 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.

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Welcome back to a new school year!
2. Welcome to new and returning members of our West School family: Lauren Gentils, Erin O’Driscoll, Jean McKeon, David Fikham, Priscilla Edwards, Jackie Kupferman, Christine Smith, Tracy Pollock, and Tammy Neumann.
3. Congratulations to Nicole Petrullo on her marriage to Jake Roessler!
4. Thank you to our custodial staff for getting the building ready for students and staff.
5. Thank you to the West PTA for their help with the Kindergarten and Pre-K playdates.
6. Thank you to the West PTA for our wonderful Welcome Back Party!
7. Thank you to Amy and Sarah for the “Red Spread” to kickoff our Heart Huddles program.
8. Please join us at Music Bingo Tuesday, October 10th, our fundraiser for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.
9. Our annual “Wear Pink Day ” will be on Friday, October 11th. Please join us by wearing pink or a LBCTA making strides shirt.
10. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 20, 2024. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.

B. Lindell School

1. Welcome back to everyone and hope your school year has gotten off to a great start.
2. Welcome Christine LaMarca as our new Assistant Principal.
3. Thank you to Scott and the custodial staff for having our building clean and ready for our students and staff to begin this new school year!
4. We welcome: Christina Franceschini (2nd grade special class teacher), Halle Conklin (STEM Teacher), Melissa Canner (AIS Math), Tara Wesselhoft and Michele Aulenti (Phys. Ed./Health), Alexander Salvata (ENL), Caitlyn Glynn and Mary Radin (Perm. Subs).
5. Many thanks to the Lindell PTA for a great Family Fun Night.
6. Congratulations to Rachel Ray on the birth of her baby girl, Quincy.
7. Don't forget to sign up for Music Bingo Thursday, October 10th 4-6:30 at Riko's of Merrick. Proceeds go to Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. The flier is posted in the faculty rooms.
8. Save the date for the Making Strides walk at Jones Beach on October 20th. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.
9. Please consider donating a day to the sick bank.
10. Please try to attend school board meetings.
11. As per ARTICLE VIII, section 4, parts A and B of the Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association Constitution and By-Laws, I am appointing Melissa Canner as an Alternative Representative.
12. Wishing everyone a successful new school year!

C. East School

1. Welcome Back to the 2024-2025 school year.
2. Thank you to the custodians for having the building ready for the start of the school year, to ensure a smooth opening for the students, we appreciate your hard work.
3. Thank you to the PTA for the wonderful Welcome Back Breakfast.
4. Thank you to the PTA for organizing the Welcome Back Picnic, the children and their families enjoyed the evening together.
5. We would like to welcome Jessica Risso to East School as a Physical Education teacher and welcome back to Lisa Hourigan, Katherine Meyers, and Sarah Gallagher.
6. Welcome to Dr. Caitlin Fuentes-King. We are so happy to have the LARC Program at East.
7. Condolences to Cristine Zawatson on the loss of her mother-in-law, Marilyn Rubin.
8. Please consider donating sick days to the LBCTA sick bank.
9. Please sign up for the Music Bingo fundraiser on October 11th at Riko's of Merrick.
10. October 11th will be our Annual Pink Out Day.
11. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 20, 2024. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.

D. Lido School

1. Welcome back to everyone to the start of another school year!
2. Thank you to Fawwas Persaud and the entire custodial staff for getting Lido School ready for the start of the school year.

3. Congratulations and a warm welcome to the following on their new/split assignments to Lido Elementary this school year: Deborah Bernardino-Arden (Social Worker), Seraphina D'Anna (Psychologist), Kate Dascher (Health/PE), Krystal Ferraro-Rollis (Art), Eric Finneran (SE Permanent Sub), Sara Jamison (SE WINGS), Sofia Notar-Francesco (Music), Krista Piarulli (Permanent Sub), Faithe Ramsay (Librarian), Gabrielle Saugar (STEM), Rachel Wong (ENL), Jason Zizza (APE/PE).
4. Thank you to Dr. Hernandez and Mr. Webel for our Welcome Back breakfast.
5. Thank you to the Lido PTA for the Welcome Back celebration.
6. Condolences to Kylee Nicholls and Kirstyn Pappas on the loss of their grandmother.
7. Condolences to Rachel Ray on the loss of her father-in-law.
8. Condolences to Cristine Zawatson on the loss of her mother-in-law.
9. Sending our thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery to Loretta Simonelli.
10. We continue to send our love and support to Franklyn Lopez and his family.
11. Condolences to Megan Lyons on the loss of her father-in-law.
12. Congratulations and the best of luck to Christine LaMarca on her appointment as Assistant Principal at Lindell Elementary School this year. She will be missed by her colleagues and students alike.
13. A profound thank you to our former LBCTA President, Keith Harvey, for his tireless dedication and leadership to our union. We wish him the best in his new position as Director of Technology and Innovation.
14. We send out our full support to the changes in leadership at LBCTA: Karen Bloom (President), Amy Leder (VP), Dr. Jennifer Garrett (VP of Secondary Schools) and Jennifer Maggio (VP of Elementary Schools).
15. Thank you to Dr. Natali for coming to Lido to present the sexual harassment training.
16. Welcome to Jennifer Hoffman as the PreK-12 Literacy Director. We look forward to working with you.
17. In support of the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk coming up, join us for the **LBCTA/LBSEA Music BINGO Fundraiser at Riko's of Merrick on Thursday, 10/10/24 4-6:30 p.m.** Don't forget to register for this wonderful event. Also, **wear PINK on Friday, 10/11/24 to show your solidarity.**
18. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 20, 2024. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.
19. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. LBMS

1. Welcome back to the 2024-25 school year!
2. Thank you to all stakeholders, especially our custodial/building & grounds staff, involved in getting our building ready for the new school year.
3. Welcome to our new faculty members: Maybeliz Araujo (Spanish), Leslie Kohn (Theatre), Alexander Salvata (Italian), Gabrielle Saugar (Technology), Rachel Wong (Perm Sub), Nancy Murray (Nurse).
4. Welcome back Mary Miller (Health/PE).
5. Welcome to Jennie Hoffman, our new Director of Literacy. We look forward to working with you.

6. Congratulations to Keith Harvey on his appointment as Director of Technology and Innovation.
7. Congratulations to Krystal Rollis on her marriage to Steven Ferraro.
8. Congratulations to Sean Miller on the birth of his daughter, Elizabeth Kathleen.
9. Condolences to Melissa Delaney on the passing of her father, Christopher Lyons,
10. Condolences to Michael Glasstein on the passing of his father, Murray Glasstein.
11. Condolences to Grace Parisi on the passing of her father-in-law, Isidoro Parisi.
12. As per ARTICLE VIII, section 4, parts A and B of the Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association Constitution and By-Laws, I am appointing Lauren Behan, Darice Bynoe, and Kerri Rhenback as an Alternate Building Representative for the 2024-2025 school year to fill vacancies at the Middle School.
13. Please consider volunteering for one of the 2024-2025 District Committees. Please email Janna Ostroff if you would like to be added to a contact list to serve on one of the respective committees.
14. Please consider attending Music Bingo on October 10th. This event is a fundraiser for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.
15. October 11th will be our annual Pink Out for Making Strides. Please wear your favorite Team 11561 shirt and support Making Strides.
16. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 20, 2024. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.

F. LBHS

1. Welcome back to all returning and new staff.
2. A special welcome to our new staff members:
 - Margaret Frodell - World Language Department
 - Leslie Kohn - Theatre Arts/English Department
 - Anthony Schiliro - Special Education Permanent Substitute
 - Ryan Smith - English Department
 - Jennifer Hoffman - Director of LiteracyWe are wishing you a successful school year!
3. Welcome to the high school to our transfer staff:
 - Gabriella Febrizio - Reading
 - Mariana Rotenberg - School Psychologist
 - Keith Harvey - Director of Technology
4. Congrats to Tim Cabasino and Brianna Feminella on their recent marriages, Kristin Susko on her new baby girl, Blake Milizia on his new baby girl, and Samantha Silverman on her engagement.
5. Our sincerest condolences to Amy Gunther on the loss of her mother and to Anthony Cabasino and Tim Cabasino on the loss of their grandfather.
6. Congratulations to Mariela Giammarino who is being honored on October 24th at the 28th Annual Hispanic Heritage Gala.
7. Thank you to the administration for their diligence with enforcing our cell phone policy. We appreciate your presence in the hallways and ensuring a smooth start of the school year. We also want to thank you for your open dialogue with the building representatives. We are hopeful for a productive year where we can meet the needs of students and staff.

8. As per ARTICLE VIII, section 4, parts A and B of the Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association Constitution and By-Laws, I am appointing Camila Gamboa as a building representative for the 2024-2025 school year.
9. Thank you to our custodial and buildings & grounds staff for getting our building ready for the school year and for being so attentive these first few weeks of school.
10. Please consider volunteering to serve on a 2024-2025 district committee. It's important we make our voices heard. To sign up, please complete the Google form found in the September 11th email from Dr. Ostroff.
11. Please consider attending Music Bingo to raise funds for Strides Against Breast Cancer on October 10th.
12. October 11th, 2024, is Pink Out Day. Please wear pink and purchase tickets for our 50/50 to support and raise funds for Morning Madness.
13. Please save the date for our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on the Jones Beach Boardwalk on Sunday, October 20, 2024. Join Team LBCTA & LBSEA 11561 and please consider making a [donation](#) for a worthy cause.
14. Wishing everyone a happy and successful school year!

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

In attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Anne LaPenna, Chelsea Way

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathy Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jeanne Richards, Tamara Sommers, Melissa Zimmerman

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Molly Drake

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Dan D'Ottavio, Sean Miller

LBHS: Stephanie Mena, Matthew Hartmann, Loran Lang, Andrew Rossi, Rachel Yousha

Long Beach Teacher Center:

Retiree Representative: Frank Volpe

Executive Officers: Karen Bloom, Amy Leder, Jennifer Maggio, Jennifer Garrett, Patricia Van Loon
Elleen Parks, Jonathan Bloom

LIFE INSURANCE: *Crucial for protecting your loved ones*



Life insurance is a topic many people find confusing, complicated, and uncomfortable to think about. It is undoubtedly one of the most vital types of insurance products you can purchase, though. Whether you're looking into your first policy or to upgrade existing coverage, it's important to determine how much life insurance you need and which type is right for you.

One key fact about life insurance you may not be aware of is premiums are likely to be less expensive if you purchase it earlier in life. For those of you who currently have policies, what you purchased 10 years ago, five years ago, or even last year may not be enough to replace your income and all you provide for your family. And if you are part of the 30% of Americans who don't have any life insurance at all,* you could be putting your family at great financial risk.

There are a variety of options to consider when it comes to life insurance, including:

- 1. Term Life** – this product pays a benefit in the event of the death of the insured during a specific timeframe but offers no cash value.
- 2. Level Term Life** – this insurance is similar to term life but is normally for a set period of time such as 10, 15, or 20 years; it also offers no cash value.
- 3. Universal Life** – this option offers a way to protect your family while building tax-deferred cash value; policyholders can usually access a portion of the balance without impacting the guaranteed death benefit.

* Source: USA Today - <https://www.usatoday.com/money/blueprint/life-insurance/life-insurance-statistics>

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a number of competitive life insurance programs (those listed to the left and others) available to NYSUT members and their spouse/certified domestic partner. Many of these plans offer reduced rates not available to the general public along with additional convenience and savings opportunities through payroll or pension deduction.

Learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed life insurance programs by scanning the QR code, visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org, or calling 800-626-8101.

