



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

April 26, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:20pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

5/10/21, 5/24/21, 6/14/21

B. NYSTRS Delegates

The following member has volunteered to be NYSTRS Delegate; Lisa Rundo. This position is unopposed. With the approval of the Executive Board, and under the Landrum-Griffin statute, I will cast one vote to appoint her as our Delegate. We have one more position still available as an alternate. If you are interested, please email Keith Harvey at kharvey@lbeach.org.



C. Long Beach Board of Education

The Long Beach Board of Education voted on April 13, to adopt the proposed 2021-2022 School Budget. The overall budget-to-budget change is a net decrease of \$411,822 from the current year and will result zero percent increase in the Long Beach Tax Levy. However, many homeowners may still see an increase to their school taxes because of the ongoing shift in tax burden from Zones 2 and 3, to Zone 1 (homeowners). The final budget and two School Board members will be voted on by the community on Tuesday, May 18.

D. Long Beach Teacher Center

The following members will be appointed to the Long Beach Teacher Center Policy Board for a two-year term; Keith Harvey - LBCTA (2023), Anthony Balsamo (2023), Janna Arkow (2023) and Jacqueline Byrne (2023).

E. Union Sick Bank

Thank you very much to all who have donated so far. Unfortunately, the bank currently has more requests than days available, leaving the bank at zero. Please consider making a donation to help fill those requests. The bank runs on our members' generosity. [Donation Form](#)

F. 2021-2022 School Calendar

The school calendar was approved for next year. Should there be any annual conflicts in scheduling on the main calendar, please make your Building Reps aware so they can address them with your principals.

Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice President

Beth Prostick

Vice President for

Elementary Schools

Amy Powers

Vice President for Secondary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

Elleen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

Table of Contents

- I. President
- II. Committees
- III. Vice President
- IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools
- V. Vice President for Secondary Schools
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- VII. Building Reports
 - a. LBVE
 - b. West
 - c. Lindell
 - d. East
 - e. Lido
 - f. Pre-K
 - g. Middle School
 - h. High School
- VIII. NYSUT Benefits

G. MOA for Summer School

The District has once again contracted Nassau BOCES to run a Regional Summer School Program in Long Beach. We have signed the MOA which is very similar to the one from last year.

H. Eyeglass Reimbursement—Reminder

We are in year one of a two-year cycle for eyeglass/contact purchases. Members have \$400 to spend on glasses/contacts. On the form you will attest that the glasses are for your personal use. Completed claim forms with receipts attached must be sent to the HR department in Administration, or email Dr.Natali.

I. Study Money Dates

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program: Summer – May 14, 2021. 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](#).

J. Spring Cleaning/Apparel

Over the years LBCTA has accumulated one-off shirts from the various LBCTA apparel orders. If you are interested in any of the LBCTA shirts listed below, please email kharvey@lbeach.org with the style and size from the chart below. There are limited sizes and only one of each item, so they will be given out on a first come first served basis.

The LBCTA will be doing its biannual apparel order next fall, more information to follow.

Item			
Fleece Vest	Small	Medium	
Fleece Jacket	Extra Small		
Women's V-Neck	Medium	XL	
Light-Weight Hoodie	Small		
Long Sleeve Tee	Small	XXL	XXXL
Hooded Sweatshirt	Small		
Golf Shirt	XL		
3/4 Baseball Shirt	Small	XXL	
1/4 Zip Sweatshirt	Small		

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. Board of Elections – Jennifer Garrett

1. Thank you to everyone that attended the Candidates Forum.
2. In accordance with past practice and due to the uncontested election, I would like to make a motion to allow the president to strike one ballot for the uncontested election as per our constitution. A full election, especially to incur the overwhelming cost, is unwarranted.
*After discussion by the executive board, the motion was seconded by Stacey Mason.
A vote was taken, and it passed unanimously. Congratulations to our Executive Officers!

C. Negotiation Committee - Chief Negotiator’s Report - Keith Harvey

1. The committee made a request to formally open negotiations on April 13. We are currently waiting to hear back from the district to set a date for the first meeting. Thank you to everyone that submitted suggestions to the committee for this round of negotiations. We look forward to representing you as a group and hope we can count on you, should we need to take collective action. Our strength is less about us sitting at the table, and more about the support we get from you.

D. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. Discussions are underway on a plan to gather before the school year ends. We will keep you posted. Keep reading the minutes!
2. 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 do not have a buddy or mentor.** Do not be afraid to ask questions. There are many people here who will help you.

E. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. Thank you to all that joined our virtual PAC meeting on April 8th. We discussed Wear Red for ED and how great it was to see the solidarity of the LBCTA on full display. We discussed ways to keep the feelings of solidarity and pride strong. Also, we are heading into BOE elections and budget vote season. PAC decided to promote the budget this year via a postcard mailing, social media campaign and ads in the local paper.
2. Our next PAC will be on Thursday, May 6th at 4:15. Meeting information will be sent out. All are welcome to attend this meeting. If you would like to attend please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com from your personal email to be added.
3. 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.

F. Public Relations – Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. Our spring fundraiser was a huge success because of all of you. Together, we donated \$3621.00 to the Long Beach Aware Weekend Feeding Family. Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts.
2. Look for our Ad in the May 13th Herald welcoming our Kindergarten students. The K Kids article was originally scheduled for December but due to COVID they needed to postpone it to get all the kindergarten photography done.
3. Save the date... Sunday, October 17th, 2021 is the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Jones Beach. As of right now, the walk is going to be back in person on the Jones Beach Boardwalk. Our team LBCTA 11561 is already registered and our donation page is set up to start receiving donations. <http://main.acsevents.org/goto/LBCTA11561>

G. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. The Social Committee is pleased to announce in lieu of our grand end of the year celebration, we will have a casual cocktail party with live music to honor the 2020 and 2021 retirees on June 9. Flyers should be going out by the end of next week. Retiree bios are due by Monday, May 24 so we can have time to print the booklet for the event.
2. Our next Social Committee meeting will take place at 4:00 on Wednesday, April 28.

H. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. Thank you to all the teachers who have offered to run classes for the Long Beach Teacher Center this year. Please check MLP to see if you are interested in taking one of our upcoming classes. Please be aware that the \$40 fee for our classes goes directly to the instructor of the class and is not kept by the Teacher Center.
2. The Center would like to run a few classes during the summer for our teachers. If you are interested in running a 10 hour PD over the summer please contact the Director at lbtc@lbeach.org.
3. Thank you for those classroom teachers that have offered to volunteer their time on the Long Beach Teacher Center Policy Board for the next two year-term.
4. At this time the Center has purchased books for three book studies over the summer and the Policy Board has approved the grant for the 2021-2022 year.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

- A. It has been great to see so many students return to the building! We would like to encourage everyone to do their part by continuing to wear masks and to social distance when possible.
- B. Condolences to Pat Carlucci and her family. We are truly sorry for your loss.

C. APPR

1. In the next few weeks we should get more information about APPR and whether or not it will be waived this year. If it is not, we will work together to come up with fair alternatives to the Regents/Finals/State Tests. When speaking with Dr. Romanelli, he assured me that any measures used would be fair for teachers, and that we would come up with them together!
2. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.

D. Health & Safety Committee

1. As we had more students returning to our buildings, Mr. DeVito requested the air be tested again at the high school. They had made some adjustments to a few of our problem rooms, to allow for more fresh air to enter. The rooms that were retested all came back better than before! There was one room left that was a little lower than the rest, but is still ok as long as the number of students stays under 20. This information was shared with the building admin so that rooms can be adjusted accordingly!
2. Thank you to Mr. Scully and his team for constantly monitoring the situations in each building and helping to adjust where needed. They have been extremely helpful in assisting with all health and safety requirements
3. We still have no new updates on School IDs at the high school, but supposedly they are in the works.
4. Please continue to keep your building reps aware of any health and safety issues in your buildings so that we can address them as needed.
5. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

E. Other

1. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible. They are back to being in-person! Come join us!
2. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Elementary Vice President – Beth Prostick

- A. A huge thank you to everyone for donating to our CTA Raffle Baskets and congratulations to all the winners.
- B. We are glad all our elementary schools will be on the same schedule next year. We are still awaiting the times for the teachers so we can plan our schedules accordingly.
- C. If you are interested in serving as a Building Rep please email me at bprostick@lbeach.org or send a letter of interest to me c/o Lido School. The letter or email must be received by the close of business Friday, May 21. All Elementary Schools need 3 reps and 3 alternates. Election will take place the week of May 24.
- D. My sincere condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband.
- E. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
- F. Send me any issues you were unable to work out at your building. I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org.

V. Secondary Vice President – Amy Leder

- A. We will be holding our Building Rep elections during the week of May 24th. If you are interested in serving as a Building Rep, please email me at aleder@lbeach.org or send a letter of interest to me c/o High School. The letter or email must be received by the close of business Friday, May 21st. This will also allow any new Building Reps to attend our last meeting of the year on June 14th. Middle School: 5 Reps High School: 7 Reps.
- B. With the return of all students to our buildings, there has been a lot of events occurring. Please continue to contact your building reps with any questions or concerns.

- C. Condolences to Pat Carlucci and her family on the passing of her husband, Larry. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

VI. Treasurer’s Report – James Fiola

A. March Financial Results

<u>Revenues</u>		<u>Expenditures</u>	
Union Dues	\$42,040	NYSUT	\$15,196
Retiree Dues	45	AFT	9,447
Total	<u>\$42,085</u>	Officer/Rep Stipends	26,078
		Taxes and Ins	<u>7,468</u>
		Total	<u>\$26,389</u>

- B. I hope you are all hanging in there as we start getting more students in class. Stay safe and healthy. Since the weather is getting nicer, I encourage you to get out and get fresh air. 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.

My condolences go out Pat Carlucci and her family on the passing of her husband, Larry.

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

Union dues for 2020/2021 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 and will show up under the column “MDED-03.” We are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.

The 2020 union dues for tax purposes for full time members was \$1,018.

VII. Building Reports

A. LBVE

1. Thank you to all of the Elementary PTAs for including the LBVE students in their annual PARP celebrations. The children enjoyed reading with their partners and having so many wonderful secret readers. They also enjoyed taking part in the many virtual assemblies. Thank you for helping to build a love for reading.
2. Condolences to Pat Carlucci and her family, on the passing of her husband, Larry.
3. Please consider donating a day to the LBCCTA sick bank

B. West School

1. Welcome Tony Bond to our evening custodial staff.
2. Thank you to Amy and Sarah for walking around and giving the TA staff food during our lockout.
3. Thank you to all who wore blue in support of Autism Awareness.
4. Bedtime and Books was a success.
5. Thank you to our PTA for the awesome Plant Sale.
6. Thank you to our PTA for a successful PARP experience and for providing books to each West School student and raffles for our lucky classroom winners!
7. Thank you to ALL of the Mystery Reader Guests who read to our classes. The children really enjoyed having guest readers throughout the week.
8. Thank you to our PTA for having author Alexandra Penfold visit with our students. She was so informative, and the children loved learning how to be an author.
9. Thank you to ALL who donated to our Pet Food/Supplies Drive for our Heart Huddles program for Missy Miller's pet food drive.
10. Special thank you to Dr. Patrick Kiley-Rendon and the technology department for providing staff with updated technology.

11. Condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband, Larry.

12. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.

C. Lindell School

1. Thank you to our PTA for two very successful PARP weeks. The students enjoyed the virtual assembly and fun daily reading activities.

2. Thank you to the PTA for our teacher and staff Grab-n-Go snacks and plants during our parent/teacher conferences.

3. Thank you to students, teachers and staff for sharing celebrations of Earth Day with the school and community.

4. Thank you to Grade 1 for a successful “Zoom” VIP Day - and we look forward to Grade 2 VIP Day *via* Flipgrid in May *and* Kindergarten’s VIP Celebration in June.

5. Thank you to all who purchased and wore their autism awareness shirts on April 23rd in support of “Autism Awareness Day.”

6. Condolences to Dana Runfola on the loss of her mother.

7. Condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband.

8. Please consider donating a sick day to our district sick bank.

D. East School

1. Thank you to Mr. DeVito, Kathy Connolly, Alfredo and Steve Lahey for helping us to minimize the mouse population at East School. We appreciate all of your help with this.

2. Congratulations to Matt Jones on the birth of his daughter, Lucy Grace.

3. Condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband, Larry.

4. Thank you to all who purchased and wore Autism Awareness shirts.

5. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

E. Lido School

1. Thank you to the Lido PTA for the Virtual PARP Assemblies and for Lido’s PARP Activities.

2. Thank you to the Lido PTA for hosting Lido’s Online Book Fair.

3. Thank you to all who participated in the District Autism Awareness Day.

4. Congratulations to Chris Webel on the announcement of becoming Lido School’s Assistant Principal as of the 2021-2022 school year. We look forward to working with you!

5. Congratulations to Christine Toppi and her family on the arrival of their daughter, Daniella Christine!

6. Congratulations to Dr. Justin Sulsky for earning his doctorate degree!

7. Congratulations to Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell for leading the Odyssey of the Mind team in another successful state competition.

8. Wishing a speedy recovery to Gia Cody!

9. Condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband, Larry.

10. Congratulations to the winners of the LBCTA Spring fundraiser baskets.

11. Thank you to Fawwas Persaud and his custodial staff for their constant support and dedication in keeping our building clean and safe.

12. Thank you to Patrick Kiley-Rendon and the Technology Team for the distribution of the new Chromebooks for teachers and for all of your help this year.

13. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

F. Pre-K

1. Thank you to the Pre-K PTA for their generous donation and PARP activities!

2. Congratulations to Mr. Webel on becoming the Assistant Principal. We are looking forward to collaborating with you!

3. Congratulations to Maryann Silvestro on the birth of her granddaughter, Sadie Beau.

4. Thank you for participating in the spring basket fundraiser and congratulations to the winners!
5. Thank you for participating in going blue for Autism Awareness.
6. Our sincerest condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband.
7. Please consider donating a sick day to our LBCTA sick bank.

G. Middle School

1. Continued gratitude and appreciation to EVERYONE for all continued efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe.
2. Kudos to our Welcoming Committee and Bldg. Admin. for all of their work to welcome students as they return to daily in person learning. We are better together!
3. Special thanks to Fawwas Persaud, Mike Avila, Mike Sacks, our entire custodial staff and Building and Grounds for their work to prepare for and accommodate students as they return to daily in person learning.
4. Thank you to Patrick Kiley-Rendon and the District Technology Committee for keeping teachers updated with new technology.
5. Congratulations to our Odyssey of the Mind team! Everyone did a great job. Thank you to advisors Susan Kasper and Doug MacConnell for their hard work.
6. Congratulations to all our National Junior Honor Society inductees! We are so proud of your accomplishment! Special thanks to advisors Patty Van Loon and Mike Vasikauskas.
7. Special thanks to Michelle Frank for arranging the author visit with Jerry Craft for our Graphic Novel classes. The students enjoyed the experience!
8. Continued get well wishes to Lorie Beard.
9. Congratulations to Kate Smith on the birth of her son, Cormac Leo.
10. Congratulations to Natalie Aviles and Lisa Ranneklev on their recent appointments.
11. Congratulations to Chris Webel on his recent appointment as Assistant Principal of Lido Elementary. We appreciate all of your help and hard work this year. Lido is lucky to have you!
12. Condolences to Lorie Beard on the loss of her mother.
13. Condolences to Pat Carlucci on the loss of her husband.
14. Elections for LBCTA middle school reps will take place the week of May 24th. If you are interested in running for the position of building rep, please send a letter of intent to Amy Leder at aleder@lbeach.org by May 21st.
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.

H. High School

1. Condolences to Pat Carlucci and her family on the loss of her husband, Larry.
2. Thank you to all administrators, teachers and staff for all of the fun activities related to welcoming back our students.
3. Thank you to Dr. Kiley-Rendon and the technology department for the recent upgrade of teacher Chromebooks.
4. Thank you to all of the building custodial staff for the installation of student desks and barriers in order to accommodate the return of the students.
5. Thank you to the Special Education Department for hosting Autism Awareness Day and for all of those who purchased shirts.
6. Thank you to the LBHS Sunshine Committee for hosting the Long Beach High School Human Scrabble game.
7. Thank you to Dr. Radice and the English department for hosting the Book Fair.
8. Thank you to Ms. Mastrantuono and students of the H.O.P.E club for hosting the Earth Day Awareness Day.

9. Thank you to Dr. Gallagher for arranging for student notification of vaccine appointments.
10. Congratulations to Chris Webel on being named Lido Assistant Principal.
11. The staff has concerns regarding the closing of NIKE. They remain eager to see the comprehensive plan that will support the at risk students and staff for next school year.
12. Thank you to the Building Administration for handling the contact tracing that goes along with suspected cases.
13. Cleaning logs for each classroom are displayed in each classroom. Cleaners should be signing the log to indicate that the room has been cleaned and disinfected pursuant to the cleaning checklist. Staff members whose log is not being signed should notify the head custodian and CC Mr. Myers.
14. COVID testing and quarantining rules are constantly changing. Each situation will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If you should have any questions regarding your need to get tested or whether you need to quarantine, please contact Dr. Natali. If you prefer to have a building representative contact Dr. Natali, please let one know.
15. Staff would like to see the district require students to wear student ID cards during the school day.
16. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.
17. Thank you to EVERYONE for all your efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe. Please remember to wear your mask.
18. Thank you to EVERYONE for going above and beyond for the students for Long Beach.

At 5:34 pm, a motion was made by Jonathan Bloom to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alison Katulka.

In Attendance:

Long Beach Virtual Elementary (LBVE): Heather Puckhaber

West: Claudine Clark, Cheryleann Fontenot, Anne La Penna

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathleen Barone, Lisa Rundo

East: Jennifer Diamond, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Diana Armada, Dana Monti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Lauren Behan, Alison Katulka, Stacey Mason

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Anthony Balsamo, Lisa Casey, Matthew Hartmann

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC): John Marr

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Guest: Christopher Brown

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

Legal or financial concerns? NYSUT Member Benefits can help

Whether it's assisting NYSUT members with everyday essentials, important choices about insurance needs, or making prudent decisions about financial and legal concerns, NYSUT Member Benefits can help.



Scan the QR codes below to learn more about the following endorsed programs and services.

Legal Service Plan: For a low annual price, our Legal Service Plan provides unlimited toll-free legal advice; a simple will, health care proxy, living will and power of attorney; and guaranteed maximum fees for many legal matters. If a NYSUT member who is a current participant in the Legal Service Plan passes away due to COVID-19, the law firm of Feldman, Kramer & Monaco has offered to extend a number of services at no cost to the member's family.



SCAN ME

Financial Learning Center: We recently contracted with popular financial publisher Kiplinger's Personal Finance for our new Financial Learning Center. This interactive microsite offers numerous articles on a wide variety of financial topics, including selecting the best value in tax planning software and more. No matter your point in life or financial situation, you are sure to find something of interest.



SCAN ME

Mid-Island Mortgage: With our UnionDirect Mortgage Discount Program presented by Mid-Island Mortgage, NYSUT members receive special purchase and refinancing mortgage discounts for a variety of home-related needs. Whether you're looking to buy a home, lower your mortgage payment or planning a home improvement project, Mid-Island Mortgage can help you save up to \$2,700 on lender fees and closing costs.



SCAN ME

Cambridge Credit Counseling: Our program with Cambridge Credit Counseling can assist NYSUT members with better understanding their student loan re-payment and debt consolidation options. NYSUT members can receive a no-cost, no-obligation, consultation with a Cambridge certified counselor. Cambridge is also the provider of NYSUT's Student Loan Debt Webinars.



SCAN ME

NYSUT Member Benefits offers dozens of programs and services that are available to NYSUT members and their families, including the following options:



DINING & SHOPPING DISCOUNTS



TRAVEL & TOURS



CAR & TRUCK RENTALS



LIFE INSURANCE



AUTO & HOME



LONG-TERM CARE & DISABILITY

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org, call 800-626-8101 or scan the QR codes above.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.