



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

January 24, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 4:18pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Meeting Dates

2/14/22, 3/14/22, 3/28/22, 4/11/22, 5/9/22,
5/23/22, 6/13/22

B. Calendar Approval

The 2022-2023 District draft school calendar was presented to and discussed by the Executive Board.

C. Professional Development Opportunity

The work of our members throughout this global pandemic has been extraordinary! You have given selflessly to support our students and community. However, this dedication has taken a toll on everyone. If taking care of yourself during stressful times is of interest to you, then here is the link to sign up for: [“Preventing Career Burnout for Educators”](#)

This is a self-paced, 3-credit (45 hours) course hosted by the Long Island Institute for Professional Studies (LIIPS). The content will be engaging and beneficial to our professional and personal lives.

D. LBCTA Treasurer

It is with regret and warm wishes that I announce Jim Fiola's retirement. Jim has been LBCTA Treasurer for 15 years and has done a wonderful job maintaining the records of our membership, balancing the finances of our association, and working on a variety of committees as chairmen and member. With his retirement comes the need to fill the last year of his two-year term.

As per the LBCTA constitution it is my responsibility, with the approval of the Executive Board, to recommend a replacement. Two of the overarching responsibilities of this position are to maintain the finances and the active membership role of the Association. A full list of job responsibilities can be found starting on page 6 of the [LBCTA Constitution](#). Having an understanding of finance and spreadsheet/database usage will be important skills for this job. If you are interested in volunteering for this position or have any questions, please contact me by the close of business 2/18/22.



Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice President

Beth Prostick

Vice President for

Elementary Schools

Amy Leder

Vice President for Secondary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

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. [West](#)
 - b. [Lindell](#)
 - c. [East](#)
 - d. [Lido](#)
 - e. [Pre-K](#)
 - f. [Middle School](#)
 - g. [High School](#)
- VIII. [NYSUT Benefits](#)

E. 2022 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 their high school in either January or June 2022. They may attend high school in any city or town. A parent must have been a dues paying member of the CTA for at least three full years and currently paying dues unless on family or medical leave. Those interested and eligible may request an application from 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 11. The evaluation of these applications will take place on Wednesday, March 16, immediately after school. Please contact Pat if you are interested in helping evaluate the applications. It would be wonderful if every building was represented.

F. Study Money Dates - Reminder

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program, Summer - May 13, 2022. 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](#).

G. Coaching Pay Dates

Below are the payroll dates for coaches for 2021-22 school year:

1. High School

Winter: Second Check: 2/18

Spring: First Check: 4/14, Second Check: 5/13

2. Middle School

Winter II: First Check: 2/18, Second Check: 3/18

Spring: First Check: 4/29, Second Check: 6/10

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

Permanent Substitute Contract

I am pleased to announce that we have reached a tentative agreement with the Long Beach Board of Education for a Permanent Substitute contract settlement. In accordance with the LBCTA Constitution, the Executive Board must first approve the agreement and then submit a report for the approval of the Permanent Substitute general membership at a special membership meeting. Proposal was presented to and unanimously accepted by the Executive Board.

C. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. Keep reading the minutes and look out for emails about a Spring New Member Buddy/Mentor gathering.
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 don't have a buddy or mentor. Don't be afraid to ask questions. There are many people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. We are currently in the planning stages for the next edition of the LBCTA Newsletter. We are considering expanding our distribution list to include NYSUT members residing in the City of Long Beach, Lido Beach, Point Lookout and [East Atlantic Beach](#). It would be great to include these NYSUT brothers and sisters and keep them informed of all the great happenings in our district. If you have any thoughts, ideas, or suggestions for content for the next newsletter please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com. All suggestions are greatly appreciated!

2. Our next meeting will take place virtually on Tuesday, February 15 at 4:15. All are welcome to attend. Even if you cannot make it, 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

E. Public Relations – Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. Unfortunately, due to the rise in COVID cases, we have rescheduled our annual Bowling Event. It will now be held on April 7th, 2022. We will send you more information when the date gets closer. Let's use this extra time to make our baskets even more beautiful. Please let Amy and Beth know what your building raffle basket theme will be. We also welcome additional raffle basket donations. 😊
2. The Lido school community is looking for “Guest Readers” to share their favorite read-aloud book with their students this year. If you would like to be a “Guest Reader,” please share a video recording of yourself reading your favorite read-aloud book. They will then use your video in their classrooms during World Read Aloud Day on February 2nd. Please share your video with Dr. Hernandez @ ihernandez@lbeachg.org by Thursday, January 27th.
3. Congratulations to Liz O'Brien. She applied for and was awarded a grant from NYSUT! Five years ago, NYSUT started an initiative to encourage more students to consider teaching as a career. The “Take a Look at Teaching” program looks to diversify and strengthen the educator pipeline in NYS. This year they offered an opportunity for individuals to apply for a 3-year \$15,000 grant (\$5000 each school year) to attain this goal. For this year, Liz is looking for teacher mentors who would like to mentor a student, specifically to talk about “why you went into teaching” and to show them how to put a lesson plan together. If you are interested, please email Liz at eobrien@lbeach.org.
4. The following link is a resource for daily staff and student cases:
<https://schoolcovidreportcard.health.ny.gov/#/home>
5. The Long Beach BOE Meeting is on January 25th at 7:00 PM. These are great events to learn about the decisions and policies that are created to improve student achievement. This is a Work Session. Topics include Budget Presentation– General Support Functions, Staff Benefits, and Debt Service.
6. If you want to check out the LBHS first issue of the *Tide*. Click [here](#).



F. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. We are currently trying to plan our retirement party. The tentative date is May 4th. Please save the date! More information will be given at the February 14th meeting.

G. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. This is a reminder that the five-year window for renewal of your professional certificate is in effect. As a reminder, 15 hours of your 100 hours of professional learning over five years must be focused on ENL learners. As you continue your professional development learning, please keep this in mind.
2. The Long Beach Teacher Center continues to look for in-district individuals who are interested in running ten-hour PD classes. Professional Development is an important part of our professional practice, and the LBTC is willing to pay educators \$800 to run a class.
3. Effective 12 January 2022, the Long Beach Teacher Center Policy Board has temporarily suspended course fees in the hopes of making more professional classes available for teachers and staff of the district. Fees for the Teacher Center will resume 1 July 2022.
4. If you are interested in running a class, or have any other questions please contact the Director at lbtc@lbeach.org.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

- A. Unfortunately, after some discussion, it was decided that teachers at the secondary level will no longer be allowed to write personalized comments when reporting grades. Only canned comments

can be used, which limits our ability to individualize students' progress and/or to identify areas of strengths or areas needing improvement. As always, we will continue to communicate as effectively as possible, despite this change.

B. APPR

1. You should have received a document stating who your evaluators will be for this school year. If you did not, please contact your immediate supervisor and let them know.
2. Please take an active role in the observation process. Keep in mind that the Danielson framework that we use is based on best practice and observable measures. You should not see opinions from your evaluation team. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.
3. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
4. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

C. Health & Safety Committee

1. Thank you to everyone for following all regulations and doing our best to keep students and staff safe through this time. We look forward to things moving in a better direction as the spring approaches!
2. We are still waiting for ID's to be given at the HS; materials have been ordered and hopefully they will arrive soon!
3. The next meeting is scheduled for April 7th. It will include a discussion of Safe Passageways at the HS as well as an update on Capital Projects.
4. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

D. Other

1. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
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. We will have an Elementary Council meeting on February 7 at 4:15. It will be held on Zoom.
- B. Mark your calendars for our Bowling Event on April 7.
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- D. Send me any issues that you were unable to work out at your building.
- E. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org.

V. Secondary Vice President – Amy Leder

- A. Please continue to communicate with your building reps and/or me if you have any questions, concerns, or unresolved open issues. Conversations are happening every day. Thank you for working with your school administration to resolve building issues.

VI. Treasurer's Report – James Fiola

- A. As the month has not ended yet, the January financial results will be reported in the minutes of our Feb 14th executive board meeting.
- B. 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. **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 2021/2022 for full-time members will remain at \$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 "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.

For tax purposes, the 2021 union dues are \$1,018.

VII. Building Report

A. West School

1. Thank you to the West School staff for their contributions to our Unity video which the students greatly enjoyed making.
2. Wishing Christine O'Driscoll good luck in her new position at PPS. You will be greatly missed here at West!
3. BIG got off to a successful start. Be Into Geography is a District wide program run by our PTA where students answer questions related to geography with the use of map skills.
4. Please join us, or form a team, for our 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser Thursday, April 7th, 2022.
5. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.

B. Lindell School

1. Lindell celebrated Unity Day on January 14th with a school-wide activity creating a unity chain of hands. We are proud of our fifth grade students who planned the day's activities and wrote the Unity Poem for the school.
2. Save the date for our annual Bowling Fundraiser! April 7, 2022! We are looking for new local organizations to donate too. Please send your suggestions to Amy or Beth.
3. Please consider donating to the sick bank.

C. East School

1. Congratulations to Jackie Eiger on the birth of her granddaughter Layla Jolie.
2. Thank you to the district for the wood chips that we desperately needed in the kindergarten playground.
3. We encourage staff members to join us for an afternoon of fun and fundraising at the RVC Bowling Lanes on April 7th.
4. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

D. Lido School

1. Congratulations to Yessica Amaya-Reyes and her family on the recent birth of her son, Diego Josue.
2. Wishing Mr. Rick Aull, security guard, a speedy recovery.
3. Students enjoyed Unity day activities.
4. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, April 7th, 2022.
5. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. Our Pre-K students really enjoyed the Unity Day activities! Thank you to Dr. Hernandez, Mr. Webel, and the SEL committee for planning.
2. Get well wishes to Rick Aull. You are missed at Lido.
3. Pre-Kindergarten visitation is on Thursday, Feb 3, 2022 at 2:45 and 3:15 pm at Lido School.
4. Save the date for our LBCTA bowling event, 4/7/22.
5. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

F. Middle School

1. Problems with the heat are ongoing. Many rooms have intermittent or little heat. We hope this can be resolved in a timely fashion.
2. We are concerned with the lack of supervision in the back hall of the building after school. We appreciated the addition of a security guard at the back door until 3:30 although this post seems to have been changed. We look forward to a prompt return of a security guard after school at the back of the building.
3. Thank you to Mr. Bajit, Dr. Darkeh, and Mrs. McDonell for the very informative scheduling presentations for students as they begin to prepare for next year.

4. Kudos to our 6th grade students, Mrs. Buffalino, Mrs. Espinet, Mr. Gallopini, Ms. Ross, and Mrs. Scott on a successful Ancient Egypt Museum. It was great to see all of the hard work and creativity on display.
5. Kudos to our 7th grade students, Ms. Arkow, Mr. Cook, Ms. Ferrante, Mr. Hoffman, Dr. Marr, Ms. Napolitano, and Mrs. Van Loon for a successful National History Day. Collaboration, research, writing, and presentation skills are evident in the impressive displays submitted by students.
6. Kudos to all involved in the creation of our new MLK cube display: our 7th grade Math Counts students and Mr. Papetti for learning to solve the cube and assembling the display and to our Wood Tech students and Mr. Pross for building the necessary frame. Special thanks to Ms. Obidienzo, Mrs. Hinke, and their students for painting the frame.
7. Thank you to EVERYONE for all efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe.
8. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, April 7th, 2022.
9. 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. Congratulations to Tom Gaynor and his wife Mary on the birth of their twins, Claire and Quinn!
2. Congratulations to Jim Fiola and Pat Fallon on the announcement of their upcoming retirement.
3. Thank you to Mr. Myers and the district for replacing the damaged & missing phones in the classrooms.
4. Thank you to Michael Corrigan for setting up the *Suspenders for Spitz* day of remembrance and kindness in honor of our friend Jay Spitz and thank you to everyone who contributed and participated in this memorial fundraiser. This was a great opportunity to commemorate an amazing colleague. Happy 65th Birthday Jay.
5. The issue of building temperature and climate concerns has been reported for many years by the HS Building Committee. For the past few years the maintenance of the HVAC equipment has been a series of temporary fixes that do not address the situation properly. We urge the district to prioritize the addressing of the HVAC situation at the High School.
6. The staff is glad to hear there will be grade assemblies with administration in the upcoming week.
7. 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.
8. Save the date for the Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at the RVC Lanes on April 7.
9. We are appreciative of the continued open dialogue between administration and the building reps and hope that the actions that result improve the quality of teaching and learning in the building.
10. Please consider serving on a district committee.
11. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.

At 6:18pm, a motion was made by Heather Puckhaber to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Stacey Mason.

In Attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Anne LaPenna

Lindell: Susan Simons, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jennifer Diamond, Doug MacConnell, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, Stacey Mason

LBHS: Lisa Casey, Jonathan Bloom, Camila Gamboa, Matthew Hartmann, Greg Milone

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC):

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

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Jan/Feb 2022