



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

November 22, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:17pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Meeting Dates

12/13/21, 1/10/22, 1/24/22, 2/14/22, 3/14/22, 3/28/22, 4/11/22, 5/9/22, 5/23/22, 6/13/22

B. Long Beach Food Pantry Donation

At this year's Superintendents Conference Day, we were able to collect and donate \$2,100 to the St. Mary's Long Beach Food Pantry to assist with holiday meals in our community. Thank you to everyone that donated.

C. Superintendent's Conference Day

Thank you very much to the PDP Committee for all their hard work putting together a great virtual conference day. The opportunity to reflect on best practice and participate in mindfulness activities could not have come at a better time.

D. SRP Recognition Day—November 16, 2021

SRP Recognition Day acknowledges the contributions of School Related Professionals in helping to educate the whole student. Long Beach SRP members perform a variety of key roles in schools working as bus drivers, custodians, secretaries, food service workers, teaching assistants, aides and in dozens of other job titles. Thank you to all our SRP workers for everything you do in and out of the classrooms. You are an essential component to the success of our students.

E. In-District COVID Testing

Some members have been receiving checks from NYSHIP and others have been receiving invoices from ProPhase. In the event this happens, please hold the check until you get the bill from ProPhase (aka Confucius Plaza). You then sign the check over and send it along with the invoice. This is a common practice when using out-of-network providers under the NYSHIP plan.

F. Toy Drive 2021

This year we will not be able to have our traditional toy collection. Instead of collecting actual gifts we will be collecting money through gift cards, cash and Venmo @Keith-Harvey-20. Cash and gift card donations can be given to your union reps or sent directly to me at the Middle School.



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. New Business
- IX. NYSUT Benefits

Keith Harvey

@Keith-Harvey-20



venmo

G. First Eligible Retirement Incentive

If you are considering retiring in June, under the terms of our first eligible retirement incentive, you must notify the district of your intention by January 15, 2022. First eligible means that you are able to retire without an age or service reduction. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, you can look at your NYSTRS Benefit Profile or contact NYSTRS directly at; NYSTRS website- <https://nystrs.org/Retirement-Planning> NYSTRS Number - (800) 348-7298.

H. Release Time for Vaccine Shots and Boosters Shots - Reminder

Under this new law, employees will be granted up to four hours of excused leave per injection that will not be charged against their sick bank. This can be used for the initial and booster shots. COVID Vaccine is an option on the AESOP dropdown menu and there is a form in your main office to complete.

I. Study Money Dates - Reminder

There are two more opportunities to participate in the Study Program: Winter – December 10, 2021, 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](#).

J. Coaching Pay Dates

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

1. High School

Winter: First Check: 12/23, Second Check: 2/18

Spring: First Check: 4/12, Second Check: 5/13

2. Middle School

Winter I: First Check: 12/10, Second Check: 1/21

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

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

K. NYSUT Pocket Calendars

If you would like a 2021-22 NYSUT pocket calendar, please contact one of your Building Reps.

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

Thank you to all the Permanent subs that gave suggestions for the upcoming negotiations. We have made a formal request to the Long Beach Board of Education to open negotiations. We look forward to bringing you a successor agreement in the near future.

C. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. A reminder for the returning new member teachers, if you had a mentor, he/she will now become your union buddy as you are guided toward tenure. Please let us know if you do not have a Buddy or mentor. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org.
2. Thank you to all that attended the Fall New Member/Mentor party on October 29th. We hope you were able to enjoy the company of your fellow new teachers, building reps and officers. There will be another gathering in the Spring.
3. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends.
4. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Observations have started and there are **many** people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. It is important that PAC has a way to contact members to disseminate information in a timely fashion. Please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com with an **active** personal email address so the contact list can be updated.
2. 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.
3. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

E. Public Relations – Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. The Tackle Out Cancer Football game was a huge success. The students raised \$2000 towards our Making Strides fundraiser giving our team a grand total of over \$8,600 raised. This was an incredible event, and we are truly grateful to our students for working so hard and for supporting our cause. A special thank you to Arnie Epstein for creating this idea and supporting our association.
2. A huge thank you to each one of you for donating towards the LBCTA Food Pantry. Together as an association, we donated \$2100 to St. Mary's Food Pantry.
3. Your kindness and thoughtfulness raised a grand total of \$10,712 this fall.
4. Congratulations to Jordan Hue, Liz O'Brien and the LBHS Theatre Department for an incredible performance of *Peter and the Star Catcher*.
5. Check out the MS Musical, *High School Musical, Jr.* starting on Thursday, December 2nd.
6. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
7. Save the date for our annual Bowling Fundraiser! Thursday, February 10, 2022! We are looking for new local organizations to donate to. Please send your suggestions to Amy or Beth.

F. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving!
2. Our next Social Committee will take place on Wednesday, December 8 at 4:15. This will be a virtual meeting. Please email me, eparks@lbeach.org if you are interested in helping in the planning of this year's retirement party. A zoom link will be sent to all interested parties.

G. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is currently seeking instructors to run 11 PD classes to begin in November. Based on the needs assessment given last year, teachers are interested in the following topics:
Differentiating Instruction, Creative Problem Solving in the Classroom
Google Workspace, Digital Teaching tools, Conflict Resolution skills for students
Developing Critical Thinking Skills, Developing student communication skills
Mindfulness, Project Based Learning
2. Please contact the director at lbtcc@lbeach.org or fill out a proposal sheet on [Frontline Professional Growth](#), formerly My Learning Plan, if you would like to run a class on one of these topics or something else. The center currently offers an \$800 stipend for a 10-hour class.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

- A. We are extremely disappointed in the district's decision to cancel our traditional midterm week. Despite the fact that most teachers, students, and administrators feel that this would be beneficial to students both academically and emotionally, it was still determined to administer midterms during the regular school day. This leads to much added stress for students as well as limits our ability to give a midterm comparable to the exams students will be taking in May or June. We hope they will reconsider this decision.

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

The following items are updates since we last met.

1. **Student IDs High School**: Mr. Myers explained that they are still waiting to receive an order of card stock that they submitted at the end of October.
2. **Update on Traffic Work**: Construction at the Lido Complex will resume on Monday, November 29th when crews will mobilize on the golf course property.
3. **Update on Pond Work**: The paver pathway around the pond is almost finished. We are still waiting for the fence. The asphalt for the new basketball court should be done within the next two days and we are waiting for the delivery of the second “goal” (pole, backboard, hoop and net).
4. **MS Tennis Courts**: The new resurfaced tennis courts at the middle school just had pickleball lines painted on them so the courts are now complete.
5. **Leaks in HS**: Buildings and Grounds are continuing to work on the drainage issues which appear to be more complicated than originally anticipated based on the unforeseen circumstances underground. The facilities department is still working with the roofing manufacturers and repair contractors on the residual leaks.
6. **Late Pre-K Buses**: This issue seems to have gotten better, as most buses are getting there close to or on time. We will continue to monitor them and we thank the transportation department for constantly trying to adjust the routes to accommodate as many students as possible.
7. The next meeting is scheduled for January 6th and the last one is April 7th. 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. I hope you enjoy this Thanksgiving break with family and friends!
2. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
3. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

IV. Elementary Vice President – Beth Prostick

- A. Our virtual Parent Teacher conferences are scheduled for December 15 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm and December 16 from 12:30-3:30 pm. We will be using Google Meet for the meetings.
- B. You can send me any issues that you were unable to work out at your building.
- C. Have a very relaxing and happy Thanksgiving.
- D. 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 about new and old items that are a concern to you. We encourage you to also keep the lines of communication open with administration about any personal issues and/or items you feel comfortable discussing with them.
- B. Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving break with your family and friends.

VI. Treasurer's Report – James Fiola

A. 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. Save the date for our Bowling fundraiser event on Feb 10th, 2022. Congratulations to Amy Leder on completing the recent NYC marathon! I am sending condolences to Sharon Weiss and her family on the passing of her son Andrew. I wish you all a festive and restful Thanksgiving. Enjoy the time with your family and friends.

B. October's Financial Results

| <u>Revenues</u> | | <u>Expenditures</u> | |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Union Dues | \$39,365 | NYSUT | \$15,947 |
| Making Stride Shirts | 75 | AFT | 10,194 |
| Retiree Dues | 207 | Meeting Expenses | 3,956 |
| NYSUT Insert | 500 | Taxes and Ins | 245 |
| Total | <u>\$40,147</u> | PTA Dues | 3,232 |
| | | Telephone | <u>202</u> |
| | | Total | <u>\$33,778</u> |

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

D. 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. 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.

VII. Building Report

A. West School

1. We would like to extend our condolences to Sharon Weiss and her family on the passing of her son, Andrew.
2. Thank you to all of our staff who participated in our West Friendsgiving Fundraiser. We raised over \$400 to help supply local families with food for Thanksgiving.
3. Thank you to Alison Katulka and Jim Fiola for a fabulous Buddy Party. We had such a nice time getting to know our new members.
4. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing a wonderful Fall craft for all the students to make and share with their families.
5. Red Ribbon Week was a huge success. Students enjoyed dressing up each day and learning about ways to be healthy.
6. Thank you to Paul Romanelli and the Superintendent Conference Day Committee for an informative and stress-free day.
7. The West School Storybook Parade was a success. Students chose their favorite book and dressed up as that character for a traditional parade around the school.
8. Please consider donating to our LBCTA Toy Drive. Cash or gift cards can be given to your building reps or you can Venmo Keith Harvey @Keith-Harvey-20.
9. Please join us, or form a team, for our 4th ANNUAL Bowling Fundraiser Thursday, February 10th, 2022. Please check the Public Relations report for more details.
10. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Bank.
11. We wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to our SELF Committee for a great start to our SEL Families with our lesson titled "Attitude of Gratitude."

2. Thank you to the Lindell PTA for donating water to our students who participated in our annual Walk It Forward Day.
3. Thank you to Arnie Epstein and the district for the yoga mats. The students are using them in a variety of different ways.
4. Thank you to Jim and Ali for a memorable buddy party.
5. Much gratitude to all those who have donated to the collection for the local food pantry.
6. Thank you to students and staff for a successful “Fall Festival” at Lindell. The students appreciated and enjoyed the crafts donated by the Lindell PTA.
7. Thank you to Kirstyn Golden for organizing a wonderful Red Ribbon Week. This year's focus on encouraging a healthy body and a healthy mind was well received.
8. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
9. Condolences to Rachel Ray on the passing of her stepfather.
10. Condolences to Sharon Weiss on the passing of her son, Andrew.
11. Condolences to the Gernhardt Family on the passing of Scott, an alumni of Lindell.
12. Wishing everybody a safe, healthy and Happy Thanksgiving.

C. East School

1. Our sincere condolences to Sharon Weiss and her family on the loss of her son, Andrew.
2. Thank you to East School’s P.T.A. for organizing the Fall Festival Fundraiser. It was a fun-filled afternoon for all who attended.
3. The Thanksgiving food drive was a great success because of the generosity of our East School Families and staff members.
4. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
5. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
6. Wishing everyone a happy healthy Thanksgiving. Enjoy spending time with your families and friends.

D. Lido School

1. Condolences to Sharon Weiss, former Assistant Principal, and family on the loss of her son, Andrew Weiss.
2. Condolences to Maris Lynch on the loss of her mother in law and Ryan Lynch on the loss of his grandmother, Rosemarie Lynch.
3. Wishing Dana Monti a speedy recovery!
4. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
5. Thank you to all members who donated to the Long Beach Food Pantry. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.
6. Thank you to Dina Behr for organizing our Fun Fund Coffee Club, as well as the October and November Breakfasts!
7. We had a productive and informative Superintendent's Conference Day. Thank you to all the presenters who shared their knowledge with colleagues.
8. Thank you to Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka for organizing the LBCTA New Buddy Fall Gathering. Lots of fun!
9. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, February 10th, 2022.
10. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.
11. Wishing all a happy, healthy, and restful Thanksgiving Break with family and friends!

E. Pre-K

1. Our sincerest condolences to Sharon Weiss and family on the loss of her son, Andrew.
2. Our sincerest condolences to Maris and Ryan Lynch and family on the loss of her mother-in-law and his grandmother, Rosemarie Lynch.
3. Thank you to Dr. Romanelli for organizing and the staff members that presented on Superintendent's Conference Day. It was a productive and informative day!
4. Thank you to all that donated to Long Beach food pantries.
5. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
6. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.
7. Have a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving!

F. Middle School

1. Thank you, Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Romanelli and the Superintendent's Conference Day Committee for organizing a productive virtual day. A special thank you to all instructors that volunteered to offer the many helpful sessions.
2. Many rooms are cold with some reporting intermittent heat. We understand the need for fresh air from outside but are concerned some rooms have cold air blowing in from the blowers. We hope this can be addressed prior to temperatures dropping further.
3. On 11/15/21, LBMS students had the pleasure to Zoom with several NASA employees that promoted the message that NASA can be for everyone! Special thanks to Mrs. Espinet and Mr. Myles for organizing this special opportunity for our students. Also, thank you to our Science Dept., Mrs. Nurse, and Mrs. Tursi for helping to make this event a success!
4. Special shout out to Buddy Hoffman, Kerri Rehnback, Lauren Behan, Lisa Leibowitz, Julie Gobetz, Laura Napolitano, and the students of Team 7-1 for organizing and assembling the Field of Honor throughout our district. This was a wonderful service learning opportunity for students and an important tribute to the veterans in our community. It is not too late to contribute to the Field of Honor Scholarship fund. Thank you to all who have already contributed to help raise \$450. As always, your generosity continues to amaze!
5. Thank you to Jim and Ali for a fun and successful buddy party.
6. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You may make a donation through Venmo @**Keith-Harvey-20** until Monday, December 13th.
7. Congratulations to Ama Darkeh on receiving her doctoral degree.
8. Congratulations to Janna Arkow, Dena Hopper, and Amy Leder on completing the NYC Marathon.
9. Congratulations to Samantha Lotito on her engagement to Simon Di Stefano.
10. Congratulations to Michael Glasstein on his marriage to Lionel Wynter.
11. Condolences to Sharon Gamble on the loss of her mother.
12. Condolences to Sharon Weiss on the loss of her son, Andrew.
13. Condolences to the Gernhardt family on the loss of their son, Scott.
14. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

G. High School

1. Condolences to Sharon Gamble on the loss of her mother.
2. Condolences to Rachel Ray on the loss of her step-father, Pasquale Gallo.
3. Condolences to Sharon Weiss on the loss of her son, Andrew.
4. Condolences to the Gernhardt family on the loss of their son and LBHS alumni Scott.
5. Thank you to Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Romanelli, the Superintendent's Conference Committee, and everyone who facilitated a workshop. Your efforts helped to create a helpful and informative Virtual Superintendent's Conference Day.

6. Thank you to the LBHS students who teamed up to support the LBCTA's annual fundraising initiative for the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer program. They raised over \$2,000 in donations through a Pink Out football game, bringing the staff members' contribution of more than \$6,600 to a grand total exceeding \$8,600.
7. Thank you to the faculty that contributed to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Thank you to Arlys Digena and Tamara Filloramo for organizing this through the Key Club. Thank you to Maria Hartmann, Chris Brown, and Phil Bruno for distributing the food. Thank you to Mega Business Systems in Island Park for donating 20 turkeys and pies. We were able to donate full Thanksgiving meals to 23 local families and restock the food pantry here at the HS.
8. Congratulations to Jordan Hue and the cast and crew of the recent drama production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*.
9. Administration has notified us that they will be pushing into classes for informative sessions about school rules, such as dress codes, and that all students have access to the school handbook on their Google Drive. We look forward to this happening after the Thanksgiving weekend.
10. The HS Staff is still concerned about the impact of the district's decision to eliminate the midterm exam week in January. This week was instrumental in allowing for the students to have longer exams that served as valuable practice in preparing students for their Regents, AP, and IB Exams. It is impossible to provide these exams during the regular school day.
11. Please consider donating to the LBCTA toy drive via Venmo to Keith Harvey @**Keith-Harvey-20**.
12. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.
13. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving.

VIII. New Business

1. A motion was made by Amy Leder to donate to the Field of Honor scholarship. It was seconded by Karen Bloom. The motion passed unanimously.
2. A motion was made by Beth Prostick to donate to the LBCTA Toy Drive. It was seconded by Stacey Mason. The motion passed unanimously.

At 5:59pm, a motion was made by Patricia Van Loon to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Elleen Parks.

In Attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Julie de Bruin

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathleen Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jennifer Diamond, Doug MacConnell, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Lori Parenti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Stacey Mason

LBHS: Lisa Casey, Anthony Balsamo, Camila Gamboa, Matthew Hartmann, Andrew Rossi

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.

Check out all your union membership has to offer!

Legal Service Plan

Plan benefits include:

- Crucial estate planning documents (a Simple Will, Health Care Proxy, Living Will & Durable Power of Attorney)
- Free telephone consultations
- Guaranteed maximum fees for specific legal matters

Financial Counseling Program

Plan benefits include:

- Unbiased objective advice
- Free telephone and virtual consultations
- Assistance with retirement planning, 403(b) savings, college savings, tax planning and more

NYSUT Member Benefits

Every Dollar Counts!

These are just two of the dozens of endorsed programs & services available to union members and their families.

Whether it's insurance products, financial or legal services, or discounts, shopping or travel, NYSUT Member Benefits offers numerous programs that can help you save time and money while protecting those you care about most. Many of these programs can be purchased through payroll or pension deduction for greater convenience and savings opportunities.

Member Benefits also provides the advocacy role that is so important should an issue or concern arise. We encourage you to take the time to explore the Member Benefits website to find out how we can help you make every dollar count!



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left,
visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org
or calling 800-626-8101.

