



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

March 28, 2022

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

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Meeting Dates

4/11/22, 5/9/22, 5/23/22, 6/13/22

B. 2022 LBCTA Scholarship

I am pleased to announce the following association members' children are this year's scholarship winners: Kenneth Graham, son of Christine Graham (LBHS), and Victoria Lugo, daughter of Patricia Lugo, (Lindell). Thank you to Pat Fallon and Elena Frishman for serving as the co-chairs of the scholarship committee and to the committee volunteers: Jim Fiola, Frank Volpe, Paula Podber, Janet Lotito, Karen Bloom, Ashley Castanio, Elleen Parks, Rachel Yousha Spitz and Molly Drake.



C. AFLAC

We are excited to announce that the LBCTA is now offering additional benefits through Aflac. One of these new benefits is a very rich pregnancy/maternity package that can pay anywhere from \$3000k-\$10,000k at the time of delivery. We will be having a one-time, mid-year Open Enrollment opportunity in April so that you can learn more and/or enroll in these fantastic new benefits. AFLAC representatives will be in your buildings to discuss these benefits on the following days and times;

Week 1:

LB High School - 10:15-1:15, Tuesday, 4/5

LB Middle School - 10:15-1:15, Wednesday, 4/6

Lido Elementary - 10:50-1:50, Friday, 4/8

Week 2:

East Elementary - 10:50-1:50, Tuesday, 4/12

West Elementary - 10:50-1:50, Wednesday, 4/13

Lindell Elementary - 10:50-1:50, Thursday, 4/14

D. 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 donating to help fill those requests. The bank runs on our members' generosity.

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. A. End of Year Celebration Flyer
 - B. NYSUT Benefits

E. Long Beach Board of Education

Mr. DeVito and various administrators have spent the last two months presenting specific components of the School Budget at the School Board meetings. There have been some subtle and not so subtle recommendations regarding staffing for a variety of programs next year. It is anticipated that the Board will adopt the budget on April 12, 2022. The Board will then put the budget up for a vote to the community on Tuesday, May 17, 2022. The community will have the opportunity to vote on the Budget and one School Board position.

F. 2022-2023 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.

G. LBCTA Apparel

A majority of the apparel has arrived and we are excited to distribute it to the members. There have been some supply chain issues during the process, and we are waiting for the last batch of items to arrive.

H. Credit Swap

The following teachers have credits available. Please contact them directly if you are interested.

1.5 credits for Hofstra University

Eileen Bauer ebauer@lbeach.org 516-643-4200

3 credits to any CUNY school

Gina Patronaggio gpatronaggio@lbeach.org 516-509-8251

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

1. LBCTA

The final draft of our new contract has been signed and is going to print. I hope to have your new copies soon. The new contract can also be found on our website.

2. Permanent Substitute Contract

The retro checks and new rates are scheduled to begin on the April 1 pay date. We are currently reviewing the language for the final draft so that we can sign it and go to print.

C. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. Please join us for the Spring New Member Buddy/Mentor Party on April 29th at 4 pm at EGP Land and Sea in Island Park. There will be an RSVP form sent out shortly so we can get a head count.
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. Keep reading the minutes!

D. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. We are working on the next edition of the LBCTA Newsletter. 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. 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.

E. Public Relations – Amy Leder and Beth Prostick

1. We are so excited for our LBCTA Bowling event on April 7th 4-6 pm at RVC Lanes. We currently have 27 teams signed up. If you still want to bowl, please let Amy or Beth know ASAP and we can add you.



2. Congratulations to Doug MacConnell and Justin Sulsky for their incredible hard work and success at the Odyssey of the Minds competition. They had 3 teams compete. Congrats to Team 2 for winning 1st place in the technical category. Way to go Team 3 who competed in the classic category and won third place. Another congratulations to Team 5 who competed in the performance category and won first place. All three teams qualified for World Finals because of their placements at States. Good luck at Iowa State University May 25-28. Congratulations to our MS team, under the guidance of Doug MacConnell and Susan Kasper, who also qualified for the World Finals.
3. Congratulations to Jim Johnson, Daniel Lerner and the LBHS Robotics Club who won 2nd place overall at the First Robotics Long Island Regional Competition at Hofstra University. This competition brought together teams of students from roughly 50 other schools.

F. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. Our LBCTA End of the Year Celebration will take place at the Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach on Wednesday, May 4 at 5:00. It's been a challenging 2 years and we want our members to come out, mingle with their colleagues, get to know CTA members from other buildings and have a great time as we honor our retirees. If you have not joined us for this event before, grab some of your colleagues and make a commitment to be there! Please see the [flyer](#) to VENMO or send your checks to Elleen Parks at West School.
2. Please join us on April 7th at the bowling fundraiser at Maple Lanes in Rockville Centre.

G. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. The LBTC recently sent an email asking teachers and staff to fill out a needs assessment to be used to inform the grant for next year. Thank you for those who filled it out. There is still time to take the survey. We are currently writing the continuation application.
2. If you are Interested in running a class for the summer, please contact the director at LBTC@lbeach.org.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

A. 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.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. We are still waiting for ID's to be given at the HS; materials have been ordered and hopefully they will arrive soon.
2. Thank you to Mr. DeVito for setting up a meeting with interested parties regarding temperature issues in the HS. We were able to identify three major issues that are causing a variety of problems in the building.
 - a. The first seems to be an issue with the sensors, which has recently been identified. There is someone coming from Honeywell tomorrow to determine if it is a programming issue or a re-wiring issue. For that area we should have more information tomorrow.
 - b. The second problem is surrounding seemingly faulty actuators that were placed on all the newer dampers. These keep popping off the dampers, which causes the individual room to be an issue, and then a trickledown effect to the nearby rooms. This will be looked into by ECG to determine if these parts can be replaced or if there is some other fix.

- c. Finally, the bigger issue, the 7 units that were not replaced are not fully integrated with the new system. It appears that after installation of the new parts, there may not have been a check or calibration done to make sure that the rooms are wired properly or have working sensors. This issue will most likely need to be addressed in a future capital project, as this will likely require new units or parts that were not budgeted for.
 - d. We are hoping that Honeywell and ECG have some short term solutions for us, and that we can map out a plan for the long-term solutions to be addressed properly.
 - e. Thank you to our custodial staff for constantly monitoring this situation and trying their very best to adjust rooms whenever they can. Please continue to report any issues directly to C. Genduso and Mr. Myers so that they can stay on top of the issue. Unfortunately, the computer's sensors are not working as they should, so we really need people to report issues whenever possible.
3. **Lido Complex:** Although paving was done, there are still no lines or signs throughout the property. There continues to be traffic and confusion when cars are exiting the property. We hope this will be completed as soon as possible.
 4. **LBHS Basketball Courts:** Concrete and asphalt patching will be done on Saturday. Because the weather is taking a turn to more chilliness at this time, the painting contractor recommends waiting for warmer temps. Therefore, they will be putting off the painting of the courts until Spring recess week. However, in the interest of getting the courts usable before then, LandTek has agreed to install the hoops and backboards next week.
 5. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6th. It will include a discussion of Safe Passageways at the HS as well as an update on Capital Projects.
 6. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. Other

1. Don't forget to sign up for the bowling fundraiser on April 7th!! It's always a fun time!!
2. Save the date May 4th, for our end of the year celebration at Ocean Club!
3. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
4. 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. Thank you to Dr. Romanelli and Dr. Natali for meeting with us to discuss next year's schedule. We appreciate you taking into consideration our concerns and suggestions and we look forward to continuing the conversation.
- B. I hope to see everyone at our upcoming Bowling Event on April 7. Come join us for a fun afternoon of bowling, food and raffle prizes, all for a good cause.
- 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. I would like to personally like to thank Mr. DeVito, Chris Genduso, Brendan Scully, Andy Smith, and Jeff Myers for taking the time to meet with us to discuss the ongoing temperature issues at the HS. Please refer to Karen Bloom's Health and Safety report for updates.
- B. Please consider attending our end of the year celebration on Wednesday, May 4th at The Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach.
- C. We are so excited for our LBCTA Bowling event on April 7th 4-6 pm at RVC Lanes. We currently have 27 teams signed up. If you still want to bowl, please let me know ASAP and I can add you.
- D. Please send me any issues that you were unable to work out at your building. If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached at aleder@lbeach.org.

VI. Treasurer's Report – James Fiola

- A. As the month is not over, the March Financial Results will be part of the minutes of our April 11th meeting.
- B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank and attending an upcoming School Board Meeting. Please join us for a fun time at the Bowling Fundraiser event on April 7th. Save the Date: it would be great if you could attend our Year End Celebration on May 4th at the Ocean Club in Atlantic Beach. 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. Great job by Jessica Donato, Courtney Elliott, Samantha Gropper and Michelle Spreckles and their classes for their fabulous presentations for the Smart Start Grant.
2. Welcome Sara Pollack and Kate DeBruin to the West School staff.
3. Thank you to the PTA for the very generous prizes for our PARP winners.
4. Congratulations to Justin Sulsky, Doug MacConnell and the Odyssey of the Mind teams for qualifying for the Worlds competition in Iowa.
5. Please join us for our 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser Thursday, April 7th.
6. Save the Date: The Spring Buddy party will be April 29th at EGP Land and Sea.
7. Please join us for the End of Year CTA Party on May 4th at the Ocean Club.
8. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.

B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to the H.S. Athletes Helping Athletes, who came to talk with our 5th Grade Students.
2. Our monthly SELF meeting focused on forgiveness and kindness. Everyone wore **green** for luck!
3. Looking forward to our annual Bowling Fundraiser on April 7, 2022!
4. Please consider donating to the sick bank.
5. Congratulations to Patricia Lugo on Victoria's winning of the LBCTA Scholarship.
6. Congratulations to Justin Sulsky, Doug MacConnell and the Odyssey of the Mind teams for qualifying for the Worlds competition in Iowa.

C. East School

1. Congratulations to the Odyssey of the Mind teams, 4 of which qualified for World Finals in Iowa this May. Two elementary teams placed #1 in the state of New York along with one team comprised of middle school students. Thank you to Dr. Sulsky, Mrs. Kasper, and Mr. MacConnell.
2. Thank you to the high school students who visited East School and spoke with our students for Athletes Helping Athletes.
3. Condolences to Mary Jane Rochford on the loss of her husband, Robert Rochford.
4. Condolences to the Cassese family on the loss of Robert Cassese.
5. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
6. Please join us for a fun afternoon on April 7th at the RVC Lanes for our annual LBCTA fundraiser.
7. Save the date, May 4th, for our end of year celebration at the Ocean Club.

D. Lido School

1. Condolences to our former Lido family, the Schimmel's, on the loss of Stephen Schimmel.
2. Congratulations to Justin Sulsky and Doug MacConnell for leading the Odyssey of the Mind teams in another successful state competition. Best of luck as they go to the World Finals.
3. Welcome back to Erica Yoo!
4. Many thanks and well wishes to Sara Pollack on her new assignment.
5. Thank you to Lido PTA for organizing the Scholastic Book Fair. It's always exciting for children to get the opportunity to buy books to add to their reading collection.
6. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, April 7th, 2022. Click [here](#) to register your team.
7. Save the date and join us for the End of Year CTA Party on May 4th at the Ocean Club.
8. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. We really enjoyed our visit from LBHS students on 3/25 from *Today's Students, Tomorrow's Teachers!* Thank you to Liz O'Brien, Molly Drake, and Chris Webel for organizing this collaboration.
2. Thank you to Dr. Radice for the Foundations training.
3. We are looking forward to the LBCTA bowling event on 4/7/22. Thank you to all of our bowlers!
4. Thank you to the staff for your donations for the raffles. Thank you to those who coordinated and put together the baskets for raffle.
5. Please remember to purchase raffle tickets for the baskets to raise money to support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
6. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

F. Middle School

1. With the return of colder temperatures, many rooms and even entire corridors continue with little to no heat. Again, we would like to thank the BOE for proposing a plan to permanently address these issues.
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 moved. We look forward to a prompt return of a security guard after school at the back of the building.
3. Our 6th grade students enjoyed their recent trip to the Cradle of Aviation. Kudos to our 6th grade advisors Patty Van Loon and Mike Vasikauskas for all of the hard work they put into planning this great trip. Special thanks to all 6th grade teachers and chaperones for helping to make the trip a success!
4. Our 7th graders participated in National History Day, a national competition where students self-select a topic from history that interests them and research their topic using the theme of "Debate and Diplomacy." Thank you to J. Arkow, D. Cook, F. Ferrante, B. Hoffman, J. Marr, L. Napalitano, T. Scudiero, P. VanLoon, and M. Vasikauskas who spearheaded our NHD experience. Special thanks to the teachers who volunteered to judge our local contest. Special congratulations to our *Debate over Women's Equality* group for placing at regionals and qualifying for States.
5. Congratulations to our *Life's a Circus* Odyssey of the Mind team and advisors Mr. MacConnell and Ms. Kasper for qualifying for the Worlds competition in Iowa.
6. The 2022 Joe Farrell Memorial Scholarship Basketball Tournament was a fun, success. The stands were filled with smiling faces enjoying an afternoon of basketball, raffles and treats. Special thanks to Keith Biesma for organizing this event and to **everyone** that helped or

participated to make this day happen. Special shout out to Lisa Liebowitz and Wally Kramme for stepping into MC the event!!

7. Thank you to all who donated for our MS basket. MS generosity never ceases to amaze! We created a fabulous "Getting Yeti for Summer " basket for the LBCTA Bowling Event. All proceeds from the event will go to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.
8. Thank you to our PTA for the Don't Press Send assembly on March 22nd. The presentation focused on social media and on-line safety. Students enjoyed the assembly!
9. Special thanks to Lindsay Pichichero, Nicole Vasheo, Raquel Lopez, and Barbara Vahey for organizing our Sunshine Social event on March 11th. A great time was had by all.
10. Condolences to Jessica Hemmerdinger on the loss of her step-father, Howard Cohen.
11. Condolences to the Cassese family on the loss of Paul Cassese.
12. Condolences to the Schimmel family on the loss of Stephen Schimmel.
13. Please join us for the Spring Buddy Party on April 29th at 4:00 at EGP Land and Sea.
14. Please join us for the LBCTA End of the Year Celebration on Wednesday, May 4th at 5:00 at Ocean Club.
15. Thank you to the many members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating if you have not done so already.

VIII. High School

1. Congratulations Jim Johnsen and Dan Lerner and to the Robotics Club for competing and placing in 2nd place, at the Long Island Regional Competition at Hofstra University.
2. Congratulations to Eric Fox & the IB students for participating in the Visual Arts Exhibition.
3. Thank you to the Sunshine Committee for hosting the staff on March 11th at JJ Coopers.
4. Thank you to all staff who donated to the creation of our High School Basket which will be raffled off at the Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser April 7.
5. Congratulations to Christine Graham on Kenneth's winning of the LBCTA Scholarship.
6. Staff would like to see the district require students to wear student ID cards during the school day.
7. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.
8. Please consider attending our LBCTA Year End Celebration on May 4.

A motion was made to donate water bottles for Teen Night Out. It passed unanimously.

At 4:59pm, a motion was made by Jonathan Bloom to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Heather Puckhaber.

In Attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Julie de Bruin

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathy Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jennifer Diamond, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti, Lori Parenti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, John Marr, Natasha Nurse - alternate

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC): John Marr

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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When you're planning for the future, what's at the top of your list?

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- Providing for your family
- Purchasing a new home
- Home improvements
- Purchasing a new vehicle
- Travel and entertainment



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Get started by first bookmarking the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org. There, you will find numerous tools and resources available to you as a NYSUT member – including a **Financial Learning Center** with articles designed to help educate you on financial decisions and topics. Member Benefits also endorses important **legal and financial services** along with an **online savings program** featuring some of today's most competitive interest rates.

Next up would be looking in the "Shopping, Travel & Personal" section of our site for **MB Discounts & Deals**. This program utilizes the nation's largest private discount network to provide NYSUT members with exclusive access to savings of up to 50% on restaurant dine-in or take out, groceries and food delivery, clothing and shoes, hotels and flights, vehicle maintenance, and much more.



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



The Long Beach Classroom Teacher Association
End of the Year Celebration

Wednesday, May 4, 2022
5:00 - 9:00pm
The Ocean Club, Atlantic Beach
\$85.00 per person

Honoring our 2022 Retirees

Suzanne Corrie-Del-Cid, Patricia Fallon,
James Fiola, Melanie Scott
*William Gibson, *Laura O'Shaughnessy-Swan, *Bill Ramnarine
**unable to attend event*

**Open Bar...Hors d'oeuvres...
Dinner...DJ...Dancing...Photo Booth**

Please return the completed form along with a check made out to LBCTA to Elleen Parks c/o West School 91 Maryland Avenue, Long Beach, NY 11561. If you prefer, use the Venmo QR code and make sure to include your name, who you would like to be seated with and what building you are from.

Your name(s) _____

Please name one person you would like to be seated with: _____



Last 4 digits of Elleen's Cell: 1923

Seating Requests will be honored if payment is received by April 26th.