



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

January 10, 2022

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

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Meeting Dates

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. Happy New Year!

C. The first week of 2022 was not much different than the last two years. We unfortunately have been living and working through an ever-changing set of rules where State leaders and the news outlets rush to the table with information, regardless of if the information is correct. I know that some members welcome these changes and others are horrified.

Please know that “whatever” the guidelines are, your association will continue to work with the district to ensure our schools remain a safe working environment for the students and the staff, while working within the current legislation and guidelines.

*Please refer to Dr. Gallagher’s email on 1/11/22 regarding the new isolation and quarantine guidelines for staff and students. The only thing that has not changed over the last 2 years is the NYS Paid Sick Leave. Should you need to quarantine for close contact or a positive COVID case you still have access- NYS Paid Sick Leave. Please remember this can be used the first time for a quarantine or positive case but can only be used a second and third time for a positive case. The forms can be found in your main office. As always, if you test positive for COVID-19 please contact your principal.

If you have any questions regarding the current COVID-19 procedures or your rights as they pertain to COVID-19, please do not hesitate to ask.

D. 2021 Toy Drive

This year we raised \$600 which allowed us to donate to The Little St. Nick Foundation which will be distributed to local hospitals. Thank you very much to all the individuals that contributed.

E. 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 can 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



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

NYSTRS Benefit Profile or contact NYSTRS directly at; NYSTRS website- <https://nystrs.org/Retirement-Planning> NYSTRS Number - (800) 348-7298.



F. NYSUT Offers Online Guide for a Successful Retirement

NYSUT has a new publication for future retirees. "[Your Blueprint for a Successful Retirement: An online planning guide](#)" is posted as a resource for planning the next chapter in your life -- retirement! Login to <https://www.nysut.org/> is required to access the online publication.

G. LBCTA Apparel

Thank you very much to everyone that ordered. The order was placed, and I am hopeful to be distributing the apparel in February. I was notified that some of the items may be affected by the current supply chain issues.

H. Empire Health Insurance Rates 2022

Below are the 2022 monthly rates for health insurance. We contribute 16% and starting July 1, 2022, we will increase to 17.5%.

	2021	2022
Individual	1074.87	1196.12
Family	2452.24	2763.74

Individual

*26 paychecks -\$87.05 (**Jan thru June**); \$104.66 (**Sept thru Dec**)

*All others-\$130.58 (**Jan thru June**); \$104.66 (**Sept thru Dec**)

Family

*26 paychecks -\$201.14 (**Jan thru June**); \$241.83 (**Sept thru Dec**)

*All others-\$301.71 (**Jan thru June**); \$241.83 (**Sept thru Dec**)

I. IRS Mileage Rate 2022

The IRS has announced the official standard mileage rates for 2022. The standard business mileage rate for transportation expenses paid or incurred as of January 1st, is 58.5 cents per mile. The rate is up 2.5 cents from 2021.

J. FICA 2022

The Social Security Administration recently announced that the maximum earnings subject to Social Security tax will increase from \$142,800 in 2021 to \$147,000 in 2022.

K. 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](#).

L. 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 I: Second Check: 1/21

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

We have made a formal request to the Long Beach Board of Education. They have received our proposal and are preparing a response. We look forward to bringing you a successor agreement in the near future.

C. New Member Committee – Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

1. Happy New Year! Please read the upcoming minutes for an announcement of the date of the 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. Keep reading the minutes!

D. Political Action Committee – Jennifer Garrett

1. Our next meeting will take place virtually on Tuesday, January 18th at 4:15. 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. We will send you more information when the date gets closer. Let's use this extra time to make our baskets even more beautiful.



F. Social Committee – Elleen Parks

1. Happy New Year! Please join us on Thursday, April 7th, 2022 for our Bowling Fundraiser!

G. Teacher Center – John Marr

1. Happy New Year! 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 lbtcc@lbeach.org.

III. Vice President – Karen Bloom

- ### A.
- Unfortunately, due to State Regulations and attendance requirements, as well as the cancellation of January Regents Exams, we are no longer having a midterm week. We are hoping that next year we will be able to provide this much needed opportunity for students to prepare for their culminating exams.

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.

5. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all timelines, conversion charts and percentages here.
6. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

C. Health & Safety Committee

1. **COVID Update:** There was a discussion about the mask mandate and it was explained that since there is a mask mandate in place, we cannot choose to ignore that or we will risk losing funding. Therefore, it seems that our policy will not be changing, however, districts can vote to choose to ignore the mandate. Quarantine times have been put back to 10 days; please see the details about when and how long you need to quarantine. The district distributed over 1500 test kits. The extras will be kept at the nurse to send home for symptomatic students as needed. We are supposed to get more to be used for staff. However, if you need one, feel free to ask your nurse if you are symptomatic and want to get a test to take home.
2. **Safe Passage Protocols & Lido Complex Traffic Flow:** We discussed the new passageways for both pedestrians and cars entering the Lido Complex from either the East or the West. There will be all new signage in place so that it is clear where the safe pathways are for walkers and bikers, as opposed to cars. There is also a new drop off pattern for both Lido and the MS, as cars will no longer be able to enter the bus zone.
3. **ID's at HS:** Ms. Walsh Bulger explained that they are still waiting on the materials to complete the ID cards for grades 10-12. The 9th grade should have them shortly, as there were tech problems holding them up. Students will be surveyed in their English classes in grades 10-12 to see who still needs an ID.
4. **Update on Work at the HS:** Pond and fence work is completed. Basketball courts have been redesigned to have 2 courts side by side. In order to complete them, painting needs to be done, which cannot happen in the cold weather. This work will not be completed until the spring. The first portion of the drainage work has been completed but the remaining will not be done until this summer.
5. **State Compliance:** Our new BOCES consultant discussed Emergency Preparedness, Violence Prevention & Suicide trainings. She explained that training should be completed IN-PERSON for all 3 of these items each year, by September 15. A template for suicide prevention was made and will be shared to all principals to pass on to staff.
6. **Other:** The next meeting will include a discussion of Safe Passageways at the HS as well as an update on Capital Projects.
7. The next meeting is scheduled for 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. Happy New Year to everyone! I hope this year brings you peace, joy and happiness!
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. I hope everyone had a restful vacation and a Happy New Year.
- B. We will have an Elementary Council meeting on February 7 at 4:15. It will be held on Zoom.
- 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. Happy New Year! With the current rise in COVID numbers it is still so important that we continue to practice social distancing, wear our mask and model this behavior for our students. Thank you for your continued efforts to keep our buildings safe.
- B. Please continue to communicate with your building reps and/or me if you have any questions, concerns, or unresolved open issues.

VI. Treasurer’s Report – James Fiola

A. December’s Financial Results

<u>Revenues</u>		<u>Expenditures</u>	
Union Dues	\$40,588	NYSUT	\$15,947
Retiree Dues	315	AFT	10,196
Vote Cope	2,427	Meeting Expenses	2,766
Total	\$43,087	Taxes and Ins.	9,095
		Officer and Rep Stipends	31,556
		Dues	250
		Total	\$69,810

- B. Happy New Year everyone! Thank you to all who donated to the Toy Drive. Many worked hard to make it a big success. Please Save the Date: April 7th is the new date for the Bowling Event fundraiser.
- C. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank and virtually 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.**
- 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 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. Welcome back and Happy New Year!
2. Wishing Louie Iodice a well-deserved retirement. Louie has been working in our custodial department since 1991! He has worked in many buildings throughout his career and will be greatly missed!
3. Welcome back to Dr. Caitlin King.
4. Welcome Nick Falciano who will be joining our custodial staff.
5. Thank you to Barbara Schneider for handling these unprecedented times and ever changing COVID with such grace and ease!
6. Please join us, or form a team, for our 4th Annual Bowling Fundraiser Thursday, April 7th, 2022. Please check the Public Relations report for more details.
7. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.

B. Lindell School

1. Welcome back and we hope everyone had a restful holiday and Happy New Year.
2. Thank you to the PTA for a wonderful laser light show. It brought a lot of joy to the students.
3. Thank you to PTA for organizing the wonderful Holiday Boutique. We appreciate all you do at Lindell.
4. Thank you to the staff for holding successful Parent Teacher Conferences virtually.

5. Congratulations to RoseAnn Pinto on the birth of her daughter, Charlotte Rose.
6. Welcome back Dr. Caitlin King from maternity leave.
7. 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.
8. A special thank you to all the Lindell Teachers and Staff for being flexible in covering classes these past few weeks during this difficult time of the pandemic.

C. East School

1. Welcome back to staff, students, and families.
2. Wishing you peace, joy, and hope for 2022.
3. Best wishes to Darryl Young in his new position at the Middle School. Your East School family will miss you.
4. Please join us for our annual Bowling Fundraiser at the RVC Lanes on April 7th.

D. Lido School

1. Congratulations to Erica Yoo and her family on the recent birth of her daughter, Ara.
2. Welcome back to Dr. Caitlin King and Dr. Justin Sulsky!
3. Thank you to Dr. Hernandez and Mr. Webel for the Holiday Breakfast!
4. Congratulations to Noelle Policastro, Scott Scheinson, and Christina Tomek along with 4th and 5th grade Orchestra/Band/Chorus for an outstanding Winter Concert! The students sounded amazing!
5. Save the new date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, April 7th, 2022.
6. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. Thank you to the PTA for the board game donations for Spirit Day!
2. Thank you for the toy drive donations!
3. Thank you to the Pre-K families for the appreciation breakfast, it was delicious!
4. Thank you to Dr. Hernandez and Mr. Webel for the holiday break breakfast!
5. Thank you to the staff at Lido and the technology department for support with a successful week of remote learning with our Pre-Kindergarteners.
6. Congratulations to Ms. Yoo and her family on the birth of her daughter, Ara!
7. Save the date for our LBCTA bowling event, 4/7/22.
8. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

F. Middle School

1. Happy New Year!
2. Thank you to EVERYONE for all efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe.
3. Thank you to our Student Organization (advisors: Mr. Papetti and Mr. Kramme) for planning and organizing a fun-filled Spirit Week for the MS.
4. Kudos to our PE Dept. and all those that participated in the Teachers vs. Students Volleyball matches. Everyone had a great time!
5. A special thank you to our Music Department for greeting students, faculty and staff as they entered the building on December 23rd to wonderful holiday music.
6. Kudos to Glenn Gartung for organizing a successful Holiday Drive for our students. Thank you to our very generous Middle School Staff for supporting the many holiday fundraisers. Thank you for all you do!
7. Congratulations to Jessica Hemmerdinger on receiving tenure.
8. Welcome to Maeve Lawe and Megan Ritter.

G. High School

1. Welcome Back and Happy New Year!
2. Congratulations to the Music Department for a wonderful winter concert performance.
3. Thank you to Dr. Gallagher & the Building Administration for dispersing at-home COVID tests for students.
4. COVID testing and quarantine rules are constantly changing. If you should have any questions regarding your need to get tested or whether you need to quarantine, please contact Dr. Natali or a building rep.
5. Some classrooms are still missing emergency phones. If you are missing one, please let a building rep know.
6. Staff would like to see the district require students to wear student ID cards during the school day.
7. Temperatures of classrooms vary greatly throughout the building.
8. Please consider signing up for Suspenders for Spitz on January 24th and donating to the Jay Spitz Scholarship Fund.
9. Please join us at the LBHS Snowball party on January 27th.
10. Save the date for the rescheduled LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at the RVC lanes on Thursday, April 7th.
11. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
12. Thank you to EVERYONE for all your efforts to follow health and safety protocols. Please remember these protocols are keeping us safe.

At 5:31pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Matthew Hartmann.

In Attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Julie de Bruin, Anne LaPenna

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathleen Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jennifer Diamond, Doug MacConnell, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti, Lori Parenti

Pre-K: Molly Drake

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka, John Marr, Stacey Mason

LBHS: Lisa Casey, Anthony Balsamo, Jonathan Bloom, Camila Gamboa, Matthew Hartmann,
Greg Milone, Andrew Rossi

Long Beach Teacher Center (LBTC): John Marr

Retiree: Frank Volpe

Officers: Keith Harvey, Karen Bloom, Beth Prostick, 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!



INSURANCE YOU CAN COUNT ON.



PROVIDERS YOU CAN TRUST.

**VALUE-ADDED EXTRAS YOU
CAN'T GET ELSEWHERE.**



SOMEONE WHO HAS YOUR BACK.



NYSUT Member Benefits **Every Dollar Counts!**

When it comes to protecting yourself, your loved ones, your income or your most valuable possessions, NYSUT Member Benefits has insurance programs that fit the bill. Whether you are looking for **auto & home, life, disability, long-term care, dental, vision, or pet insurance**, there is a Member Benefits-endorsed plan that may be of assistance featuring value-added extras unavailable to the public.

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 several discounted shopping programs that can help you save on both everyday and more expensive purchases. Finally, if you ever have an issue or problem when using a Member Benefits program, our staff take great pride in their ability to quickly assist members with any concerns that may arise.

Visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101** to learn more about the endorsed programs and services available to you through your union membership.



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



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

Jan/Feb 2022