



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

January 11, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 4:15pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

2/1/16, 2/29/16, 3/14/16, 4/11/16, 5/9/16 & 6/6/16

B. 2015 Toy Drive



Once again the LBSEA and LBCTA hosted their annual Holiday Toy Drive. This year we collected over 500 toys that were distributed to Project Challenge, the MLK Center and the Circulo De La Hispanidad. Thank you very much to Lynda D'Alessio, Stephanie Meyer and Barbara Hirsch for coordinating the 2015 Holiday Toy Drive and to everyone that donated.

C. First Eligible Retirement Incentive

If you are considering retiring next June under the terms of our first eligible retirement incentive; you must notify the district of your intention by January 15, 2016. 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, please contact me.

D. Winter/Spring Study Money

The deadline for the Winter Study Program was December 11th. You will be contacted by Human Resources shortly if you were approved for the money. There is one more opportunity to participate, Summer-May 13, 2016. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. Participation in Study Program - Group A Form



E. Coaching Pay Dates

High School

Winter: second check: 2/5/16

Spring: first check: 4/15/16; second check: 5/13/16

Middle School:

Winter I: second check: 1/8/16

Winter II: first check: 2/5/16; second check: 3/18/16

Spring: first check: 4/29/16; second check: 5/27/16

F. 2016-17 LBSD Calendar

The district has proposed a 2016-17 school calendar. We will be reviewing the proposed calendar before it is accepted.

Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice-President

Amy Powers

Vice-President for Secondary Schools

Beth Prostick

Vice-President for

Elementary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

Elleen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

Table of Contents

I. President's Report

II. Committees

III. Executive Vice President

IV. VP for Elementary Schools

V. VP for Secondary Schools

VI. Treasurer's Report

VII. Building Reports

A. West

B. Lindell

C. East

D. Lido

E. Pre-K

F. HALB

G. Middle School

H. High School

G. Health Insurance Rates 2016

<u>Empire</u>		<u>HIP</u>	
Individual	\$849.01	Individual	\$894.44
Family	\$1926.21	Family	\$2191.35
Individual Medicare	\$452.79		
Family w/1 Med	\$1530.00		
Family w/2 Med	\$1133.77		

H. NYSHIP decisions: Update December 2015

On Nov. 25, the Appellate Division, Third Department, reversed our favorable decisions in the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) insurance buyout cases, holding that the lawsuits were untimely because they were brought more than four months after the Department of Civil Service issued the policy memorandum challenged in these proceedings. It is unclear how this decision will affect us because we have HIP, alternate health insurance coverage other than NYSHIP as an option.

I. Senate Draws Line in the Sand

Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan on Wednesday, 1/6/16 drew a line in the sand for upcoming state budget negotiations: There will be no deal without paying school districts back for years of previous cuts.

Known as the Gap Elimination Adjustment, the cuts were made to districts starting in 2009 amid the state's fiscal woes. Flanagan said the money must be restored to districts in the 2016-17 fiscal year. "We will not have a budget unless the GEA is eliminated."

J. Senate Delays ACA's 'Cadillac' Tax

In December, the U.S. Senate approved the Consolidated Appropriations Bill of 2016, which includes a two-year delay of the Affordable Care Act's excise tax on high-cost plans often referred to as the "Cadillac" tax. The White House has indicated that President Obama will sign it. As a result, the excise tax will start in 2020 instead of 2018.

K. The Friedrichs Case

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear extended arguments Monday in the case of Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association, which is a thinly veiled attack on public sector unions. It aims not only to reverse decades of standing law that our courts have reinforced, but also threatens the voice, working conditions and living standards of workers in New York State and across the nation.



L. IRS Mileage Rates 2016

The IRS has just announced the official standard mileage rates for 2016. The IRS mileage rates for 2016 for the use of a vehicle are 54 cents per mile for business use and 19 cents per mile driven for medical reasons or moving purposes.

M. FICA 2015

The Social Security Administration announced that there will be no increase in monthly Social Security benefits in 2016, and that the maximum amount of wages subject to Social Security taxes will also remain unchanged at \$18,500. Earnings above this amount are not subject to the Social Security portion of the payroll tax or used to calculate retirement payouts.

J. Credit Swap

Jackie Kupferman - 1.5 credits from LIU Post
Heather Puckhaber - 1 credit Molloy College
Dana Monti - 1.5 credits for Hofstra

Patty Van Loon - 1.5 credits for LIU
Migdalia Schneider - 1 credit Molloy College

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

Our last negotiation meeting with the district was on January 7. The dialogue is still open and it is becoming a bit more candid. With both party's backs off the wall, I hope we can have a real conversation about what sustainable really means for both sides.

C. New Members—Jim Fiola and Alison Katulka

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.

We will also be attending the mentor meetings to speak to the new members about various issues. The next meeting is at 4 pm on Jan 26th in the Middle School Library. In addition, we will be holding our own New Member meetings during the first quarter of 2016. The first one will be after the winter break. I hope you are enjoying your career here at Long Beach. Please do not be afraid to ask for help if you need it. We (and many others) are here for you.

D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick

1. The first PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 27 at Lido in Room L25 at 3:45. Please contact me at bprostick@gmail.com if you would like to be on the committee.
2. I am looking forward to attending the NYSUT Leadership Conference on February 6, 2016.

E. Public Relations Committee—Amy Powers

Our next public relations meeting will be on Monday, February 8th at Lido School. Please encourage members to attend.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. Keith and I have formed a subcommittee with Dr. Graham and Dr. Natali to discuss APPR separate from negotiations. We will be working together to figure out how to proceed for next school year, as we are waiting on clarification from the state. For the remainder of this school year, 3020c, which is our current plan, will remain in effect.
2. The State's Common Core Task Force is calling for the following:

- *Empowering New York State teachers to create developmentally appropriate New York State standards for New York State students;
- *Immediately reducing the time allotted to state tests, and making future reductions in both test duration and the number of testing days;
- *Modifying the new state standards and tests for our students with disabilities and English language learners, and eliminating double testing for our English language learners; and
- *Banning for a minimum of four years the use of state test scores in teacher evaluations.

Once more guidance has been received; we will determine how our district will proceed for next school year.

3. All lead evaluators have been assigned and you should contact your immediate supervisor or building principal if you are not sure who your lead evaluator is.
4. If you have not yet received information about your SLO's and/or targets, please contact your immediate supervisor. If you have no director, you can speak to your building principal.

5. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25th at 4 pm in the High School, Room TBA. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please e-mail me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. District Safety Team

1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 25th at 4 pm in the High School, Room TBA. If you have any Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

D. Other

1. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank, as we have little to none left. The form is available at our website, www.lbcta.com.
2. Please attend BOE meetings whenever possible. We will announce a date for the next meeting that we would like all members to come to.

IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools' Report—Beth Prostick

A. Elementary Council meeting will be held at Lido on Monday, January 25th, at 3:45 in Room L25.

B. Public Relations meeting is Feb. 8 at Lido room L25 at 3:45.

C. Please consider donating one or more sick days to your colleagues in need.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Powers

A. After speaking with Mr. Stroud and Mr. DeVito it has been determined that the HS traffic pattern will be discussed at a site based meeting and that a study will be conducted to see if there are in fact safety issues to be concerned about. We are eagerly awaiting this meeting to be set up.

B. Ms. Joy-Anne D'Anca, Coordinator of Guidance, resigned as of December 11, 2015. The district is intending to appoint an Interim Director. The district has interviewed and introduced a potential candidate to the HS School Counselors. Mr. Stroud believes he will be appointed this Thursday at the Board Meeting, however his start date is still in question. In the meantime, the HS VP's have each been given many extra responsibilities on top of their already assigned VP duties. Our clerical staff continues to be asked to take on extra work outside of their everyday responsibilities. We are eagerly awaiting this hire as there are many responsibilities that come under this position.

C. Due to the rescheduling of this week's Health and Safety meeting from January 12th to January 25th at 4pm, our next Secondary Meeting will not be able to meet until Monday, February 22nd in LBHS Guidance at 4 pm. All the Mondays until then are booked already for Executive Board, Health & Safety, Public Relations and two holiday breaks. In the meantime, please email or call me with any questions and/or concerns you have.

D. Please continue to attend future board meetings. Important issues and topics are discussed at these meetings. Our presence is needed!

F. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email me at amylo609@aol.com

VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

A. I hope everyone had a great New Year. Enjoy the three day weekend.

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

Union dues for 2015/2016 for full-time members will be \$985.36. The break-out is \$384 local, \$368 NYSUT, \$225.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$98.54 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "MDED-03." We are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.

The union dues for 2015 tax purposes were \$967.04

B. December's Results

Expenditures

NYSUT	\$13,230
AFT	8,010
Taxes and Ins.	7,206
Meeting Expenses	1,443
Donations	1,443
Officer & Rep Stipends	20,195
Training	317
<hr/>	
Total	\$50,401

Revenues

Union Dues	\$39,307
Retirees Dues	90
<hr/>	
Total	\$39,397

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Thank you to our very generous West School Staff for supporting the many holiday fundraisers.
2. Our Principal's Challenge that encouraged and rewarded independent reading was a great success. Staff volunteers with PTA support presented an "out of this world" celebration assembly!
3. A very special thank you to the West School Sunshine Committee for a festive Staff Holiday Party!
4. Welcome to Penny Doukas, speech language pathologist.
5. Welcome Coleen Vela, reading teacher.
6. Condolences to Rich Briglio on the passing of his son, Danny.
7. West School buses continue to arrive late for dismissal. We cannot dismiss children safely until all buses arrive.



B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to PTA for a magical start to our PARP program with the *Magic of Reading* assembly.
2. Thank you to Sean Murray for providing each teacher with the teacher-friendly resource: *The Reading Strategies Book*.
3. Thank you to Joanna Clancy and Iris Resnick for arranging a very festive holiday celebration.
4. Condolences to the Briglio family.

C. East School

1. Kudos to Michele Bennett and Craig West for an outstanding winter concert .
2. Welcome to Colleen Vella, our new kindergarten reading teacher.
3. We would like to extend our condolences to the Briglio family for the sudden passing of Daniel Briglio.

D. Lido School

1. Kudos to Andrew Frey, Noelle Policastro, Christina Tomek, and to the third, fourth, and fifth grade students for a festive and entertaining Winter Concert.
2. Welcome to Coleen Vella, kindergarten reading teacher.
3. Many thanks to Erin Allison, Ian Butler, and Rachel Ray for organizing the Whip (Nae Nae) Pediatric Cancer challenge in gathering donations from students and staff members in support of such a worthy cause.
4. Condolences to the Briglio family for the sudden loss of Daniel.

E. Pre-K

1. Welcome back to Vivian Kramer.

F. HALB

1. Thank you to all staff members who participated in the holiday toy drive.
2. Congratulations to our nurse Devorah Sokol on the birth of her daughter, Shoshana.

G. Middle School

1. Happy New Year to all!
2. Congratulations to Dave Lobenstien, Doug Renoud, Elizabeth Altbacker, Christina Rieme, and the student performers for a wonderful winter concert. We appreciate your talent and dedication to the students at Long Beach Middle School.
3. Condolences to the family of Catherine Hubenko on her recent passing.
4. Congratulations to Melissa Pecere on her recent engagement.
5. Congratulations to Christina Reime on her recent engagement.
6. We are eagerly looking forward to the completion of the new science rooms. Our staff has been very patient despite the setbacks during construction. The most recent deadline is set for January 18th.
7. Kudos to our Sunshine Committee for a wonderful holiday celebration. A good time was had by all!

H. High School

1. Congratulations to Ellen McElroy on the birth of her granddaughter.
2. Congratulations to Cody Onufrock on the birth of his son.
3. Condolences to Dr. Matthew Morand on the passing of his grandmother.
4. Congratulations to the students and staff involved in the winter band and chorus concerts.
5. Congratulations to the coaches and members of the boys varsity wrestling team on winning the New York State Team Championship.
6. While the staff recognizes the need to make the high school building more secure, we are unhappy with decision to disable the key fob entrance system. The key fob system was installed district wide several years ago and has made our buildings more secure. Deactivating the key fobs, in addition to the lack of sidewalks, has caused many teachers to walk and cross roads in front of buses and cars thus creating a dangerous situation. We are hopeful that the district will reinstate the key fob entrance system as soon as possible.
7. While the building administration is aware of the recent rise of rodents and insects, and have taken steps to mitigate the issue, the problem still persists.
8. Currently, the library is being used as an alternate cafeteria. This creates a lot of garbage, and noise, which distracts students who use the library as an area for work and study. In addition, this new use has inundated the librarians with overwhelming security issues.
9. We are concerned with the red signs that recently appeared on staff members cars who parked without a new parking pass. The signs warned of future consequences for teachers without proper warning that these signs would appear.

10. A ceiling leak in the new science classroom 337 is still an ongoing issue and continues to leak in areas over student lab stations and classroom desks.
11. There is still great concern for the safety of students, staff and residents under the current traffic pattern. We are still anticipating the issue being studied at the site based committee.
12. We are still greatly concerned about the state of access to technology in the building. There needs to be even greater access to technology in the building.
13. Deepest Sympathies to the family and friends of Daniel Briglio.

At 5:15pm, a motion was made by Jill Cherlin to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Mary Ann Colucci.

In Attendance:

West: Mary Ann Colucci, Cheryleann Fontento

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Jane Quinton, Migdalia Schneider

East: Barbara Lewy, Mary Jane Rochford

Lido: Cheryl Carroll, Dorothy Lopez, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Elizabeth Fichtelman

HALB: Gari Ann Harris

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Jill Cherlin, Camila Gamboa, Jennifer Garrett, Stacey Rice

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Anthony Balsamo, Elena Frishman, Greg Milone, Jay Spitz

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

