



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

December 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 4:45pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey



May the joy of this holiday season bring you happiness, good health, and the best of everything.

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

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

B. 2015 Toy Drive

Thank you very much to Lynda D'Alessio, Stephanie Meyer and Barbara Hirsch for coordinating the 2015 Toy Drive and to everyone who made a donation.

C. Long Beach Aware

Long Beach Aware is pleased to be celebrating 15 years of helping our community's youth and families live healthy and substance free lives. This week we received a letter expressing their appreciation for your support in their first annual Breakfast of Champions.

D. 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. You do not have to use time awarded under Article 19 to determine eligibility. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, please contact me.

E. 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



F. ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act)

President Obama signed legislation Thursday that bars the federal government from mandating the use of student test scores to evaluate teachers. ESSA also bars the government from imposing academic requirements like the Common Core. ESSA is a long-overdue reset of federal education policy that will hopefully fix many of the problems created by No Child Left Behind and Race to the Top.

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

Eileen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

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G. Common Core Task Force

Coincidentally (Please see ESSA above) in a [report](#) released on Friday, the state's Common Core Task Force -- appointed by the governor -- is calling for:

- *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.

In contrast to the state's failed implementation of the Common Core, the task force calls for the new standards and curriculum resources to be developed and implemented gradually -- with educator involvement every step of the way, and full transparency to parents.

The state Board of Regents is expected to vote in January on these recommendations, which would then immediately take effect.

H. NYSHIP decisions: Update December 2015

On Nov. 25th, 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. I do not believe this decision will affect us because we have HIP, an alternate health insurance coverage other than NYSHIP as an option.

I. NYSUT Leadership Conference

There is a one day NYSUT Leadership Conference at the Crest Hollow Country Club on Saturday, February 6th. If you are interested in attending please let me know ASAP.

J. Credit Swap

Jackie Kupferman - 1.5 credits from LIU Post Dana Monti - 1.5 credits for Hofstra

Patty Van Loon - 1.5 credits for LIU



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—Keith Harvey, Chief Negotiator

Our next negotiation meeting with the district is on December 16.

C. New Members—Jim Fiola

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. 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. I am looking for a few more members to participate in the Political Action committee. Thank you to Dr. Jenn Garrett and Patty Van Loon for joining me. Please contact me at bprostick@gmail.com if you would like to be on the committee.

2. I now have access to the PAC email and will soon be asking each building rep. to check with their members to correct or add any emails to the list. My goal is to have 100% participation. I would like to use personal emails rather than the lbeach.org email.
3. I am looking forward to attending the NYSUT Leadership Conference on February 6, 2016.
4. I am in the process of investigating prices for hoodies and half zip pullovers. Thank you to Alison Katulka who is working on the design for us. I will have more details at or before the January meeting.

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

F. Teacher Center—John Marr

The Long Beach Teacher Center has 10 iPads in a traveling case that any teacher in the district may borrow. If you are interested in borrowing the case for one week, please contact the director at lbtc@lbeach.org and arrange for a time to pick them up. Specific apps can be installed on the iPads if you require them. Please indicate which apps you may wish to use when setting up the appointment.

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. We have met twice and are discussing the terms of 3012 D that we believe are negotiable. It seems as if we are on the same page for many of the items. Our new plan will not go into effect until September 2016. It is possible that the new legislation may make these meetings useless! We can only hope!
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 12th at 11 am in the Lido Multipurpose room. If you have any health and safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. District Safety Team

1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 12th at 11 am in the Lido Multipurpose room. 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. I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season! Enjoy the well-deserved break!

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 25.

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

C. I wish everyone a Happy Hanukah, a Merry Christmas and a very healthy New Year! If you have any questions, I can be reached at bprostick@gmail.com.

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, has resigned as of December 11, 2015. The district is intending to appoint an Interim Director and/or a Lead Counselor until they open the position up for next year. In the meantime, the HS VP's have each been given many extra responsibilities on top of their already assigned VP duties. We are eagerly awaiting this hire as there are many responsibilities that come under this position.

C. There still continues to be concern about the speed of our teacher's workstations. We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Chrome Books. We are hopeful that this will improve the work environment for our teachers and alleviate the current stress and concern teachers have using their computer desktops .

D. Our next Secondary Meeting will be on January 25th in LBHS Guidance at 4 pm. I look forward to seeing you there. At our last meeting we discussed the power of our 1 to 1 conversations. The middle school will use this technique to encourage members to join one of our current committees (PAC, PR or Social). The high school will use this technique to discuss the safety concerns with the current traffic pattern.

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

F. Wishing everyone a wonderful, happy and healthy holiday season. Happy New Year!

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. November's Results

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$13,230	Union Dues	\$39,150
AFT	8,010	Retirees Dues	18
Taxes and Ins.	91	Vending Machines	130
Meeting Expenses	371		
Donations	200		
Office Supplies	346		
Office Phone	115	Total	\$39,298
Training	783		
Total	\$23,146		

B. 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.

C. I hope those who celebrated Hanukkah had a fun and festive holiday. Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break. **If you have any changes to your personal file (address, name, etc.), please email them to me at jfiola@lbeach.org.**

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Congratulations to the West School chorus, band and orchestra for a wonderful winter concert under the direction of Vanessa Krywe, Craig West, Noelle Policastro and special guest Barbara Russo!
2. Congratulations to Beverley Downing on the marriage of her daughter Kerri to Justin!
3. Thank you to our PTA for a successful Book Fair and Holiday Boutique.
4. Thank you to the West staff for the generous contributions to the LBCTA /LBSEA Toy Drive. Special thanks to our own Barbara Hirsch!
5. West School buses continue to arrive late for dismissal. We cannot dismiss children safely until all buses arrive.
6. Enjoy the winter break and happiness in the New Year!



B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to the PTA for encouraging the love of literacy by bringing the Scholastic Book Fair to Lindell.
2. Lindell students especially thank you for the many enticing items for sale at the Holiday Boutique.
3. Kudos to Barbara Russo, Craig West, Noelle Policastro and the talented 3rd, 4th and 5th grade members of our recorder, chorus, band and orchestra for an outstanding winter concert presentation. Your music enriched our holiday spirit.
4. Our SELF (Social Emotional Learning Family) gathering for December reinforced the importance of gratitude and giving. Thank you the SEL Committee for guiding us in another meaningful project.
5. Thank you to the Lindell Family for your generous outpouring of gifts, gift cards, holiday gift baskets and toys for the LBCTA /LBSEA Toy Drive.
6. Best wishes to Michelle Donovan as she begins her new social worker position. She will be missed.
7. We extend best wishes for health and happiness during this holiday season and in the New Year.

C. East School

1. Kudos to our Health Fair Committee for planning an exciting day for our students. We enjoyed a variety of different workshops which included topics such as yoga, nutrition, and bike safety.
2. Many thanks to our PTA for another outstanding Scholastic Bookfair and a wonderful Holiday Boutique.
3. We would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year!!

D. Lido School

1. Welcome back to Mary Doheny from maternity leave.
2. Condolences to Dr. Shelly Cepeda on the loss of her father.
3. Congratulations to Cristine Zawatson on her recent engagement.
4. Extending great appreciation to Lido PTA for sponsoring and organizing the Scholastic Book Fair and the Holiday Boutique. Students were excited to participate. Parent volunteers present were helpful when assisting children with their purchases.

5. Lido students in grades 3-5 were excited to attend the LB Middle School Musical “Legally Blonde Jr.” They enjoyed the amazing performance.
6. Congratulations to Dr. Shelly Cepeda for being honored with the LBCA Professional of the Year Award.
7. Many thanks to all who contributed to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. Kudos to Barbara Hirsch, Lynda D’Alessio, and Stephanie Meyer for coordinating the drive this year!
8. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season! Best of luck in the New Year 2016!

E. Pre-K

1. Congratulations to Cristine Zawatson on her recent engagement to Jonathan Rubin.
2. Congratulations to BethAnn Salter on her marriage to Billy Snow.

F. HALB

G. Middle School

1. Congratulations to Ilyssa Berman, Michelle Frank, the cast and crew of “Legally Blonde Jr.” The show was a huge success and enjoyed by everyone. It was a very impressive production and your hard work was evident.
2. Kudos to Brian Pross, Laura Swan, and the student members of the Art and Wood Clubs for creating and constructing the set of “Legally Blonde Jr.”
3. Congratulations to Joanne McLoughlin on the birth of her granddaughter Olivia.
4. Welcome to Wayne Cronk, who will be conducting formal observations of the members of the Humanities department.
5. Welcome to Theresa Napp, our new Director of Humanities.
6. Congratulations to the PTA on a successful Holiday Boutique. Several faculty members are enjoying their new LBMS spirit wear!
7. Kudos to Glen Gartung on his successful holiday gift drive which helps local families in need.
8. Thank you to everyone that donated to the Toy Drive.
9. We would like to wish everyone a happy holiday and a Happy New Year, may 2016 bring everyone good health and happiness.

H. High School

1. Thank you to all staff who have donated toys to the LBCTA toy drive.
2. Welcome and good luck to the new humanities director Theresa Napp.
3. While authorities deemed the recent threat to the High School to be a non-credible one, staff was pleased by the districts response to faculty requests to secure and search the building and those entering on Tuesday, Dec. 8th.
4. Frustration exists regarding the state of classroom and department office computer work stations. Many of these workstations are outdated and slow.
5. After months of waiting we are pleased to hear that the traffic pattern will finally be a topic of study by the site based committee.
6. We are still greatly concerned about the state of access to technology in the building. We are eagerly anticipating the arrival of chrome books for students and staff.
7. Concerns exists over the number of students who use the library as a place to socialize and eat lunch. The library is used as a classroom by some classes, and is difficult to teach and learn with the noise generated by the additional students gathering in the library. We encourage the building administration to explore options of making the cafeteria more inviting for students so the library can be a location where students and teachers can work more productively.

8. Concern exists regarding the level of security in the building. With a building of this size it seems as if there should be more than one security guard on patrol per floor. Additional security is needed after school hours as well.
9. The temperature in the building continues to be an issue. Some areas are extremely cold while others are extremely warm.
10. Best wishes to all faculty and staff this holiday season. May you all have a happy and healthy new year.

VIII. New Business

A motion was made by Elleen Parks to make a donation to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. It was seconded by Karen Bloom. It passed unanimously.

At 6:00pm, a motion was made by Jennifer Garrett to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alison Katulka.

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:

HALB:

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

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Anthony Balsamo, Elena Frishman, Erik Heck, Greg Milone

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

