



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

November 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

11/27/17, 12/11/17, 1/8/18, 1/26/18, 2/12/18, 3/12/18, 3/26/18, 4/9/18, 4/23/18, 5/14/18, and 6/11/18

B. Constitutional Convention

Thank you very much to everyone that came out to support the “No Vote” on the Constitutional Convention. The ballot proposal to hold a state the Constitutional Convention was soundly defeated, Proposals 2 and 3 were approved.



C. Long Beach Superintendent Search

Your Executive Officers will be meeting with a representative of School Leadership, LLC, on Monday, November 20, to discuss the process for hiring the new superintendent. Additionally, there is a survey online which the Board invites you to complete as a part of this input process. The URL for the online survey is: www.surveymonkey.com/r/lbeachsupt.

D. Superintendent's Conference Day and Fundraiser

Thank you very much to Dr. Gallagher and the PDP committee for putting together a thoughtful day. The teachers greatly appreciated having the opportunity to reflect on different “Mindfulness” practices. Thank you very much to everyone that contributed to the Superintendent's day Food Pantry fundraiser. This year's donations will be going to St. Mary's Food Pantry.

E. Mustaches for Kids—Long Island Chapter

Thank you very much to everyone who contributed. This was our eleventh year growing mustaches for kids and to date we have raised over \$615,000. All proceeds benefit the Pediatric Cancer Center at Memorial Sloan Kettering. I look forward to seeing a couple more fuzzy upper lips next year.

The photo left to right (front to back): Keith Harvey (MS), Anthony Balsamo (HS), Jeffrey Myers (HS Principal), Joseph Liabach (HS Senior), Eric Krywe (HS), Matt Hartmann (HS), Neil Campbell (HS), Andy Smith (HS Assistant Principal), Eric Fox (HS).



Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice-President

Amy Leder

Vice-President for Secondary Schools

Beth Prostick

Vice-President for

Elementary Schools

Patricia Van Loon

Recording Secretary

Elleen Parks

Corresponding Secretary

James Fiola

Treasurer

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F. Paid Family Leave

Many members have inquired about the new NYS Paid Family Leave that goes into effect January 1st. New York's Paid Family Leave program provides wage replacement to employees to help them bond with a child, care for a close relative with a serious health condition, or help relieve family pressures when someone is called to active military service.

If we wanted this benefit, it would have to be negotiated and all members would have to participate. It is funded entirely through employee contribution, which means the employees pay for it like an insurance policy. If you are interested in this, please let me know and we can discuss it further. For more information please see the link below.

<https://www.ny.gov/new-york-state-paid-family-leave/paid-family-leave-how-it-works>

G. SRP Recognition Day- November 21, 2017

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.



H. Flex Spending

If you wish to participate, the Flexible Spending Account Enrollment Form for the 2018 calendar year must be returned by **November 22nd**. You should have received an email from Dr. Natali with the form attached.

I. Teaching Assistants (T.A.s) vs. Aides

Please note there is a clear distinction between T.A.s and Aides. T.A.s are in your room or with students in the building to help assist with the delivery of instruction and Aides are in your room or with students to assist with their physical or medical needs. Each T.A. and Aide has a caseload that is individual and determined by students' IEP and/or 504. If you have any questions regarding the T.A.s or Aides in your classroom, please contact your immediate supervisor.

J. Study Money Dates

There are two more opportunities to participate in the Study Program: Winter- Dec. 8, 2017 and Summer- May 11, 2018. 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](#).



K. NYSUT Leadership Training

Please let me know if you would like to attend any of the schedule workshops and conferences presented by the NYSUT Nassau Regional Office during the 2017-18 year.

L. Coach pay dates

- Middle School Winter I: 12/8 and 1/19
- High School Winter: 12/22 and 2/2
- Middle School Winter II: 2/16 and 3/16
- High School Spring: 4/13 and 5/11
- Middle School Spring: 4/27 and 6/8

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

Dr. Natali and I have finished the final draft of the new contract. I look forward to signing the new CBA and getting everyone their copy.

I will be presenting the potential Sick Bank changes to the Executive Board on November 27. If the Executive Board approves the changes they will be presented at a general membership meeting for ratification.

C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola

1. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org. We would like to thank all of those who came to the **Fall Buddy/Mentor party on Friday, Nov 3rd** at Ale House in Point Lookout. We hope you enjoyed yourself and had a chance to meet some fellow new members, officers or building reps. **Please contact us if you don’t have a buddy or mentor.** Please ask questions. There are **many** people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick

1. The Constitutional Convention Proposition did not pass! Thank you for getting the message out and voting no.

2. Do you enjoy the \$250 tax deduction for unreimbursed classroom spending? Unfortunately, the latest House of Representatives tax plan would eliminate this deduction and use those savings to help reduce corporate taxes by 15 percent. Please sign the petition below to urge Congress to reject any plan that eliminates the teacher tax deduction. Click on the link to sign the petition.

https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/donttaxteachers?source=direct_link&

3. I will schedule our next PAC meeting at a later date.

E. Public Relations—Amy Powers

1. Save the date for our 2nd Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes on Thursday, February 1st 4-6 pm. Once you have formed your team, please send back the bottom portion of the attached flyer and send to Amy Leader at the HS with your money. Checks can be made out to LBCTA.



There will also be a link sent out for you to register online through Google. Each team can have up to six members. The cost will be \$30 per bowler. All proceeds will go to Sunrise Day Camp, LI. Sunrise Day Camps are the world’s only dedicated day camps for children with cancer and their siblings, provided completely free of charge. It’s a wonderful opportunity for these children to enjoy camp without feeling restricted and escaping the stigma of being “sick.” There will be food, drinks and raffles at the event. Last year was a great time. We hope to see even more members this year.

2. We are asking again that each building create a themed basket to be raffled off at the event. Building Reps please email me ASAP your idea.

3. Come check out the HS production of Anne Frank this week starting Thursday, November 16, 17, and 18th at 7:00 PM.

4. The consultants who are assisting the Board of Education with the search for the new Superintendent of Schools will be holding a public meeting for any member of the Long Beach school community who would like to attend on **November 20, 2017 at 7:45 p.m.** in the second floor conference room at the Long Beach Public Library, 111 West Park Avenue, Long Beach, NY.

F. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

1. Our holiday dinner meeting will take place on Monday, December 11 at Eat Gastropub in Oceanside at 4:00pm. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

G. Teacher Center

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is accepting proposals for classes. If you are interested in running a class, please contact the center at lbtc@lbeach.org.
2. The LBTC would like to welcome Neil Campbell and Anthony Balsamo to the policy board as representatives from the High School.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. At this point, you should have received and acknowledged your composite scores. Remember you can only appeal an Ineffective or Developing rating. If you have not received this, please let me know ASAP.
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. If you have not yet received the document letting you know who your evaluators are, please ask your immediate supervisor. If you are having trouble getting this information, feel free to contact me.
4. In addition, please be sure that you know how you will be assessed at the end of the year. If you have not yet given an SLO or determined how your score will be calculated, please speak to your immediate supervisor.
5. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. The first meeting is scheduled for November 14th at 4:00 pm at the High School Library.
2. I hope to have updates on all of the items discussed at the next executive board meeting.
3. We are also hoping to be able to meet with the traffic consultant before the studies are conducted so that we can share our specific concerns.
4. 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. District Safety Team

1. The first meeting is on November 14th at 4:00 pm at the High School Library.
2. I hope to have updates on all of the items discussed at the next executive board meeting.
3. 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 remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.
2. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.
3. Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

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

- A. Our annual Bowling Event will be held on February 1. Please begin to plan your teams!
- B. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- C. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on December 4, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- D. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org.
- E. Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

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

- A. Our next Secondary meeting will be on Tuesday, November 21st at 3:15 PM in HS Guidance Suite. Please let me know only if you can or cannot make it.
- B. I have been in contact with Mike DeVito and the District's Software Consultant, Larry Lee about the current Fieldtrip glitches at the HS and the MS. Mr. Lee told me it was an easy fix and that he just needed Mr. DeVito's approval to fix the problem. I was informed by Mr. DeVito that Mr. Lee had to manage a personal matter so he was not in the District last week. Mr. DeVito assured me that he will discuss it with him this week.
- C. The traffic pattern at the HS continues to be a major concern of safety. The past two weeks I have received three separate emails from teachers expressing their concerns about the safety of students, parents and faculty members. We will continue to discuss this matter at our Health and Safety Meeting this week. We are asking that the Consultant meet with us first to discuss our specific concerns at the HS as it appears our reporting of the issue is being misinterpreted.
- D. Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

VI. **Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola**

A. **October Financial Results**

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$14,572	Union Dues	\$40,218
AFT	8,840	Making Strides shirts	448
Officer and Rep Stipends	23,117	Retiree Dues	342
Taxes and Insurance	6,513	Vending Machine	159
Professional Dues	2,200		
Donations	150	Total	<u>\$41,167</u>
Arbitration	6,050		
Meeting Expenses	98		
PTA Dues	3,296		
Training	55		
	<hr/>		
Total	\$64,891		

- B. Best wish to you and yours for an enjoyable Thanksgiving. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. Please save the date of February 1, 2018 which will be the Bowling Night Fundraiser. Lastly, please try to plan to attend a couple of School Board meetings this year.

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 2017/2018 for full-time members will be \$1,014.36. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$231.36 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.

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. A big thank you to all who participated in *Coin Wars*. West School collected various denominations of coins and collected \$1,080.00. The money will be donated to Surf For All, a nonprofit organization who is directly aiding the people of Puerto Rico.
2. Congratulations to Heather Fisher for completing the NYC Marathon!
3. Thank you to all those who planned and participated in Red Ribbon Week. This is a school wide program which teaches participants to make healthy choices. By wearing **red ribbons** and participating in community anti-drug events, young people pledge to live a drug-free life. The event also has children contributing soup to donate to the Food Pantry.
4. We had a successful *Storybook Parade* for grades k-2, and a *Vocabulary Walk* for grades 3-5, this past week. Both events are creative efforts to keep our k-5 children reading and increasing their 'jargon' while enjoying some dress up and a costume parade.
5. Thank you to Stacey Durnan for organizing our holiday food drive to help our families in need. If anyone has not yet donated please feel free to reach out.
6. Thank you to the Superintendent Committee for a 'mindful' conference day.
7. Thank you to all who voted no on Proposition 1 and for the efforts of our Political Action Committee with the Constitutional Convention vote this past November 7th.
8. We are in need of rebuilding our sick day bank and are asking everyone to please donate at least one sick day if you can this year.
9. Staff parking continues to be an issue with regards to the new construction of driveways in the West End of Long Beach.
10. A HAPPY Thanksgiving to everyone!

B. Lindell School

1. Red Ribbon week was kicked off with an assembly and followed by daily themes to reinforce the meaning of making healthy choices. Thank you to our Red Ribbon Committee for a job well done.
2. Lindell School and Family Education (S.A.F.E.) held a night of Fishing for Responsibility. Families and students discovered how Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies are embedded into many books we read. Kudos to the S.A.F.E. Committee.
3. Historical characters were brought to life through 5th Grade's outstanding Living Museum.
4. Mysteries of Science were creatively revealed through 3rd Grade's Halloween Science Day.
5. Second grade students presented Believable Biographies to their families and friends.
6. Thank you Deb Arden for organizing Thanksgiving donations for our families in need.
7. Happy Thanksgiving to all!!!
8. Please consider donating a sick day to the sick bank.

C. East School

1. Welcome back to Jean Marie Marciano.
2. Get well soon wishes to Gail Donenfeld.
3. Condolences to:
 - Lisa Collins on the loss of her father.
 - Angela Madigan on the loss her aunt.
 - Janet Peters on the loss of her mother.
 - Debbie Posey on the loss of her sister.
4. Thank you to the Superintendent's Conference Day Committee.
5. Fun was had by all at the Historical Character and Storybook Parade. Thank you to all staff who participated.

6. We are concerned that there has not been a full-time position Social Worker at East for 7 years. She has been a .2 homeless coordinator. While we are promised that this is going to be a rotating position each year, it never rotates to the other elementary buildings. This is putting a strain on the social-emotional well being of our students.

7. Technology work orders are still left unresolved, even though the ticket has been closed.

8. Thank you to Jacqui Agresta for organizing our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and to all those who donated items.

9. Please donate to the LBCTA sick day bank.

10. Have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

D. Lido School

1. We wish Mandy Kovel a speedy recovery!

2. Condolences to Maureen O'Driscoll on the loss of her mother.

3. Kudos to Lido Kindergarten students for an awesome Storybook Costume Parade.

4. We want to express our gratitude to Lido PTA for the Pumpkin Patch event that took place in the Lido Habitat which incorporated the Stranger Danger program, storybook time, and a class photo. Students were excited to select their class pumpkin.

5. Congratulations to Sue Gamez and Tova Markowitz on completing the NYC Marathon!

6. Congratulations to Dr. Shelly Cepeda, School Social Worker, on being honored by Long Beach REACH for her contributions to the Long Beach community!

7. Many thanks to the Superintendent's Conference Day Committee members and facilitators for providing a Mindfulness Day.

8. Kudos to students who contributed to the Veteran's Wall of Honor.

9. Thank you to students and staff members for donating food to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Much appreciation to Dr. Shelly Cepeda for helping organize the food drive.

10. We are thankful for the efforts made by Brenda Young, Sharon Weiss, and Mike DeVito to improve the dismissal of ALL students in a more timely manner.

11. Thanks to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating.

12. Wishing all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

E. Pre-K

1. Thank you to our PTA for sponsoring a wonderful Fall Ball and providing pumpkins for our students. They loved receiving them!

2. Our children had a fun time at our literacy parade wearing the headbands they created in class.

3. Thank you to the Superintendent's Day Conference Committee for their hard work. It was a pleasure to be back in district.

4. Wishing all a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

F. Middle School

1. Thank you to our building administration and everyone that helped to create a successful building wide assembly on November 3rd with special guest speaker Michelle Poler.

2. Special thanks to Jillian Fernandez, Nicole Vasheo, Lindsay Pichichero, and Barbara Vahey for organizing our first Sunshine event of the year on October 27th. A great time was had by all.

3. Thank you to the LBCTA, Jim Fiola and Ali Katulka for a successful New Member Buddy Party.

4. Our technology problems/issues are not being repaired or corrected. Work orders are being submitted to no avail.

5. Thank you Dr. Gallagher, the Superintendent's Conference Day committee, and all presenters for a productive day.
6. Congratulations to Melissa Megias and Billy Papetti on completing the New York City Marathon!
7. Congratulations to Jim Stankard on the birth of his daughter, Keely Ruth.
8. Condolences to Sean Miller on the loss of his grandmother.
9. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating if you have not done so already.
10. A special thank you to everyone that came out and voted **NO** against a NYS Constitutional Convention on November 7th!
11. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

G. High School

1. Congratulations to James Stankard on the birth of his daughter.
2. Congratulations to the Girls Volleyball team on winning counties.
3. Congratulations to the coaches and members of the Boys and Girls Volleyball team on their fundraiser for Cystic Fibrosis awareness.
4. Best of luck to all of the swimmers attending states.
5. Condolences to the family of Rosanna Knag on the loss of her brother-in-law.
6. Thank you to Mr. Myers for continuing to assist teachers in processing their help desk tickets and dealing with the many technical issues that have come up in classrooms.
7. We appreciate the teamwork and hope that the district will look into appointing both a director of technology at the district level and a tech liaison at the building level. There are many outdated computers and we would like to see a district plan to replace obsolete hardware.
8. Thank you to the administrative team for the roll out this week of Go Guardian. We also appreciate the offer of support for further training for teachers who are at all different levels of utilizing the Chromebooks in the classroom.
9. Thank you to the deans and administrators for updating the school on detention. We look forward to working as a team on ways to improve our system so that detentions do not escalate to in-school suspensions.
10. Thank you to the custodial staff and administrative team for their efforts in attempting to address the multiple concerns of the staff.
11. We hope that the district will address any malfunctioning air units before the springtime. Stagnant air and excessive warmth or cold becomes a distraction to learning. Most of our rooms do not have any access to any outside air and rely on the units to be functioning to regulate airflow.
12. There are a number of rooms experiencing leaks from the roof in the high school science area and a temporary fix has been put in place to divert the leaks. We hope that the repairs to the roof that are needed are done so there would be no need for any temporary fixes. Water has already damaged some of the desks in the affected classrooms.
13. We are still concerned about the need to meet student's IEPs in the elective courses at the school. We hope that the district will look into placing co-teachers in elective courses that are necessary for some students to graduate. We hope that next year, student elective courses will have co-teacher options for those students who require those services and may need those courses for graduation.

14. We are happy to hear that the district has hired a consultant to look into safety concerns in regards to the traffic pattern. We hope the safety of pedestrians, bikers and walkers at the high school will be a focus of the study.
15. We are appreciative of the continuing open dialog between administration and the building reps and hope that the actions that result improve the quality of teaching and learning in the building.
16. Please consider donating days to the sick bank.
17. Wishing everyone a happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

At 4:54 pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jonathan Bloom.

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schecter

Lindell: Susan Simons, Heather Puckhaber, Lisa Rundo

East: Jeanne Richards, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dana Monti, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Elizabeth Fichtelman

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Alison Katulka

LBHS: Anthony Balsamo, Jonathan Bloom, Chris Brown, Neil Campbell

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

NYSUT Member Benefits... more than just insurance!

As an additional benefit to NYSUT members and their families, your union membership allows you to participate in more than 40 programs & services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits.

These offerings include crucial products that you may already purchase such as life, auto & homeowners insurance, unbiased financial services and expert legal advice. But your NYSUT membership also allows you to participate in a variety of shopping, travel and personal programs that can help you save on everyday purchases and those special occasions.



Our endorsed shopping/travel/personal programs offer savings on numerous online purchases, including:

Theme Park & Movie Tickets	Office Supply Discounts	Electronics Discounts
Hotel & Vacation Discounts	Retail Store Discounts	Ski Tickets
Car & Truck Rentals	Concerts & Sporting Events	Car Buying Service

Participation in Member Benefits-endorsed programs also gives you a trusted advocate ready to assist you with any issues or concerns with any of our programs.



Member Appreciation Month coming in February 2018!

As a show of thanks to the more than 600,000 NYSUT members that comprise this labor union, NYSUT Member Benefits will once again be holding our annual Member Appreciation Month celebration in February 2018.

Special prize drawings will be held each day of the month. To be eligible to win, you must be a member of our voluntary MAP Alert email service.

Sign up any time through the end of February 2018 to be eligible to win... but if you join MAP by January 31, 2018, you'll have the most chances to win!

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.



NYSUT Dec. 17



Please join us for a fun afternoon of friendly competition at the 2018

Spring Bowling Fundraiser

Thursday, February 1st

4-6 pm \$30.00/person

RVC Lanes, 100 Maple Ave, Rockville Centre

Includes donation to Sunrise Day Camp, 2 hours of bowling, shoe rental, and pub grub.

A cash bar will be available.

After party will be at Kasey's in RVC



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUNRISE DAY CAMP, LI
Sunrise Day Camps are the world's only dedicated day camps for children with cancer and their siblings, provided completely *free of charge*. It is a wonderful opportunity for these children to enjoy camp without feeling restricted and escaping the stigma of being "sick".

50/50 Raffle, Raffle Prizes, Prize for Highest Team Game

Please complete the form below with cash or a check made payable to "LBCTA" and send to Amy Leder (HS). If you would like to participate but do not have a team, please submit the form and we will place you on a team. 100% fun guaranteed!

PLEASE RSVP BY January 25th to Amy Leder, aleder@lbeach.org

Team Name: _____

School(s) _____

Team Captain and personal email: _____

Team Members (6 people per lane): _____

