



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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President
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Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Maggio

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Amy Leder

Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Garrett

Corresponding Secretary
Elleen Parks

Treasurer
Jonathan Bloom

Executive Board Minutes

November 25, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm by Karen Bloom.

I. President's Report - Karen Bloom

A. Nuts & Bolts

We would like to thank Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Natali and Mr. DeVito for taking the time to meet with us to talk about some of the key issues we are facing throughout the district. We discussed the need for more PPS Staff throughout the district, as well as the new issues we are facing in the elementary schools, with the addition of Full Time Pre-K. The need for some additional training in School Tool was mentioned so that elementary teachers could utilize it to its full potential. We also spoke about revisiting the BYOD Policy, especially at the high school, where it is causing a variety of issues for teachers and students. In addition, we discussed the need for Wellness Centers throughout the district; Dr. Gallagher stated that ideally, we should have something in each building, to help address the ever growing mental health needs of our students. We then spoke about some of the forms and procedures that we use for absences, in order to try to streamline the process and improve confidentiality as well as consistency between buildings. Finally, we discussed Field Trip Procedures, which we were told have a little more leeway than we previously thought. Overall it was productive and positive. We look forward to our next meeting in February.

B. SED Blue Ribbon Commission Report

On November 4th, The New York State Education Department (NYSED) presented its robust timeline and implementation plan aimed at transforming education in New York, aligning with the recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission on Graduation Measures. This initiative, designed to promote greater equity within the education system, is informed by extensive stakeholder engagement, including parents, educators, administrators, school support staff, representatives of higher education, and the business community. The key elements of the plan include: Implementation of Four Transformations, A Phased Approach, Enhanced Stakeholder Engagement and Focus on Planning and Professional Development.

[Full report](#)

C. Regionalization Plan

I recently attended an SED Webinar hosted by the NSSBA. The Regionalization Initiative is a collaborative regional planning approach for local districts to communicate what they need in order to ensure equitable educational opportunities for all students, leveraging the state's existing capabilities, talent, and infrastructure. By engaging in regional conversations, schools and

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districts may identify, explore, and choose whether to pursue a variety of possible solutions to the academic and operational challenges they face by tapping into the full span of resources that already exist in their larger region. *Participation in the process is voluntary and even if a plan is developed the district retains control of what activities it wants to participate in.* More information will be shared by NYSUT soon. NYSED has more information if you are interested. [Regionalization: SED](#)

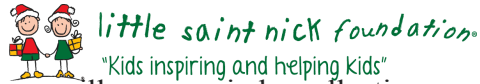
D. Superintendent's Conference Day

Thank you very much to Dr. Ostroff and the PDP Committee for scheduling conference day. Members were appreciative to have a variety of choices to meet their individual needs. Hopefully everyone filled out the Survey to share their thoughts about the day.

E. Long Beach Food Pantry Donation

At this year's Superintendent's Conference Day, we were able to collect donations for the Long Beach Food Pantry to assist with holiday meals in our community. Thank you to everyone that donated. This year we were able to raise over \$1,200 dollars for this worthwhile cause.

F. Toy Drive 2024



This Holiday season, we will once again be collecting money for the Little Saint Nick Foundation. This money will go towards purchasing items for gift bags, such as toys, books, and personal care items, that will brighten the day of kids who are facing difficult circumstances. We believe that every child deserves to feel loved and supported, especially during challenging times. By supporting the Little Saint Nick Foundation, we can help make a difference in the lives of children and spread kindness and compassion in our community. We encourage you to join us in supporting this wonderful cause. Every donation, no matter how big or small, can make a difference in the life of a child in need. Let's come together and make a positive impact on the lives of those who need it most. Thank you for your support! Cash donations can be given to your union reps, sent directly to me at the High School, or you can use Venmo – @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).

G. Long Beach PTA

Once again, I am proud to announce the LBCTA has 100% teacher participation in the LB PTA. I am grateful for the collaboration and teamwork between our two organizations. Together, we can make a positive impact on the lives of our students and ensure they receive the best education possible. Thank you to all the teachers who actively participate in the PTA and help to strengthen our school community. Your dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed and are truly appreciated. Let's continue to work together to support our students and create a thriving learning environment.

H. NYSTRS Convention - Justin Sulsky

1. A common misconception is that the PREP (Pension & Retirement Education Program) seminars are for teachers nearing retirement. Actually, PREP seminars are great for mid-career teachers because you learn what to do to maximize your benefits in retirement. Teachers can sign up here [Pension & Retirement Education Program | NYSTRS](#).
2. Teachers are urged to have a MyNYSTRS account and the app Apple Link (iPhone) and [Google Link](#). (Web) The reasoning for having a MyNYSTRS account to access immediately on the web or phone is because if there was an emergency and a teacher had to make a time sensitive decision they would likely be able to do so on the web or app instead of having to send in paperwork to NYSTRS HQ.

3. Members can also be assured that our retirements are safeguarded by the NYS Constitution, and our NYSTRS pension is extremely well-funded.
4. Although it wasn't emphasized as much this year, members (especially those who came to us from NYC, subbing, etc.) should claim any public service prior credit IMMEDIATELY because the longer you wait to buy back credit the more significant the cost since you have to buy it back with interest that compounds. [Prior Service Forms | NYSTRS](#)
5. Lastly, our job isn't to give people advice about their own situation, but to encourage members to contact NYSTRS at 1-800-348-7298 for information about their own situation.

I. NYSUT Trainings & Workshops

We had a variety of people attend workshops in the past month. Ms. Mena attended a NYSUT workshop on Running an Effective Meeting. Dr. Garrett & Ms. Leder attended a webinar about Workplace Violence Prevention in order to be sure that we have met all of the requirements as far as our plans & procedures go. In addition, Ms. Mena and Dr. Garrett attended a workshop on the variety of Leaves available to members. Mr. Bloom also attended a webinar on Managing Union Finances, where we were happy to learn that we are in compliance and following suggestions given by NYSUT. Feel free to reach out if you have questions or would like to discuss any details.

J. 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, 2025. 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, you can look at your NYSTRS Benefit Profile or contact NYSTRS directly at: [NYSTRS](#)

K. Coaching Pay Dates

Below are the payroll dates for coaches for the 2024-25 school year:

High School

Winter: First check: 12/20, Second check: 2/14
 Spring: First check: 4/11, Second check: 5/9

Middle School:

Winter I: First check: 12/20, Second check: 1/17
 Winter II: First check: 2/14, Second check: 3/14
 Spring: First check: 4/25, Second check: 6/6

L. Mandated Reporting: GCN

All GCN Training Modules are due by **December 13, 2024**. Dr. Natali sent an email on 9/3 with all of the instructions on how to access and what modules need to be completed. This can be done on Professional Periods while you are at work.

M. Mandated Reporting: Child Abuse Training

The NYS Department of Education (per NYS Social Services Law § 413) now requires updated training to assist in recognizing signs of child abuse or maltreatment. Accordingly, all mandated reporters, including those who have previously undergone training, must complete updated training by April 1, 2025. Training is free, on-line, self-directed, and can be completed using the instructions sent by Dr. Natali. The NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is offering the 9-module (2-hour) training through the Human Services Learning Center (HSLC) website (<https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/>). It is not required that the entire training is completed at one time. Therefore, you can pace yourself and resume as you see fit prior to the April 1st deadline. (See memo provided for more details on submitting documentation.) This can be done

on Professional Periods while you are at work. In addition, the Nassau Regional Office is hosting two virtual training sessions per month, free of charge, for NYSUT members. You may use the links below to register for the date of your choice:

[December 5, 2024, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[December 16, 2024, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[January 7, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[January 21, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[February 3, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[February 24, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[March 3, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[March 25, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

[April 1, 2025, 4:15pm-6:15pm - Frontline Education](#)

(two sessions have been booked for last minute needs)

N. NYS Paid Sick Leave – *It is still in effect, until December 31, 2025*

Should you need to quarantine for a positive COVID case you still have access to the NYS Paid Sick Leave. You can only access this benefit three times, and if you used it in years past it does not reset. Once someone uses Paid Covid Leave three times, that person is no longer eligible. Please remember this can only be used for lab confirmed positive cases, and that you should notify HR once positive. The State benefit is not for your child's quarantine or positive case. The COVID Leave Form is located in your main office and can be completed once you return to work.

O. Study Money

Those who applied and were approved for Fall Study Money appeared on the October 8th Board of Education agenda. There are two more opportunities to participate in the Study Program:

Winter – Friday, December 13, 2024 and **Summer – Friday, May 16, 2025**. 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](#).

P. Annual Turn-In of Sick Days

If you have accumulated at least 75 sick days and wish to exercise your option of selling back unused sick days earned this year (up to 12 or 14 if you worked at Summer School or Extended School Year) you must submit a "Request for Payment in Exchange for Accumulated Unused Sick Days" form to the HR Department. The teacher must not have been absent more than 6 days during the school year for which he/she shall claim eligibility for this payment.

Q. NYSUT Pocket Calendars

The 2024-2025 NYSUT pocket calendars are in! If you would like a 2024-2025 NYSUT pocket calendar, please contact your Senior Building representative.

II. Committee Reports

A. Grievance Committee - Amy Leder

There are currently no grievances to report. If you encounter any issues that may violate our contract, please reach out to me at aleder@lbeach.org.

B. New Members - Alison Katulka

1. Our Fall New Member gathering was a great success. Thank you to new members, buddies, mentors, and the executive board for attending. These events are crucial because they build our union community by creating a stronger sense of solidarity amongst our members.



2. Thank you to all who have stepped up to be a union buddy for a new member! I am very grateful to our building reps for helping me pair our new members with a buddy.
3. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo-@LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
4. Save the Date! March 6, 2025 for our Bowling Fundraiser.
5. If you know of a new member who needs a buddy, please contact me at akatulka@lbeach.org.

C. Political Action Committee - Jennifer Garrett

1. After 13 years, the Lawrence Teachers' Association and the Lawrence BOE have finally ratified a new collective bargaining agreement. We congratulate them on this achievement. Thank you to all members that participated in rallies and other activities to show support for the LTA over the years. We are stronger together!
2. We are asking all members to join NYSUT's Tier 6 Fix-It Team by simply scanning the QR code. Also, if you are interested in joining our LBCTA Fix Tier 6 Team please email lbctapac@gmail.com. Fixing Tier 6 is about solidarity, justice and dignity in retirement. It's about keeping talented educators in the classroom and recruiting new educators into the profession.
3. It is important that PAC has a way to contact members to disseminate information in a timely fashion. If you changed email or are new to the district, please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com with an **active personal** email address so our contact list can be updated.
4. Please follow us on Instagram @LongBeachClassroomTeachers.
5. 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.



D. Public Relations Committee - Jennifer Garrett and Jennifer Maggio

1. Thank you to our New Member Committee and Ali Katulka for a wonderful New Member Buddy Party.
2. A heartfelt thank you to each one of you for donating towards the LBCTA Food Drive. We raised over \$1200 for the Long Beach Food Pantry.
3. Kudos to the LBHS Theatre Department for their successful presentation of Almost Maine.
4. Please follow us on Instagram @LongBeachClassroomTeachers
5. Save the Date! Our LBCTA 8th annual bowling event will be held on Thursday, March 6th at Maple Lanes in RVC. This year we will be donating to the G2H Foundation in memory of Gerrin Hagen. More information will be available soon. As in the past, we hope each building can donate a basket for the raffle. So start thinking of those basket themes!
6. Also, in addition to building raffle basket donations, we are looking for donations that can promote our staff's craft, skills and talents. If you have a business or item you would like to donate to be raffled off, we would appreciate any and all donations. Please contact jgarrett@lbeach.org and jmaggio@lbeach.org to donate.
7. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting The Little Saint Nick's Foundation . You can give cash to a Building Rep. or Venmo Karen Bloom @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).



E. Social Committee - Elleen Parks

1. Our End of the Year Celebration will take place at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside.
Please save the date: May 15, 2025.
2. Thank you to Ali Katulka for planning a successful Buddy party for our new members and their union buddies!
3. Please consider donating to our Toy Drive which will benefit Little St. Nick's.
4. The executive board meeting for Monday, December 9th will need a response from the board members on whether or not you can attend. Please look for an email from me in early December.
5. Have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

F. Long Beach Teacher Center - John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center Policy Board is currently developing a needs assessment in conjunction with the district to target professional development for the next academic year. We will be asking staff to fill the survey out in January. The results of this survey will be used in developing a continuation application.
2. Have a happy Thanksgiving!

III. Executive Vice President's Report - Amy Leder

A. Health and Safety

1. We sincerely appreciate Don Kramer's prompt response and attention to the air quality concerns at Lindell School. Your immediate action on this matter is gratefully appreciated.
2. **Phone System Updates**
 - a) High School, Lido Complex, and East School
 - (1) New phone replacements have been received.
 - (2) Additional phones for replacements are now available.
 - b) Lindell School
 - (1) A system is in place for quick phone replacements.
 - (2) Grainger can provide next-day delivery of phones as needed.
 - c) West School
 - (1) No current phone issues reported.
 - (2) One spare phone is available if needed.
3. Thank you to Don Kramer for your assistance with this as well.

B. APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review)

1. NYSUT has put out an updated APPR Fact Sheet. In summary, the new APPR Law:
 - a) Returns teacher evaluations to local control.
 - b) Eliminates the requirement to tie evaluations to student performance metrics like test scores.
 - c) Allows districts to develop evaluation programs that work for them.
 - d) Gives unions and educators a seat at the table when determining evaluation systems at the district level.
2. **Key Changes**
 - a) Local Control: Districts and BOCES can negotiate their own performance review plans with local bargaining units.

- b) Student Performance Measures: Plans are not required to use student performance measures.
- c) Transition Period: Districts and BOCES have eight years to transition to the new system.
- d) Approval Process: Plans must be approved by the State Education Department according to multiple measures aligned with state teaching and leadership standards.

3. Impact on Teaching

The new system aims to:

- a) End the “teaching to the test” approach.
- b) Return the joy of teaching and learning to classrooms.
- c) Better serve educators, students, parents, and school communities.

4. Implementation Timeline

- a) Districts can keep their current transition plans until a new plan is agreed upon through collective bargaining.
- b) There is no loss of state aid during this transition period.

5. Additional Changes

- a) The HEDI rating bands (Highly Effective, Effective, Developing, Ineffective) are replaced with a number system 1-4, with 4 being the highest.
- b) Districts can set different observation/evaluation requirements for probationary and tenured teachers.
- c) The connection between APPR scores and tenure granting has been eliminated.

6. This reform represents a significant shift from the previous system, which was often criticized for its punitive approach and overreliance on standardized test scores. The new APPR law aims to create a more supportive and locally-tailored evaluation process for educators in New York State.

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

8. The next Health & Safety meetings are scheduled for January 27th and May 5th. Staff members are encouraged to report any unresolved Health & Safety issues at the building level.

9. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at aleder@lbeach.org.

C. Other

1. Save the date for our annual bowling event. This year the event will be held on Thursday, March 6th.

2. Please make an effort to attend School Board meetings whenever you can. All meetings are posted on the district calendar.

3. Additionally, consider contributing days to our District Sick Bank; the form is available on our website at www.lbcta.com.

4. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

IV. Vice President for Elementary Schools’ Report - Jennifer Maggio

A. Thank you to all who came out for our New Member Party on Friday, November 1st. It was so nice to see some of our new members and I always enjoy seeing people from across our district.

B. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

- C. I'm thankful to all building reps for your hardwork and dedication to the LBCTA.
- D. If you have any questions or concerns that you were unable to work out at your building, I can be reached at jmaggio@lbeach.org.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report - Jennifer Garrett

- A. Thank you Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Ostroff and the Superintendent's Conference Day Committee for organizing a productive day.
- B. A heartfelt thank you to each one of you for donating towards the LBCTA Food Pantry. We raised \$1200 for the Long Beach Food Pantry.
- C. Please check to ensure that your black classroom phone is working properly. Please notify your head custodian if your phone needs to be repaired or replaced.
- D. NYS Dept. of Ed. requires updated training to assist in recognizing signs of child abuse or maltreatment. All mandated reports must complete this training by April 1, 2025. Please see Dr. Natali's email from September 17th for instructions.
- E. Thank you to our New Member Committee and Ali Katulka for a wonderful New Member Buddy Party.
- F. Please consider donating towards the LBCTA Toy Drive benefiting our Long Beach students throughout the community. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo Karen Bloom @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510). Thank you.
- G. Your Building Reps are here to answer any questions or assist you with any issues/concerns you may have. Also, we encourage you to keep the lines of communication open with administration about any issues and/or items you may have.
- H. Save the Date! Our LBCTA 8th annual bowling event will be held on Thursday, March 6th at Maple Lanes in RVC. This year we will be donating to the G2H Foundation in memory of Gerrin Hagen. More information will be available soon.
- I. Thank you to our members who have donated days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating if you have not done so already.
- J. Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

VI. Treasurer's Report - Jonathan Bloom

A. October's Financial Report

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT Dues	\$16,058.65	Union Dues	\$42,432.201
AFT Dues	\$9,618.83	NYSUT Ads	\$500.00
Bank of Amer.- Ret. of Funds	\$9.00	Bingo Reimbursement.	\$400.00
Training	\$230.21	Retirees	\$36.00
End of Year Party Deposit	\$600.00	The Hartford- Ret of Funds	\$8.00
Meeting Supplies	\$21.71	TOTAL	\$43,376.20
Accounting	\$5,200.00		
Public Relations	\$624.59		
Workers Comp. Ins.	\$231.05		
TOTAL	\$32,594.04		

- B. Union dues for 2024/2025 for full-time members will be \$1,051.16 The break-out is \$407 local, \$394 NYSUT, \$242.16 AFT dues and \$8 for PTA membership. \$105.11 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.

C. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. I would encourage you to attend a few School Board meetings during the year. Your presence is always noted.

D. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving!

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Congratulations to Hannah Gallo on completing the New York City Marathon. We are so proud of you!
2. Red Ribbon Week was a huge success. Students enjoyed dressing up each day and learning about ways to be healthy.
3. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing yoga to the students during Red Ribbon Week.
4. The West School Storybook Parade was a success. Students chose their favorite book and dressed up as that character for a traditional parade around the school.
5. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing a wonderful fall craft for all the students to make.
6. Thank you to the West School PTA for another successful Book Fair. We appreciate all you do for our students
7. West School STEAM Night was a great success! Thank you to Hannah Gallo for organizing and all the teachers who coordinated activities for the students and their families.
8. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing a STEAM assembly to our students!
9. Thank you to Dan Bailey and Bryan Rosen for organizing a terrific turkey trot. The students had a ball! Thank you to the West School PTA for all of your fundraising efforts!
10. Thank you to Alison Katulka for a fabulous Buddy Party. We had such a nice time getting to know our new members.
11. Please consider making a donation to the Little St.Nick 2024 Toy Drive. You can give cash to a union rep or Venmo @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
12. Save the date for the annual Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, March 6th.
13. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Bank.
14. Have a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving!

B. Lindell School

1. We would like to welcome Lindell's new main office secretary, Mindy Scanlan.
2. Lindell celebrated Character Day on October 31st. Much gratitude to our PTA for setting up a pumpkin patch in the field for every student to pick and decorate a pumpkin to take home. Believable Biographies by Grade 2, a character parade, 3rd grade science experiments and 5th grade historical fiction characters encompassed the Fall Festival theme.
3. Thanks to Ali Katulka and the LBCTA for hosting a gathering for our new members, union buddies, mentors, and executive board members earlier this month. It was a great opportunity to spend some time with our new colleagues throughout the district.
4. Much appreciation goes out to all who donated to the Long Beach Food Pantry.
5. We would like to extend our appreciation for the attention given to the air quality testing in our building.

6. Many thanks to the Lindell PTA for offering the Scholastic Book Fair for our students.
7. The Lindell pot luck luncheon organized by the Sunshine Committee was a great success. We all had the opportunity to enjoy each other's company with a vast amount of food brought in by the staff and faculty.
8. There is a need for additional PPS staff to support social emotional needs in our building.
9. Please consider making a donation to the Little St. Nick 2024 Toy Drive. You can give cash to a union rep or Venmo @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
10. Save the date for the annual Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, March 6th.
11. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.
12. Please consider attending school board meetings.
13. Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

C. East School

1. The Literacy Pumpkin contest was a great success. The students enjoyed voting for their favorite pumpkin. Thank you to the PTA for the pizza lunch as a reward for every class participating.
2. We are concerned with the lack of consistent mental health support in our building.
3. Thank you to those who took the time to have your class make Veteran's Day cards. They were given out to veterans at the Northport Veterans Hospital and were greatly appreciated!
4. Save the date for the annual Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, March 6th.
5. Thank you to Ali for organizing the new buddy party. A great time was had by all.
6. Thank you to the PTA for organizing the Scholastic Book Fair. The students enjoyed shopping for books.
7. Please consider making a donation to the Little St. Nick 2024 Toy Drive. You can give cash to a union rep or Venmo @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
8. Wishing everyone a Happy and healthy Thanksgiving with your family and friends!

D. Lido School

1. Thank you to Kirstyn Pappas for organizing our Thanksgiving Spirit Week!
2. Please consider donating to the LBCTA Toy Drive for The Little Saint Nick Foundation. You can give cash to a Building Rep or Venmo Karen Bloom @LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
3. Students and teachers enjoyed participating in the Balloons Over Lido Thanksgiving Parade. It was fun to cheer on the students marching around with their balloon creations. Kudos to the students and Kylee Nicholls for leading this engaging and fun STEM Challenge.
4. Congratulations to Ashley Woo on her marriage celebration!
5. Kudos 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. Thank you to all members who donated to the LBCTA Food Drive benefiting the Long Beach Food Pantry. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.
7. Thank you to members who attended the New Member Gathering and thank you to Ali Katulka for organizing a fun get-together.
8. We are in need of additional PPS personnel to support the increasing needs of our student population.

9. Save the date for our LBCTA Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, March 6, 2025. This year we will be donating to the G2H Foundation in memory of Gerrin Hagen.
10. Save the date for our LBCTA End of Year Celebration on Thursday, May 15, 2025.
11. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.
12. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

E. LBMS

1. Thank you, Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Ostroff, and the Superintendent's Conference Day Committee for organizing a productive day.
2. Thank you to everyone for the successful Parent Teacher Conferences!
3. On November 4th, we observed Veterans Day at LBMS with the Field of Honor that was led by Team 7-1's annual service project, under the direction of Team Leaders, Mr. Hoffman, and Ms. Rehnback and is on display in front of the Central Administration building on Lido Boulevard. Additionally, Team 7-1 made thank you cards and coffee mugs filled with candy to be distributed to local veterans.
4. Special thank you to Mrs. Espinet for the beautiful Veterans Day tribute video and to Mr. Papetti for sharing the video during Morning Announcements.
5. On November 4th, this year's 6th-grade space project was launched to the International Space Station! Congratulations to this year's group whose project was selected for spaceflight!
6. On November 12th-14th, 8th grade students participated in the 8th grade STEM Roller Skating field trip at United Skates of America. Thank you to Ms. Frank and Ms. Katulka, our 8th-grade trip advisors, for organizing a fun day of learning and camaraderie for our 8th graders. Special thanks to all of the chaperones who helped facilitate a successful experience.
7. On November 15th, we introduced our Beautiful Me program for all 8th grade girls. A special thank you to Ms. Hemmerdinger, Ms. Berman, Ms. Farrell, Ms. Beigel, and Ms. Frank for their work in preparation for the assembly and the morning announcements as well as our Beautiful Me Committee and all of our amazing teacher leaders who will be leading the upcoming sessions. We are excited to partner with the Hance Foundation to offer this uplifting experience to our students.
8. This year's Thanksgiving Food Drive was a success. Each team collected food for Thanksgiving baskets distributed to local families—special thanks to Mr. Gartung, with the support of the National Junior Honor Society, for organizing this great event.
9. Kudos to Mrs. Espinet for organizing our Native American Heritage Month announcements. Special thanks to all who helped create the many informative episodes.
10. Several classrooms are waiting to receive replacement clocks due to a malfunction in the master clock. Mr. Persaud has been working on resetting some of the clocks by hand. Please tell a building rep if you do not have a clock in your room.
11. Thank you to our Sunshine Committee for organizing our recent Fall gathering. Everyone had a great time.
12. Thank you to the LBCTA and our New Member Coordinator Alison Katulka for organizing our Fall New Member Gathering on November 1st. Thanks to our new members, mentors, buddies, and executive board for attending.

13. Thank you to all members who donated to our LBCTA Food Drive benefiting the Long Beach Food Pantry. Your generosity was greatly appreciated.
14. Please consider donating to the LBCTA Toy Drive. You can give cash to a building rep or Venmo-@LBCTA (Last 4 digits: 2510).
15. Save the Date! Our LBCTA 8th annual bowling event will be held on Thursday, March 6th at Maple Lanes in RVC. This year we will donate to the G2H Foundation in memory of Gerrin Hagen. More information will be available soon.
16. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA Sick Bank. Please consider donating using the form found on lbcta.com under “Helpful Links”.
17. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

F. LBHS

1. Congratulations to Wilbur Thorsen on the birth of his new baby girl, River.
2. Congratulations to Leigh Rynecki on her recent marriage!
3. Congratulations to the theater department on their successful performance of *Almost Maine*.
4. We want to wish Mindy Scanlan good luck on her recent transfer to Lindell Elementary. The High School will miss you!
5. We want to give Kim Wynne a warm welcome to the Math and Science departments!
6. Our sincere condolences to Annmarie Gonzalez and Amy Gunther on the passing of Annmarie’s mother-in-law and Amy’s aunt.
7. Thank you to the administration for continuing to work effortlessly with the building representatives in order to ensure that the needs of our faculty, staff, and students are being met.
8. Thank you to Chris Genduso for your communication and collaboration with the night staff. We look forward to continuing to work together.
9. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
10. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving season!

VIII. New Business

- A. A motion was made by Heather Puckhaber to make a donation to the Long Beach Food Pantry. It was seconded by Elleen Parks. It passed unanimously.
- B. A motion was made by Heather Puckhaber to make a donation to The Little Nick Foundation. It was seconded by Alison Katulka. It passed unanimously.

At 5:05pm, a motion was made by Ali Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jeanne Richards.

In attendance:

West: Claudine Clark, Julie de Bruin

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathleen Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jeanne Richards, Tamara Sommers, Melissa Zimmerman, Eileen Bauer

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Molly Drake, Dana Monti

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Sean Miller, Grace Parisi

LBHS: Stephanie Mena

Long Beach Teacher Center:

Retiree Representative: Frank Volpe

Executive Officers: Karen Bloom, Amy Leder, Jennifer Maggio, Jennifer Garrett, Patricia Van Loon

Elleen Parks, Jonathan Bloom

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

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Another holiday season full of anticipation and joy is upon us, and NYSUT Member Benefits is ready to help with gift giving. Before purchasing any items on your list, make sure to check out all that Member Benefits has to offer.



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While you're on our website, take some time to explore the Buyer's Edge, Inc., ODP Business Solutions, and Purchasing Power programs for new and used vehicles; appliances, televisions, furniture, and mattresses; school and office supplies; electronics; and more.

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