



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Associ



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

Executive Board Minutes

January 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:20pm by Keith Harvey.

I. **President's Report – Keith Harvey**

Happy New Year!

Condolences to Darlene Tangney on the passing of her father, James Eckes.

A. **Executive Board Meeting Dates**

1/23/17, 2/13/17, 3/13/17, 3/27/17, 4/24/17, 5/8/17, 5/22/17, and 6/12/17

B. **2016 Toy Drive**

Once again the LBSEA and the LBCTA hosted their annual Holiday Toy Drive. This year we collected over **20** large bags of toys that were distributed to Project Challenge, the MLK Center, the Circulo De La Hispanidad, and the Literacy Zone After School Program. Thank you very much to Lynda D'Alessio, Andrew Frey, Noelle Policastro, Christina Tomek and Marlon Lainez for coordinating the 2016 Holiday Toy Drive and to everyone that donated.



C. **Morning Madness Fashion Show**

The annual Morning Madness Senior Fashion Show will be on Tuesday, January 31, in the High School auditorium, starting at 7:00PM. In addition to the show, there will be light refreshments, raffles, and a 50/50. Please see [Appendix A](#) for the form.

D. **First Eligible Retirement Incentive**

As per our contract, unit members are eligible for this retirement incentive when he/she first becomes eligible for the NYSTRS/NYSERS service retirement provisions under his/her respective tier without penalty due to insufficient years of service or age. For most people this means that you are at least 55 years old with 30 years of service or at least 62 years old with 20 years of service.

To see if you are first eligible without penalty you can check your NYSTRS benefits booklet or contact them at NYSTRS website <https://www.nystrs.org/Active-Members/Service-Credit> or call NYSTRS (800) 348-7298 Ext. 6250.

The incentive is \$1,000 for each year of full-time District service, or an additional 30% added to the existing contractual entitlement relative to pay off at retirement of accumulated

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

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sick leave, whichever is greater. To take advantage of the incentive you must submit an irrevocable letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement by January 15.

E. NYSUT Offers Online Guide for a Successful Retirement

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

F. Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) Registration

All members who hold a permanent or professional certificate in classroom teaching, educational leadership service or a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate must apply for initial registration during the 2016-2017 school year during his/her month of birth and must renew every five years through the [TEACH](#) system.

G. Health Insurance Rates 2017

Empire	2016	2017
Individual	849.09	944.39
Family	1926.21	2160.64



H. IRS Mileage Rate 2017

The IRS has just announced the official standard mileage rates for 2017. The standard business mileage rate for transportation expenses paid or incurred as of Jan. 1 is 53.5 cents per mile, down from 54 cents for 2016.

I. FICA 2017

The maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security payroll tax will climb 7.3 percent in 2017 to \$127,200—up by \$8,700 from the \$118,500 maximum for 2016 and 2015. Earnings above this amount are not subject to the Social Security portion of the payroll tax or used to calculate retirement payouts.

J. Study Money Dates

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program, Summer- May 12, 2017. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. [Request for Participation in Study Program - Group A](#).

K. Coach pay dates

- Middle School Winter I:** 1/20
- High School Winter:** 12/23 and 2/3
- Middle School Winter II:** 2/17 and 3/17
- High School Spring:** 4/17 and 5/12
- Middle School Spring:** 4/28 and 6/9

L. NYSUT Leadership Training

Following is a schedule of the workshops and conferences to be presented by the Nassau regional office during the 2016-17 school year. Please contact me if you are interested in attending one of these conferences.

Saturday, February 11 – Nassau Winter Leadership Conference
(Crest Hollow Country Club)

Wednesday, March 1 - Post State of the State--Relevant Issues (Saratoga Springs)

March 3-4 – Health & Safety Conference (Hilton, Saratoga Springs)

Thursday, March 16 – Labor Movement and History Workshop (Nassau RO)

Tuesday, June 6 – Tenure Workshop (Nassau RO)

M. NYSUT Member Benefits

Please see [Appendix B](#) for information describing the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Legal Service Plan and Financial Counseling Program.

N. Credit Swap

Debra Cupani—1.5 credits for Long Island University

II. Committees

A. Grievance Committee—Karen Bloom

1. Pre-K Faculty room: We received our response from Stage 3. The grievance was denied. However, there was new information brought to our attention at that Stage which prevents us from moving forward to Stage 4. The room was only being used as a “swing space”, which means that we did not establish prior use. In addition, the Pre-K teachers do have access to the Lido Faculty Room, and since Pre-K is part of the Lido faculty, the district is not in violation.

2. We are still awaiting a new date for the Pre-k arbitration due to witness availability.

3. The art grievance is being held in abeyance, and it appears that the district has resolved the issue of having two different classes co-seated.

4. 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

As you know on December 22, we had a negotiation session with the district. Unfortunately, they were not prepared to reach a settlement or willing to have much of a conversation at all. Their new proposal included multi-year wage freezes and extra days on the calendar. After seven hours the board refused to give us a counter offer and declared impasse. We have since agreed to file for joint impasse so that we can be part of choosing our mediator.

C. New Member Committee—James Fiola

1. Happy New Year!

2. If you have ANY questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org. Please contact us if you don’t have a buddy or mentor.

3. We will also be attending the mentor meetings to speak to the new members about various issues. The next meeting is at 3:45 pm on Jan 17th in the Lido School Library. We 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. When we met last, we discussed some ideas for necessary actions now that we are at an impasse in contract negotiations. At this time, the Political Action Committee is looking for some ideas from you that you think members would be willing to do. If you would like to share an idea or two but are unable to attend the meetings, please email me at LBCTAPAC@gmail.com.

2. I am including my last email about Betsy DeVos below. If you are not receiving my PAC emails, please email me from your personal email account so you can be added.

a) Imagine if the Attorney General did not have a law degree or the Surgeon General without a medical degree- yet somehow it is fine to have a Secretary of Education that has no background in teaching or learning, and has made a billion dollar career destroying schools at taxpayer expense.

The confirmation hearings for Betsy DeVos will happen shortly. If you have not done so already, please call your senators immediately and let them know you oppose her appointment as Secretary of Education. If you called already, please call again.

It is most effective to call a local office. Click [here](#) to locate local numbers to call your senators.

If you would like to review a script for your call, you can find it [here](#).

Please share this alert with all friends and family in your state by posting this link:

<http://wp.me/p3bR9v-2aB>

3. If you haven't already, please download the NYSUT MAC (Member Action Center) app to your phone. You can find it at the following link: <https://mac.nysut.org/get-the-nysut-mac-smartphone-app>. It makes it very easy to make your voice heard. There is currently a petition to say no to Betsy DeVos.

4. Please let us know if you would like to become a friend of our LBCTA Facebook page.

5. Our next PAC meeting will be February 6, at Lido, room L25.

E. Public Relations—Amy Powers

1. The PR Committee is excited to announce that our spring fundraiser will be held this year at RVC Lanes. Please save the date: **Thursday, March 23rd, 4—6 pm** and come ready for bowling fun! The money raised will go to Sunrise Day Camp. Sunrise Day Camps are for children with cancer and their siblings, provided completely free of charge. Flyers with more details will be out soon!

2. If you have a Facebook account and you are not a member of our LBCTA private group, please email me your FB screen name at amylo609@aol.com so that we can add you to our group. We currently do not have all of our members in our private group.

F. Teacher Center—John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center continues to look for instructors to run professional development classes for us. Please contact me at lbtc@lbeach.org for details.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. You should have received a document letting you know who your evaluators are. If you have not, please ask your immediate supervisor. Some of these have changed, but you should receive notification of any changes made to your observer schedule.

2. Please be sure to remain actively engaged in the APPR process. Your SLOs should be completed or at least in the process of being completed. Be sure to discuss your targets with your lead evaluator. Remember, you should not see opinions from your evaluation team when classroom observations take place. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.

3. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all conversion charts and percentages here.

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

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. Unfortunately our meeting to discuss the HVAC system at the high school has been cancelled, due to unavailability of the architect. We are awaiting a date for a rescheduled meeting. Mr. DeVito is trying to find a common time for those of us attending.

2. We are hoping that some of our concerns from the last Health & Safety meeting will be addressed at our next meeting.

3. Our next Health & Safety meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 11:00 am.

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. Our next Safety Team meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 17 at 11:00 am.

2. We are hoping that some of our concerns from the last District Safety Team meeting will be addressed at our next 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. Condolences to Darlene Tangney on the passing of her father, James Eckes.

2. Please remember to attend School Board meetings whenever possible.

3. Please consider donating days to our District Sick Bank. The form is on our website at www.lbcta.com.

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

A. Thank you to all who donated toys to our Toy Drive.

B. Condolences to Darlene Tangney on the loss of her father, James Eckes.

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

D. Elementary Council will meet on January 30, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.

E. If you have any questions I can be reached at bprostick@gmail.com.

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

A. Condolences to Darlene Tangney on the loss of her father, James Eckes.

B. We are eagerly awaiting the arrival of our first batch of chromebooks. I have spoken to Mr. Irwin who has shared with me that he has to wait for the State to meet this Friday. If approved, they expect a March delivery.

C. Administration continues to share our concerns about our substitute teachers not having access to take attendance in School Tool. A request from administration to fix this glitch has been requested.

D. Our next Secondary meeting will be on **Tuesday, January 17th at 3:15 PM** in HS Guidance Suite. Please send me any items that are not currently being addressed at the building level. Please let me know only if you cannot make it.

VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

A. December Financial Results

Expenditures

NYSUT \$14,865

AFT 8,897

Taxes and Insurance 6,099

Officer and Rep Stipends 20,851

Donations 149

Meeting Expenses 2,177

Public Relations 273

Total \$53,370

Revenues

Union dues \$40,053

Retiree dues 580

Total \$40,633

- B. Happy New Year! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank and **please** try to attend this Thursday's Board Meeting. It is imperative that we have a strong showing. In addition, please try to attend some additional meetings through the end of the school year. Thank you for reading the minutes and please encourage your fellow members to do the same. I extend my condolences to the Tangney family on the loss of Darlene's father. **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 2016/2017 for full-time members will be \$998.36. The break-out is \$384 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$228.36 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 2016 union dues for tax purposes was \$990.60

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Congratulations to Mrs. Krywe, Mr. West, and Ms. Policastro on a successful Winter concert just before the break.
2. Thank you to ALL who joined in the West School Principal Challenge which kicked off our PARP awards. Congratulations to those who participated.
3. A big West School congratulations to Kim Bowie on her engagement to Mr. Ed Short.
4. A fond farewell to Fawaaz Persuad on his move to Middle School and a warm welcome to Steven Peppe who will take his place.
5. A warm welcome to Mary Metzger as she joins our West School family as our permanent sub.
6. Condolences to Darlene Tangney and her family on the passing of Darlene's father, James V. Eckes, Sr.
7. Staff parking continues to be an issue at West School.
8. Thank you who have donated sick days to our bank. We encourage anyone who has not done so to consider donating.

B. Lindell School

1. Thank you to PTA for sponsoring the entertaining PARP kickoff assembly.
2. Kudos to our custodial staff for effectively clearing our walkways after the first January snowfall.
3. Our deepest sympathy to Darlene Tangney and her family on the passing of her father.
4. Get well wishes to Darlene Glasser.

C. East School

1. Winter Concert was enjoyed by all. Thank you to Michele Bennett and Craig West for all their hard work with the students. Thank you to Stephanie Kornacki and Marlon Lainez for the beautiful decorations.
2. Congratulations to Stephanie Meyer on the birth of her son.
3. Welcome back to Erica Ferretti.
4. Condolences to School Board Vice President Darlene Tangney on the passing of her father.
5. Technology issues are not being addressed in a timely manner.

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. Wishing Darlene Glasser a speedy recovery!
3. Condolences to Vivian Kramer on the loss of her husband.
4. Congratulations to Faith Moskowitz on her son Andrew's engagement to his fiancé Becca.
5. Congratulations to Pat Anajovich on the birth of her grandson Ezra.
6. Welcome back to Kathleen Polchynsky!
7. Condolences to Board Member Darlene Tangney on the loss of her father.
8. To meet the health needs of our students in *Pre K- 5th* grade, we would greatly benefit from having an additional Nurse at Lido. It is difficult to manage the demands of students in *Pre K - 5th* grade with just one Nurse on duty.
9. Thanks to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.
2. Condolences to Vivian Kramer on the loss of her husband.
3. Condolences to the Tangney family on their loss.

F. Middle School

1. Happy New Year!
2. Condolences to Darlene Tangney and family on the loss of her father.
3. Condolences to Jason Zizza and family on the loss of his grandmother.
4. Get well wishes to Darlene Glasser.
5. Kudos to Liz Altbacker, David Lobenstein, Doug Renoud, and Christina Farrell on a fantastic winter concert series.
6. Congratulations and welcome to our new permanent substitute, Charlie O'Dowd.
7. We are grateful that all of our curriculum materials have arrived and we appreciate the efforts and support of Mr. Romanelli in getting the materials delivered.
8. Security remains to be a concern, especially before and after school.
9. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.

G. High School

1. Condolences to School Board Trustee Darlene Tangney on the loss of her father.
2. Condolences to Steve Bialik on the loss of his grandfather.
3. Condolences to Scott Brecher on the loss of his grandfather.
4. Condolences to Mariela Giammarino on the loss of her grandmother.
5. Condolences to Andrew Rossi on the loss of his mother-in-law.
6. Congratulations to Brian Petschauer on his recent engagement.
7. Congratulations to Enza Salamone on her recent engagement.
8. Congratulations to Gillian Bella on her recent engagement.
9. Congratulations to Elizabeth Rodriguez on her recent engagement.
10. Congratulations to all the teachers and students involved in the Winter Holiday Band and Orchestra Concerts.
11. Thank you to all of those who donated toys to the LBCTA and LBSEA Toy Drive.
12. The state of technology continues to be a major problem-
 - a) The delay in chromebooks has severely limited access to technology for teachers and students. We are still waiting for information regarding the timetable of the arrival. The ordering of chromebooks needs to be prioritized and fast tracked.

- b) The district needs to hire a person to take charge of developing and implementing a technology plan for the district.
13. We are pleased to hear that certain agreements have been reached regarding the ongoing issues in Classroom 215. We look forward to the room being properly outfitted as agreed upon by the end of January.
 14. We still would like to see the cleanliness of the building addressed and a new checklist for building cleaners to be developed and implemented
 15. We are hopeful that the district will make the necessary changes to the Band Room ceiling in order to improve the acoustics of the room as quickly as possible.
 16. We are hopeful that building administration can develop a plan to improve student attendance in detention. Students who miss detention will eventually be issued an in-school suspension. We would like to take steps to ensure that students avoid this and do not miss class unnecessarily.
 17. We look forward to the district studying the traffic pattern in the spring. All we want is to have the issue studied to see if we have the safest traffic pattern that we can have.
 18. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank.

At 5:40pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Stacey Rice.

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot and June Schecter

Lindell: Jane Quinton, Heather Puckhaber and Susan Simons

East: Jeanne Richards and Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, and Dana Monti

Pre-K: Elizabeth Fichtelman

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Camila Gamboa, Jennifer Garrett and Stacey Rice

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

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.



*You Are Cordially Invited To
Attend The Annual Morning Madness
Senior Fashion Show*

*Tuesday-January 31, 2017
Long Beach High School Auditorium*



*Door Opens at 7:00 PM
Light Refreshments Served*



Raffles & 50/50

Prom Attire Modeled by The Senior Class of 2017

Show Begins at 8 PM

Reserve Now!

Deadline Friday, January 27th

Advance Ticket Sales: Adults: \$15/Students: \$5

At The Door: Adults: \$20/Students: \$5

~~ Two (2) "Sponsor A Senior" Tickets Come With Each Adult Ticket Sale ~~

Please Send Checks Made Payable To LBHS PTSA To:

LBHS Main Office

Attention: PTSA MM Fashion Show

322 Lagoon Drive West

Lido Beach, NY 11561

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Adult Tickets ___ # Student Tickets ___ Total Amount Enclosed \$ ___

Questions? Email AnnMarie Scandole @ amscandole@optonline.net

Visa/MasterCard Accepted

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ___/___ Security Code: ___

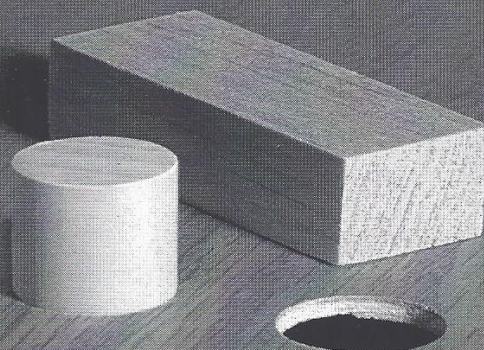
Name On Card: _____ Signature: _____

Email For Receipt: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

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