



# Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

239 Lido Blvd., Long Beach, NY 11561 • 516-897-2175 • [www.lbcta.com](http://www.lbcta.com)

## Executive Board Minutes

December 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:35pm by Keith Harvey.

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

#### A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

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. Happy Holidays

Everything we do as a union, is to advance the quality of education in our schools. We achieve this by unifying our members, and securing and strengthening the conditions necessary to support teaching as a profession. The roles we have taken on as teachers, are intrinsically intertwined with our lives. I thank you all for that commitment, and for all you do for the children and families of the Long Beach community. I am bombarded daily with kind words regarding the status, perception and image that you have helped create for our Union. I apologize if I don't share that with you enough. I am grateful for all of the hard work that goes into all of the district and building level events that bring cohesion to our unit. I would like to wish you all Happy Holidays and the best to you and your family in the New Year.



#### C. 2017 Toy Drive



Please consider donating to this year's Toy Drive. You can drop off your donation of a new unwrapped toy in any school faculty room donation box. If you do not have time to shop, please consider making a cash donation and the committee will do the shopping for you.

Cash and toy donations can also be given to your union reps. Thank you very much to Lynda D'Alessio, Andrew Frey, Stephanie Meyer, Beth Prostick and Noelle Policastro for coordinating the 2017 Toy Drive.

#### D. 2018 LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser

Please join us for a fun afternoon of friendly competition at the RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 1, from 4-6 PM. ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO SUNRISE DAY CAMP. 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

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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enjoy camp without feeling restricted and escaping the stigma of being “sick”. Attached is the [registration form](#).

**E. Guardian Dental**

When the district switched to the Guardian Dental Plan they were not informed to coordinate benefits for spouses within the district. This oversight meant that some family members were denied access to their dental plan. A correction has been made and benefits should be coordinated at this time. Guardian will reprocess the claims and honor the assignment of benefits from the original claim and if they paid the dentist, they will pay the dentist the additional amount. Members will receive an updated explanation of benefits so that you know to contact the dentist for the additional payment.

**F. 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, 2018. First eligible means that you are able to retire without penalty due to insufficient years of service or age. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, please contact me.

**G. NYSUT Offers Online Guide for a Successful Retirement**

NYSUT has a 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! A login for NYSUT.org is required to access the online publication.

**H. Study Money Dates**

Those who applied for the winter Study Program can check the January 11th, Board of Education agenda for approval. You will also be notified by HR if your application was approved. There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program: 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](#).



**I. NYSUT Leadership Training**

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

**J. Resolution for the 2018 NYSUT Representative Assembly**

A motion was made by Karen Bloom to submit the Opposition to the Property Tax Resolution to the 2018 NYSUT Representative Assembly. The motion was seconded by Jim Fiola. The proposition was voted on and passed unanimously. See [Appendix A](#) for the complete resolution.

**K. Coach pay dates**

Middle School Winter I: 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

**L. Credit Swap**

Janna Arkow—LBMS Molloy College 1.5 credits

**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**

1. It is my hope that you will receive a signed and printed copy of our new contract shortly after the New Year.
2. We are currently finalizing the Permanent Substitute contract.

**C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola**

I wish you all a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please email Jim Fiola at [jfiola@lbeach.org](mailto:jfiola@lbeach.org) or Alison Katulka at [akatulka@lbeach.org](mailto:akatulka@lbeach.org). **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. If you are not receiving my emails, please email me at [LBCTAPAC@gmail.com](mailto:LBCTAPAC@gmail.com) from your personal email account so I can add you.
2. Our next PAC meeting will be held on January 10, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.

**E. Public Relations—Amy Leder**

1. Save the date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 4-6 pm. Once you have formed your team, please send back the bottom portion of the attached [flyer](#) and send to Amy Leder 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 with your idea.
3. Our next public relations meeting will be held on January 9, at 3:45 in Lido room L25. Please let me know if you can make it.
4. Look for our annual LBCTA Holiday Ad in the December 21st issue of the Herald. Thank you to Ali Katulka for her continued efforts towards creating a beautiful Ad.
5. Wishing everyone a very special holiday season, and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all. See you in 2018!



**F. Teacher Center—John Marr**

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is currently submitting an FS-10A form to State Ed to transfer money to purchase the laminator from our grant. When this form is approved, we will purchase the laminator.
2. If you are interested in running a class, please contact the center at [lbtc@lbeach.org](mailto:lbtc@lbeach.org).
3. Last week we held an open house for an all online administration program as well as an all-online three graduate class Google cluster. Due to low interest we will be having another open house after the new year. If you are interested in either of these options that run through Stony Brook, please contact the director at [LBTC@lbeach.org](mailto:LBTC@lbeach.org).

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

#### B. Health & Safety Committee

1. There has not been another meeting date selected as of yet. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at [kbloom@lbeach.org](mailto:kbloom@lbeach.org).

#### C. District Safety Team

1. There has not been another meeting date selected as of yet. If you have any Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at [kbloom@lbeach.org](mailto: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](http://www.lbcta.com).
3. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and a happy and healthy new year!

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

- A. Please continue to donate toys for our toy drive. Boxes are in our faculty rooms.
- B. Our annual Bowling Event will be held on February 1. Please plan your teams and send your forms to Amy Leder.
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- D. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on January 29, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- E. I wish everyone a very Happy Hanukah, a Merry Christmas and a joyous New Year!
- F. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at [bprostick@lbeach.org](mailto:bprostick@lbeach.org).

### V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Leder

- A. Our next Secondary meeting will be on Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM in MS Guidance Suite. Please let me know only if you can make it.
- B. Wishing everyone a very special holiday season, and a Happy and Healthy New Year to all. See you in 2018!

### VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

- A. I wish you all a Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, and best wishes for a Happy and Healthy New Year. I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break. 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](mailto:jfiola@lbeach.org).**

**B. November Financial Results**

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$14,535	Union Dues	\$39,931
AFT	8,817	Retiree Dues	487
Taxes and Insurance	133		_____
Meeting Expenses	1185	Total	\$40,418
Year End Celebration	620		
Donations	300		
Public Relations	273		
Telephone	121		
	_____		
Total	\$25,984		

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. \$101.44 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. Thank you to all for successful Parent Teacher Conferences. They went off without a hitch.
2. Thank you to our AMAZING PTA for sponsoring the Scholastic Book Fair.
3. Please donate an unwrapped gift to the LBCTA and LBSEA Toy Drive. Boxes are set up in the Teacher’s Lounge. We will continue to distribute well into the New Year.
4. Please consider forming a team to participate in the LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser February 1st.
5. 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.
6. Staff parking continues to be an issue with regards to the new construction of driveways in the West End of Long Beach.
7. We want to wish EVERYONE a HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!!!!  
Happy New Year, Happy Hanukah, Happy Kwanzaa and a Merry Christmas to ALL!

**B. Lindell School**

1. Thank you to the Lindell PTA for a successful Scholastic Book Fair. Students and families enjoyed shopping for books at school.
2. Please consider donating a sick day(s) to the bank.
3. Thank you to all the generous members of Lindell for donating toys to the LBCTA/LBSEA toy drive and contributions to our families in need organized by Deb Bernardino-Arden.
4. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a peaceful new year!

**C. East School**

1. Thank you to the East School PTA for the book fair. Each year our PTA impresses us more with their creativity. Thank you for the generous donation of books to all teachers.
2. Thank you to all those who donated to the toy drive.

3. We would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

**D. Lido School**

1. Many thanks to Lido PTA for sponsoring and organizing the Scholastic Book Fair. Students were excited to buy books to add to their literacy collection.

2. Kudos to Lido PTA, students, families, and staff members for contributing to the Lido School Annual Basket Raffle Fundraiser.

3. Much appreciation to all who contributed to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. Kudos to Lynda D'Alessio, Andrew Frey, Stephanie Meyer, Noelle Policastro, and Beth Prostick for coordinating the toy drive this year. It's not too late to hand in your contribution as we get into the spirit of this holiday season and remember to help bring happiness to many children in our Long Beach Community. You may also give a monetary donation if you don't have time to shop and we'll go shopping for toys in your name.

4. Save the date for the Second Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes on Thursday, February 1st, 4-6 pm.

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

6. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Best of luck in the New Year 2018!

**E. Pre-K**

1. We hope everyone has a wonderful and joyous holiday season with family and friends.

**F. Middle School**

1. Congratulations to Ilyssa Berman, Christina Farrell, and the cast and crew of the middle school musical production of *Elf Jr.* The show was a tremendous success.

2. Kudos to Laura Swan and Brian Pross as well as the students in the Art and Wood Clubs for creating a beautiful set and props for the *Elf Jr.* production.

3. Congratulations to Nilka McDonnell on the birth of her son, Keith Maximo Robert.

4. We continue to have technology problems/issues that are not being addressed. Teachers continue to report many open tickets. Work orders are submitted to no avail.

5. Please consider donating an unwrapped toy to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. You can drop off your donation to one of our donations boxes located in either the faculty room or the teacher cafeteria. If you do not have time to shop, please consider making a cash donation and the committee will do the shopping for you. Donations can be dropped off with any of your union reps.

6. Save the date for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Maple Lanes on Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 from 4-6 pm. If you already know your team name and members, you can email Amy Leder at [aleder@lbeach.org](mailto:aleder@lbeach.org).

7. Thank you to the members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating, if you have not done so already.

8. We hope everyone has a happy and healthy holiday season and a very happy new year!

**G. High School**

1. Thank you to the administration for the teamwork in addressing issues so far this year.

2. Congratulations to Anthony Balsamo on his recent engagement!

3. We 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. Copy machines are also frequently out of service.

4. We hope that the district will ensure that the air flow units in rooms in the school are working so that stagnant air does not pose a problem or distraction to instruction.
5. Thank you again to the members who volunteered to work on addressing the traffic pattern and the leaks in classrooms through the health and safety committee.
6. We are still concerned about the need to meet student's IEPs in the elective courses at the HS 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 and that resources could be allocated to courses that would require them.
7. There are a number of safety concerns in science classrooms. There are applied chemistry sections that are seating 29 students in a room that holds 24. This could present a safety concern. There are also wires on the floors of the science rooms that pose a hazard to walking.
8. We appreciate the concern by the Administration taken to look into ensuring that the students at NIKE have their IEPs that match their placement. There are teachers who cannot access some students IEPs at NIKE. We look forward to a solution.
9. We hope that the continuing open dialog between administration and the building reps continues and that the actions that result improve the quality of teaching and learning in the building.
10. Please consider donating days to the sick bank.
11. Happy holidays.

At 5:15 pm, a motion was made by Jonathan Bloom to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Anthony Balsamo.

**In Attendance:**

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schechter

Lindell: Susan Simons, Heather Puckhaber, Lisa Rundo

East: Jeanne Richards, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti , Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K:

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Camila Gamboa, Stacey Rice

LBHS: Anthony Balsamo, Jonathan Bloom, Neil Campbell, Elena Frishman, Jay Spitz

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Guests: Lloyd Berko, LRS

John Marr, Director of Long Beach Teacher Center

Lynda D'Alessio, Toy Drive Committee Member

Stephanie Meyer, Toy Drive Committee Member

Noelle Policastro, Toy Drive Committee Member

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

**PROPOSED  
RESOLUTION  
for submission to the  
2018 NYSUT Representative Assembly**

*Must be received by Feb. 12*  
Return to: NYSUT  
Office of the President  
800 Troy-Schenectady Road  
Latham, NY 12110

If this is a reaffirmation of a prior resolution, please check here.

Resolution title: Opposition to the Property Tax Cap

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Local or Retiree Council Name**  
(See format and guidelines on Page 10.)

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has forced localities to make painful cuts in non-mandated educational programs while diminishing the quality of mandated programs; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has resulted in increases in class size that hurt students; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has resulted in significant reductions in course and program offerings in academic subjects that hurt students; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has resulted in significant reductions in or the elimination of programs for the arts, athletics and other co-curricular areas that hurt students; and

WHEREAS, resulting reductions in building and grounds funding expose children to health and safety risks; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has inflicted significant damage on high needs districts and our most vulnerable student populations and perpetuates inequities in education funding; and

WHEREAS, the property tax cap has prevented both high- and low-wealth school districts from raising the funds needed to sustain essential programs; and

*(over)*

I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2018 NYSUT Representative Assembly by the:

\_\_\_\_\_ at a meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Executive Board, General Membership, etc.) (Date)

Please print name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(President)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(President) NYSUT Local or Retiree Council # \_\_\_\_\_

Local or Retiree Council name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local or Retiree Council President's personal email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSED  
RESOLUTION**  
for submission to the  
**2018 NYSUT Representative Assembly**

Reverse of Proposed Resolutions

WHEREAS, the imposition of a property tax cap equal to the annual increase in the consumer price index or 2%, whichever is LESS, results in insufficient revenue for school districts; and

WHEREAS, the “super-majority” requirement to exceed the tax cap effectively establishes minority rule by allowing 40% of voters plus one to override the will of the majority; and

WHEREAS, locally elected school boards in New York reflect community aspirations and values through local decision-making and have enabled school districts to respond effectively to their communities' demographic changes, economic conditions and the priorities of their residents; and

WHEREAS, the experience in other states demonstrates that the public interest is poorly served when state-imposed inflexibility overrides all other considerations in school district budgeting; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that it will continue to be the policy of NYSUT to seek the full repeal of the property tax cap; and be it further

RESOLVED, that, while the fight to repeal the property tax cap continues, NYSUT will continue to seek amendments to the property tax cap law to mitigate some of the law's worst effects, including but not limited to:

- making it a true 2% cap by limiting tax levy increases to “2% or the rate of inflation, whichever is GREATER”;
- replacing the undemocratic 60% supermajority requirement to exceed the tax cap with a simple majority vote; and
- providing additional exemptions to tax levy limits for districts experiencing cost increases due to enrollment increases, the imposition of unfunded state mandates, expenditures relating to school safety measures, natural disasters, judgments against a school district, maintenance and repair of school buildings and tuition payments by a school district for general education or special students, or budgetary increases over which a school district has no control, such as fuel and electrical rates, all retirement system contribution increases, health insurance rate increases and mandated payments to charter schools and non-public educational institutions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSUT's local affiliates are committed to do all within their power to support NYSUT's efforts to achieve the above stated resolves.

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

# LBCTA 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.



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](mailto:aleder@lbeach.org)

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain and personal email: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Members (6 people per lane):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

