



# 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

January 28, 2019

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

## I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

### A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

2/11/19, 3/11/19, 3/25/19, 4/8/19, 4/29/19, 5/13/19, and 6/10/19

### B. Condolences to Jonathan Bloom and his family on the loss of his mother, Annemarie Bloom.

Annemarie worked for Long Beach Schools for 47 years before retiring as the Lindell School Nurse.

### C. State of the Union Speech

With the approval of the Executive Board, my State of the Union Speech will be at the Executive Board meeting on March 25 in the MS Library.

### D. Election of Officers and Delegates

In anticipation of this year's election of officers and delegates Jennifer Garrett has been appointed as the chairperson of the Board of Elections with the approval of the Executive Board. We still need two more volunteers to serve as members of the Board of Elections. At least one member shall be from the elementary level and at least one member shall be from the secondary level. Please contact me if you are interested.

### E. School Calendar

The 2019-2020 District draft school calendar was presented to and approved by the Executive Board. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will vote on the calendar at their 2/14/19 meeting.

### F. Scholarships

#### 1. 2019 LBCTA Scholarship

I am pleased to announce that the association will once again be awarding two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who are children of CTA members. Pat Fallon has graciously volunteered to continue as the chairperson of the Scholarship Committee. To be eligible for a CTA scholarship, the student must graduate from his/her high school in either January or June 2019. He/she may attend high school in any city or town. A parent must have been a dues-paying member of the CTA



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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for at least three full years and currently paying dues unless on family or medical leave. Those interested and eligible may request an application from Pat, by email at [pfallon@lbeach.org](mailto:pfallon@lbeach.org). The closing date for receipt of the completed application and all supporting documents, submitted in duplicate, is 2 PM on Friday, March 15. The evaluation of these applications will take place on Wednesday, March 20 immediately after school at the High School. Please contact Pat if you are interested in helping evaluate the applications. It would be wonderful if every building was represented.

## 2. AFT Robert G. Porter Scholars Program

This program offers four 4-year, \$8,000 post-secondary scholarships to students who are dependents of AFT members, as well as 10 one-time \$1,000 grants to AFT members to assist with their continuing education. [Click here to apply.](#)

### G. APPR De-Linked

Last week both the NYS Senate and the Assembly passed a bill to eliminate the mandatory use of state assessments to determine a teacher or principal's effectiveness. This change includes Regents exams, 4th and 8th grade science tests, The NYSES LAT and the Alternative Assessment for students with disabilities. The bill places the decision about student performance at the bargaining table. This means all of APPR will be subject to collective bargaining. Districts will not be unilaterally making these decisions. The bill ensures your current APPR can be used in transition. The next step is for the bill to be delivered to and signed by the Governor. To track the progress [click here.](#)

### H. NYSTRS Retirement Presentation

There will be a retirement presentation on Thursday, February 7, 2019 in West Hempstead, by TRS Board Trustee, Ron Gross. It will be in the WHHS Library starting at 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please let me know, as Ron will bring materials for those who attend.

### I. FLEX Spending

Reminder Flexible Benefits may be used for unreimbursed medical or dental expenses or dependent care. The District has opted for a 2.5 month extension plan. Participants may incur expenses through March 15th of the calendar year following the year of the election; all requests for reimbursement must be submitted to the plan administrator (Preferred Group) no later than March 31st.

### J. Study Money Dates

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Money Program: Summer - May 10, 2019. 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. Coach Pay Dates

**High School Winter:** 2/15  
**Middle School Winter II:** 2/15 and 3/15  
**High School Spring:** 4/12 and 5/23  
**Middle School Spring:** 4/26 and 6/7

### L. NYSUT Benefits

Please see [Appendix A](#) for the corporation-endorsed shopping and travel programs.

## 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

There is no report at this time.

### C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola

1. It is hard to believe that the school year is half over already. You all know what that means; it is time to put the Spring New Member/Buddy party on your calendar. Please save the date of March 22<sup>nd</sup> for this gathering. More details to follow. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to us.

2. You can direct any questions or concerns via email to 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.** Don't be afraid to ask questions. There are **many** people here who will help you.

### D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick



1. Thank you for wearing red to show solidarity with LA teachers. On January 22, members of the United Teachers of Los Angeles ended their strike and ratified their new contract.

#### 2. Lawmakers pass APPR bill

In a big win this week, both houses of the legislature approved the [union-backed APPR reform bill](#) that scraps the mandated use of grade 3-8 state tests in teacher ratings. The bill returns evaluation decisions to local school districts and ensures any teacher evaluation system is subject to collective bargaining. NYSUT will continue its fight to reduce the standardized test-ing burden on students.

(Photo: NYSUT members rallying on Long Island back in June 2018.)

3. With the NYSUT MAC App, you can use your smartphone to quickly and easily take action on important issues and legislation. Follow the links below to get started.

[Get the iPhone/iPod Touch app](#)

[Get the Android app](#)

The app does all the work for you. It takes your zip code and quickly determines your legislators so you can start taking action right away. You can:

Make a free call to legislators.

Fax your legislators a letter with one click.

Get push notifications for alerts on the latest actions.

Have some fun, too: take more action to get your name on the Leaderboard.

### E. Public Relations—Amy Leder

#### 1. LBCTA 3rd Annual Bowling Fundraiser

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up for our Bowling Event. We have booked the entire bowling alley with 34 lanes. Sadly, we have even had to turn teams away this year. Thank you to everyone for donating towards your building raffle basket. You are all truly amazing. We are so thankful for your time and support. Looking forward to seeing everyone this Thursday.

2. I am truly sadden to hear of the passing of Annemarie Bloom. I met Ann on my first day of work, 19 years ago. She immediately took me under her wing. She introduced me to the power of our union. Ann is one of the reason I sit here today. She paved the way for strong, independent women in the work world and our union. She retired from our district after 47

years of true dedication to our students and faculty; protecting and advocating for our rights each and every single day that she worked. She is a legend and will forever be missed. To JB and Karen my dear friends, I love you both and I send my most sincere condolences to you and the rest of the family.

3. Come check out the HS production of *Fiddler on the Roof* on February 8th at 7PM, February 9th at 7 PM and February 10th at 12 PM at the HS. Tickets are \$10. To reserve tickets in advance, call 516-897-6500.

4. Please consider joining the LBHS African American Club for their first Evening of Excellence on Friday, February 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm in the Upper Commons of the high school. They will be honoring individuals and organizations who are making significant contributions in the Long Beach Community. The keynote speaker will be Councilwoman Anissa Moore.

**F. Social Committee—Elleen Parks**

We would like to congratulate all members who have announced their retirements. The committee is looking forward to honoring this large group at our end of the year party on Wednesday, May 29 at Bridgeview. Please reach out to Elleen Parks with any questions about this event.

**G. Teacher Center—John Marr**

1. The Long Beach Teacher center recently relaunched our website at lbeachtc.org. Moving forward all courses offered through the center as well as open houses will be available here, <http://lbeachtc.org/events/> . At this time we are putting up courses ASAP. Please check the website and MLP for the latest offerings.

2. There are three open houses that we are having. Please check lbeachtc.org for a list.

**III. Executive Vice President’s Report—Karen Bloom**

**A. APPR**

1. 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.

2. You should have received a document stating what your SLO is and how your growth scores will be calculated. Make sure that you are aware of what your pre-and post-tests are as well as your targets for students.

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

**B. Health & Safety Committee/District Safety Team**

1. Please continue to inform your head custodian if you have any air quality or temperature issues in your classrooms.

2. The next meeting is scheduled for February 11 at 11:00 am at the Lido Multipurpose Room.

3. 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. Other**

1. Looking forward to a great time on Thursday at Bowling!

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](http://www.lbcta.com).

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

- A. I am looking forward to our Bowling fundraiser on January 31.
- B. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
- C. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on March 4 at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- D. 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. I am truly saddened to hear of the passing of Annemarie Bloom. I met Ann on my first day of work, 19 years ago. She immediately took me under her wing. She introduced me to the power of our union. Ann is one of the reasons I sit here today. She paved the way for strong, independent women in the work world and our union. She retired from our district after 47 years of true dedication to our students and faculty; protecting and advocating for our rights each and every single day that she worked. She is a legend and will forever be missed. To JB and Karen my dear friends, I love you both and I send my most sincere condolences to you and the rest of the family.
- B. Our next Secondary meeting will be on Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 3:15 pm in Guidance Conference room at the HS.

#### I. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

- A. The January Financial Results will be reported in the Executive Board minutes of the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank and try to attend an upcoming School Board Meeting. Thank you for reading the minutes and please encourage your fellow members to do the same.  
I look forward to seeing many of you on Thursday for the Bowling Fundraiser.
- C. I send my condolences to Jonathan and Karen Bloom on the passing of Annemarie Bloom who worked as a nurse in the district and was a long time Union representative. She was Jon's mother and Karen's mother-in-law.

**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).**

- D. Union dues for 2018/2019 for full-time members will be \$1,014.36. As you can see there was no increase over last year. 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.

**The union dues for 2018 tax purposes was \$1,014.40.**

#### VII. Building Reports

##### A. West School

1. We are pleased to welcome back our social worker Stacey Durnan.
2. We wish Rachel Lonergan all the best and thank her for her time with us.
3. Thank you to all those who participated, planned, and joined us for Bedtime and Books. This evening of literature is a pajama clad event where students and parents benefit from reading and listening to books and strategies for growing learners.
4. Thank you to the West School Family on a successful HEART Huddle this past Friday. West School's HEART Huddle program combines upper grades with lower grades students working together on being Helpful - Empathetic - Accountable - Respectful - Trustworthy. The students throughout the school watched a video and then wrote about how to be kind

and helpful to those in need.

5. Congratulations to Arlyne Skolnik on the birth of her beautiful granddaughter Zoe!

6. Condolences to the Jonathan and Karen Bloom and family on the passing of Jonathan's mother Annemarie Bloom. Mrs. Bloom was a long time employee of the Long Beach School District.

7. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.

**B. Lindell School**

1. Much appreciation to all the P.A.R.P. guest readers who came to Lindell and read to the classes.

2. The Social Emotional Learning Families met and read Rule #3 No Bullies Allowed from The Energy Bus for Kids by Jon Gordon. Thank you to the SEL Committee for planning this lesson.

3. Condolences to the Bloom family on the passing of Annemarie Bloom. She was a dedicated Nurse at Lindell Elementary School and an asset as a Union Rep.

4. Please consider donating a day to the sick bank. Thank you to those who already donated.

**C. East School**

1. The inconsistency in the heat across the building is concerning. There have been times when the heat doesn't work at all in some classrooms.

2. The wi-fi in the building is still an issue in many classrooms.

3. Our condolences to the Bloom Family on the passing of Annemarie Bloom.

4. Much appreciation to the district for purchasing new books for classroom libraries in grades K-5. The children were very excited to get these new books into their hands.

5. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank if you haven't done so already.

**D. Lido School**

1. Kudos to the fifth grade students and teachers for hosting the Snowflakes and Stories event. The families enjoyed participating.

2. Thank you to all the PreK - fifth grade teachers for donating gift cards for our basket raffle for the LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser.

3. Kudos to the fifth grade Student Council students for organizing a coat drive. Gently used coats can be donated in the Lido front lobby from January 28 - February 1.

4. Thank you to all members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating.

**E. Pre-K**

1. Condolences to the Bloom Family on the passing of Annemarie Bloom.

**F. Middle School**

1. The security desk at the back of the building remains unmanned "on the inside" after school. Summit Security posted a security guard in a car outside the back of the building at the parent drop off area. Although in the relative area, this still leaves the rear entrance unmanned. This is a security concern. We look forward to the return of a security guard after school at the back entrance inside the building until 4pm.

2. We appreciate the replacement of the golf net. Thank you.

3. Congratulations to Stacey Rice on her marriage to Zack Mason.

4. Welcome back to Alyssa Schramm.

5. Welcome to Jessica Hemmerdinger.

6. Condolences to the Bloom family on the loss of Annemarie Bloom.

7. 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.

## G. High School

1. Condolences to Jonathan and Karen Bloom on the loss of their mother and mother-in-law, Annemarie Bloom a former LB Schools Nurse of 47 years.
2. Condolences to Elizabeth Sherlock on the loss of her mother.
3. Condolences to Cindy Kenny on the loss of her father.
4. Once again the issue of lack of uniformity of keys and locks in classroom doors has created problems. During the testing week several proctors couldn't unlock their classroom doors to allow students to access their test locations in a timely fashion. At the conclusion of the exams proctors were also unable to lock rooms that allowed for students to potentially gain access to restricted areas like the science prep room.
5. Many of the science classroom sinks are no longer functioning. The water has recently been shut off since they are causing leaks in the first floor wood shop. The leak is a result of the drains not being installed with a proper waste line. In addition the storage tanks that they feed into have not been properly maintained for some time.
6. The lack of cleanliness in the building is a growing health issue for staff and students alike. We urge the district to ensure the rooms are sanitized and mopped at least once a week.
7. The internet connectivity continues to be problematic throughout the HS the past few weeks. It has been extremely disruptive for students and staff.
8. The issue of building temperature and climate concerns has been reported for many years by the HS Building Committee. The HVAC unit at the HS is in a woeful state. For the past few years the maintenance of the equipment has been a series of temporary fixes that do not address the situation properly. We urge the district to prioritize the addressing of the HVAC situation at the high school. The extreme temperatures are destroying musical equipment and other equipment.
9. We would like the district to explore and fix the causes of sewage backing up into the woodshop and photo lab sinks.
10. While we are supportive of making the HS more secure and recognize the need to move towards a single point of entry, we would like building administration to consider a compromise to allow staff to enter separate entrances in the morning.
11. Thank you the Sunshine Committee for hosting our recent Snow Ball Holiday Party.
12. Please considering donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
13. Please consider volunteering to serve on a district committee.

## VIII. New Business

A motion was made by Patricia Van Loon to endorse the resolution **Certified School Librarians and School Libraries Throughout New York State**. It was seconded by Karen Bloom. It passed unanimously.

At 5:05pm, a motion was made by Cheryle Fontenot to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Neil Campbell.

## In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schecter

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Susan Simons, Lisa Rundo

East: Jeanne Richards, Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dana Monti, Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K: Elizabeth Fichtelman

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Lauren Behan, Camila Gamboa, Stacey Rice

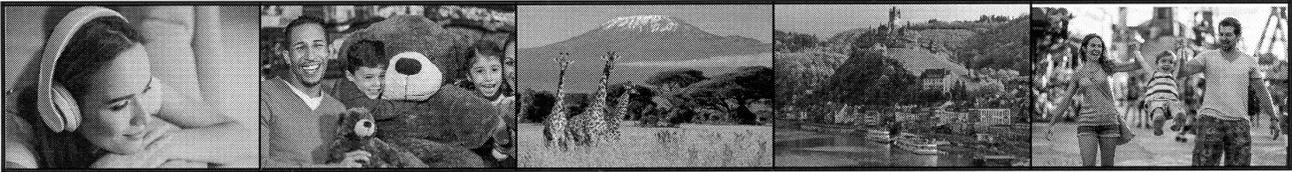
LBHS: Anthony Balsamo, Neil Campbell, Elena Frishman, Eric Heck, Jay Spitz

Retiree:

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.





## Benefits designed exclusively for NYSUT members

NYSUT members and their loved ones have access to dozens of endorsed shopping, travel & personal programs available through NYSUT Member Benefits, including discounts on hotels & vacations; car & truck rentals; international group tours; sports & concert tickets; theme parks & attractions; and more.

Whether you are participating in one of our shopping/entertainment/travel offerings; auto, homeowners or life insurance plans; or financial or legal services, NYSUT members have the "Power of the Union" behind them ready to serve as their advocate.

### **The following is just a sample of the endorsed programs available to NYSUT members:**

**Bose** -- NYSUT members receive special educator pricing on high-end, high-quality electronics such as music systems, headphones and bluetooth speakers. You must contact Bose toll-free at 877-709-2073 and mention "educator pricing" to receive this exclusive pricing.

**Orlando Employee Discounts** -- NYSUT members save up to 30% on unforgettable Orlando, FL excursions to Disney World, Universal Studios and many other attractions.

**Grand Circle Travel** -- NYSUT members can enjoy a number of unique travel deals on international river cruises and other travel opportunities with Grand Circle's small ship cruise tours, river cruises and land tours.

### **Member Appreciation Month is back!**

One of our most popular annual events is set to return this February. The 2019 Member Appreciation Month celebration will be filled with a series of prize drawings for items donated by NYSUT Member Benefits and our endorsed program providers -- including gift cards, iPads, Echo Dots and more!

As a MAP Alert member, you are eligible to win prizes every single day throughout the month of February.

All MAP Alert members are already entered to win; if you have colleagues who would like to be eligible to win, they simply need to sign up for our MAP Alert service on the Member Benefits website. Prize winners will be listed daily on the Member Benefits website.



To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or call **800-626-8101**.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

Jan.Feb. 2019