



# 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

November 27, 2017

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

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

#### A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

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

#### B. Long Beach Superintendent Search

Your Executive officers met with representatives from the consultant group on Monday, November 20, to discuss the process for hiring the new superintendent. At our meeting we discussed what we thought would attract a highly-qualified educator for the position of Superintendent, what some of the leadership challenges the new Superintendent will face over the next three to five years, and what types of prior experiences and personal and professional qualities we hope the new Superintendent will have. We appreciate the Board of Education providing us with this opportunity. Additionally, there is a survey online ([lbeach.org](http://lbeach.org)) which the Board invites you to complete as a part of this input process. The URL for the online survey is: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/lbeachsupt](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lbeachsupt).

#### C. 2017 Toy Drive



This year we will be working in partnership with our sisters and brothers in the LBSEA. Lynda D'Alessio, Andrew Frey and Stephanie Meyer will be coordinating the 2017 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.

#### D. 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 an age or service reduction.. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, please contact me.



**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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- E. **District Technology- Smart Schools Bond Act** (Report amended after meeting)
1. The district has received approval from the state for the next portion of the bond. This next stage will be used to implement the tablet initiative in the elementary schools and to order replacement Smart Boards and desktop computers.
  2. With the first round of student and teacher Chromebooks due to come off warranty this year, we are appreciative that the district has a plan to repair and/or replace these devices once off warranty.

F. ***Janus v. AFSCME***

On November 21, 2016, the National Right to Work Foundation and the Liberty Justice Center filed a brief with the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of Mark Janus challenging the Illinois law that requires government employees to pay a “Fair Share” or “agency fee” to the union that represents them. The plaintiffs allege that where public employee unions are concerned, all advocacy is “political” in nature and under the First Amendment, citizens cannot be compelled to support any form of political speech. The *Janus* case seeks to overturn *Abood v. Detroit Board of Education* and the Supreme Court has now agreed to accept the case. ***This case is not about worker freedom; it’s about weakening the unions workers depend on to advocate for their interests.*** Please stay tuned as we will be giving you regular updates as this case proceeds.

G. **Study Money Dates**

There are two more opportunities to participate in the Study Money Program: Winter- Dec. 8, 2017 and Summer- May 11, 2018. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. The application is available online at [Request for Participation in Study Program - Group A](#).



H. **NYSUT Leadership Training**

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

I. **Coach pay dates**

Middle School Winter I: 12/8 and 1/19      High School Winter: 12/22 and 2/2

Middle School Winter II: 2/16 and 3/16

High School Spring: 4/13 and 5/11      Middle School Spring: 4/27 and 6/8

J. **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. Sick Bank Amendments—In our research we discovered a variety of sick bank configurations, some similar and some different from ours. The ones that differed, were similar to each other, in that they mandated contributions, mandated reimbursement of days and had extreme limiting factors for eligibility. These differences were often intertwined, and opened the association to liability issues. After extensive research, thorough review of other local sick banks, and an at length discussion the negotiation team has decided not to present any changes to our current sick bank.

2. It is my hope that you will receive a signed and printed copy our new contract before the New Year.

**C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola**

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). Specifically we encourage you to contact us if you have any questions concerning recent observations. **Please let us know 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. Please check with the members in your buildings to see if they are receiving the LBCTA PAC emails. If they did not get my emails about the Constitutional Convention then please have them email me at LBCTAPAC@gmail.com from their personal email accounts so I can add them.

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.

**F. Teacher Center—John Marr**

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is in the process of purchasing a laminator for teacher use. An e-mail will go out when it is ready to use.

2. The Long Beach Teacher Center is accepting proposals for classes. If you are interested in running a class, please contact the center at [lbtc@lbeach.org](mailto:lbtc@lbeach.org).

3. The LBTC is looking to start a Google cluster and a school administrator program with Stony Brook. The Google cluster is three graduate classes and blended. The school administrator program is pure online classes. If you are interested in either one of these, please contact me at [lbtc@lbeach.org](mailto:lbtc@lbeach.org).

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

**A. APPR**

1. Please take an active role in the observation process. Be sure to address issues in your post observation conferences.

2. If you have not yet received the document letting you know who your evaluators are, please ask your immediate supervisor. If you are having trouble getting this information, feel free to contact me.

3. In addition, please be sure that you know how you will be assessed at the end of the year. If you have not yet given an SLO or determined how your score will be calculated, please speak to your immediate supervisor.

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

## **B. Health & Safety Committee**

1. Traffic Patterns: The district hired a consultant to do a study at both the Lido Complex and the High School. They will reach out to stakeholders and we can meet with them before they begin the study. They will propose options to the Board once completed.
2. HS Roof: The roofing contractors made some repairs. Honeywell will provide subcontractors to have the roof repaired, beginning next summer. John Grillo, architect, will take a look at the leaks in the science rooms on 11/30. These leaks happen regardless of rain, so we do not believe they are related to the roof. We will continue to report the leaks to the custodial staff who is doing their best to help.
3. HS Vent Cleaning: This was completed in the spring. I asked for a report of findings as well as how often this should be happening. Mr. DeVito will follow up with the company regarding occurrence and reports.
4. East Playground: The Company came to measure and gave books to Mrs. Connelly to look at possible design options. She will work with the building committee as well as Mr. DeVito to get the design selected.
5. East Windows: They should be completed by 11/27. At that point they will be working properly so that teachers should no longer require assistance from custodial staff in order to open them.
6. West Leaks: This is part of the Capital Plan. The designs already went to SED and are waiting for approval. As soon as we receive approval, work will begin ASAP.
7. 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. Safety Plan: Mr. DeVito is visiting all buildings to discuss the safety plans specific to each building. What is posted on the district site is very general information for the community, such as Risk Reduction/Prevention & Intervention, Hazard Identification & Responses to Violence. Mr. DeVito also suggested that each building should complete a drill without the principal there and that the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> in command should be in charge.
2. Drills: All buildings must complete two lockdowns and six evacuation drills before 12/31, with one when the principal is out of the building.
3. Keys: It was requested that teachers submit work orders to their custodial staff instead of sending emails to building secretaries. We also discussed that in order for all buildings to be able to lockdown 100% from inside the rooms, it would cost the district \$100,000. The committee will make a decision in the near future.
4. HS Keys: We have a different issue that many rooms require different keys that all teachers do not have. Steve Lahey will look into the issue. We would prefer that all locks were universal, so that whichever room you are in, you have the ability to lockdown. Mr. DeVito will put together a proposal to address the issues.
5. HS Cafeteria Lockdown: The obscuring film is being discussed as well as other types of potential materials. Mr. DeVito will discuss it with the HS administration this week and hope to have a decision before the holiday break.
6. Security Booths: East-the cable was failing. They are waiting for a part so that the reader can be activated. HS-We are set to install on 11/30. Right now the doors are not being used because of the painting being done. Once completed, there will be a buzz-in system in place. In addition, they are looking into possibly extending the lobby area booth to include the at-



tendance office. However, there is a significant cost that must be considered and added to the budget if deemed necessary.

7. 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).

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

- A. Let's spread some holiday cheer and donate a toy to our toy drive. Boxes are in our faculty rooms.
- B. Our annual Bowling Event will be held on February 1. Please begin to plan your teams!
- C. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- D. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on December 4, at 3:45 in Lido room L25.
- E. 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. I have been in contact with the District's Software Consultant, Larry Lee. He has fixed the fieldtrip glitches at the HS and the MS. Mr. Lee has changed the start time to request a fieldtrip/bus from 9:00 am to 8:15 am. If you continue to have any issues, please contact me.

**VI. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola**

- A. As November has not ended yet, the monthly results will be reported at the December 11<sup>th</sup> Executive Board meeting.
- B. I hope that you all had an enjoyable Thanksgiving break and are looking forward to the upcoming holidays and New Year. 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).**

- C. Union dues for 2017/2018 for full-time members will be \$1,014.36. The break-out is \$397 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$231.36 AFT dues and \$8 PTA. \$98.54 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "MDED-03." We are determined to keep your dues as low as possible while still meeting our local obligations and making charitable contributions to the Long Beach community.

**VII. Building Reports**

**A. West School**

1. Thank you Stacey Durnan for organizing our holiday food drive and to those who donated to help our families in need.
2. Thank you to those who participated in our MUST Night, our school program where we utilize math, science, and technology with students and their families.
3. A yummy and musical Thanksgiving feast was had by kindergarteners and first graders who shared songs, poems, and turkey with family members and students. Thank you to Donna Fee for organizing another year of amazing food. We collected money from students for the luncheon and the rest is donated by a local merchant, Key Food.

4. We are deeply concerned with our Emergency Early Dismissal Drill this past Wed. November 22, 2017. The dismissal was scheduled for 3:00 and the buses did not arrive until 3:10.
5. Please donate an unwrapped gift to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive box set up in the Teacher's Lounge. If you cannot find the time to shop please consider donating money and gifts will be purchased.
6. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank if you can.

**B. Lindell School**

1. Lindell families greatly appreciated the Thanksgiving donations they received. Thank you to all who made this possible.
2. Our 4th graders, along with their families, constructed Native American Longhouses using natural resources from the environment combining social studies with science.
3. Bravo to the Kindergarten classes on their Thanksgiving classroom performances for their families and friends.
4. The SEL committee along with the staff and students of Lindell created a heartfelt video thanking all School Related Professionals which was shown at the Attitude of Gratitude assembly. We appreciate their work. Check it out... [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEoT\\_4LgenQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qEoT_4LgenQ)
5. Please join us in helping to make a child smile this holiday season by donating to the LBCTA/LBSEA toy drive. The collection box is in the first floor faculty room. Monetary donations can be given to Sue Simons.
6. Consider donating day(s) to the sick bank.

**C. East School**

1. Thank you to the East School PTA for bringing the Wizards back to Long Beach this year. It was a wonderful event and fundraiser.
2. Thank you also to the PTA for organizing the "Right Choice" assembly. The students were inspired by the positive messages about how they can make a difference in their school and community.
3. We still have a bus that arrives to East School most days after 3:30. We are concerned that with the winter months approaching our children will be waiting outside in inclement weather each day for this bus. We are equally as concerned for those parents that are waiting at the bus stops.
4. There has not been a full-time Social Worker position at East for 7 years. She has been a .2 homeless coordinator. While we are promised that this is going to be a rotating position each year, it never rotates to the other elementary buildings. This is putting a strain on the social-emotional well-being of our students.
5. Please donate your new and unwrapped toys to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. Donation box is in the faculty room. Cash donations can be given to Jenn Maggio or Jeanne Richards.
6. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.

**D. Lido School**

1. Kudos to students, families, and staff members for the donation drive to help those affected by Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. Donated money and school supplies were given to the Surf for All not-for-profit organization which will take the funds and items to Rincon, PR to be distributed appropriately.
2. We wish Penny Doukas a speedy recovery!
3. Fourth grade students celebrated November Narratives by presenting their writings with the presence of their parents.

4. Third grade students invited parents to participate in helping decorate their Flat Stanley project as a step towards a fun future writing task.
5. Staff members enjoyed participating in a Thanksgiving luncheon with delicious foods and treats. They were thankful to spend an enjoyable, relaxing time with colleagues and friends.
6. Kindergarten students, parents, and teachers had fun celebrating together at the Annual Kindergarten Feast.
7. Thanks to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating.
8. Please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to children in need for the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. The donation box is located in the Faculty Room. 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. You may give your contribution to any of the three reps.

**E. Middle School**

1. Kudos to our Science, ENL and Special Education teachers and everyone that helped to organize a successful Science Symposium on November 15<sup>th</sup>.
2. Kudos to Mr. Hoffman, our 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and National Junior Honor Society (advisors: Mrs. Kile and Mr. Santoro) for selling bracelets for disaster relief. The money raised was donated to Habitat for Humanity.
3. Thank you to Mr. Gartung, the Multicultural Club (advisors: Mr. Gartung and Mrs. Montoya), John Anfossi and all that donated to our holiday food drive. Twenty seven boxes of food were collected and donated to the local food bank.
4. Thank you to Jillian Fernandez, Nicole Vasheo, Lindsay Picichero, and Barbara Vahey for organizing a Sunshine Bagel Breakfast on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.
5. Our technology problems/issues are not being repaired or corrected. Work orders continue to be submitted to no avail.
6. Congratulations to Leah Kalfin on her recent marriage to Thomas Buffalino.
7. Congratulations to Gizelle Conroy on the birth of her daughter, Hailey Noel.
8. Condolences to Grace Parisi on the loss of her mother-in-law.
9. School Leadership, LLC, the consultants assisting the Board of Education with the search for the new Superintendent of Schools, has requested we complete a survey online as a part of the input process. The URL for the online survey is: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/lbeachsupt](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lbeachsupt). If you have not done so already, **please fill out the survey**. It is important that we make our thoughts and opinions known.
10. Please donate an unwrapped toy to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. Boxes will be located in the faculty rooms. If you don't have time to shop, please consider making a cash donation. Donations can be dropped off with any of your union reps.
11. Save the date for our 2nd Annual Bowling Fundraiser at RVC Lanes on Thursday, February 1st, 4-6 pm.
12. 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.

**F. High School**

1. Condolences to Sue Presberg on the loss of her father.
2. Condolences to Christos Koutsoumbis on the loss of his father.
3. Congratulations to the students and staff on their performances of The Diary of Anne Frank.
4. Thank you to Mr. Myers for continuing to assist teachers in processing their help desk tickets dealing with the many technical issues that have come up in classrooms.

5. We appreciate the teamwork and hope that the district will look into appointing both a director of technology at the district level and a tech liaison at the building level. There are many outdated computers and we would like to see a district plan to replace obsolete hardware and provide further technical support.
6. Thank you to the custodial staff and administrative team for their efforts in attempting to address the multiple concerns of the staff.
7. We hope that the district will address any malfunctioning air units before the spring time. Most of our rooms do not have any access to any outside air and rely on the units to be functioning to regulate airflow.
8. Thank you to the members who volunteered to work on addressing the traffic pattern and the leaks in classrooms through the health and safety committee.
9. We are still concerned about the need to meet student's IEPs in the elective courses at the school. We hope that the district will look into placing co-teachers in elective courses that are necessary for some students to graduate. We hope that next year, student elective courses will have co-teacher options for those students who require those services and may need those courses for graduation.
10. We are appreciative of the continuing open dialog between administration and the building reps and hope that the actions that result improve the quality of teaching and learning in the building.
11. Please donate to the Toy Drive.
12. Please consider donating days to the sick bank.

#### **VIII. New Business**

A motion was made by Patricia Van Loon to make donation to the LBCTA/LBSEA Toy Drive. It was seconded by Beth Prostick. It was passed unanimously.

At 5:05 pm, a motion was made by Cheryleann Fontenot to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by June Schechter.

#### **In Attendance:**

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schechter

Lindell: Susan Simons, Heather Puckhaber, Lisa Rundo

East: Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti

Pre-K:

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Camila Gamboa, Stacey Rice, Jason Zizza

LBHS: Anthony Balsamo, Jonathan Bloom, Chris Brown, 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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.



## NYSUT Member Benefits... more than just insurance!

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

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



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

Theme Park & Movie Tickets  
Hotel & Vacation Discounts  
Car & Truck Rentals

Office Supply Discounts  
Retail Store Discounts  
Concerts & Sporting Events

Electronics Discounts  
Ski Tickets  
Car Buying Service

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



### **Member Appreciation Month coming in February 2018!**

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

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

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

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit **[memberbenefits.nysut.org](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. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

NYSUT 17



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

## Spring Bowling Fundraiser

Thursday, February 1st

4-6 pm \$30.00/person

RVC Lanes, 100 Maple Ave, Rockville Centre

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

A cash bar will be available.

After party will be at Kasey's in RVC



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

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

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

PLEASE RSVP BY January 25th to Amy Leder, [aleder@lbeach.org](mailto:aleder@lbeach.org)

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

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

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

Team Members (6 people per lane): \_\_\_\_\_

