



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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President
Karen Bloom

Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Maggio

Recording Secretary
Patricia Van Loon

Executive Vice President
Amy Leder

Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Garrett

Corresponding Secretary
Elleen Parks

Treasurer
Jonathan Bloom

Executive Board Minutes

March 24, 2025

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

I. President's Report - Karen Bloom

A. State of the Union Speech

Good afternoon to my fellow members of the Executive Board and respected LBCTA sisters and brothers. We come together today as a community of educators, united in our commitment to our students and the profession we love. It is both a privilege and an honor for me to address you today with the State of the Union.

I am proud to say that the Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association remains steadfast and resilient. Despite challenges posed by special interest groups, lasting effects of COVID-19, an ever-changing political landscape, and efforts to leverage our students in political agendas, WE REMAIN STRONG. Our strength stems not only from the work we do as an association, but also from the unwavering commitment of our members. We are strong because of the unity we maintain, the shared goals we pursue, and the way we support one another through challenging times.

The LBCTA is not just the Executive Board; it is every single one of YOU - each individual playing a vital role in our collective effort. We must always remember that our true strength lies in our unity. Together, we've made strides in areas such as curriculum, working conditions, and community outreach. This year, we celebrated a major accomplishment in Health & Safety by securing air quality testing in every room in every building, with the district taking action to address any issues found. Furthermore, our unified mobilization, with members donning red in support of NYSUT's "RedForEd" campaign, further demonstrated our unwavering solidarity.

Each year, the LBCTA is committed to making a meaningful and lasting impact in our community, coming together to support a wide range of charitable causes and showcasing the strength of our collective efforts. We kicked off this year's fundraising with our Making Strides Against Breast Cancer event, and in addition to our usual fundraising for this cause, we hosted our 1st Annual Music Bingo Event, which was a tremendous success! We raised over \$7,100 for the American Cancer Society, proving that in Long Beach, no one fights alone. In response to the ongoing issue of food insecurity, we donated \$1,400 to St. Mary's Food Pantry this Thanksgiving. Our dedication to helping others continued with our annual Toy Drive, where we sponsored nearly 100 gift bags for local hospitals through The Little Saint Nick Foundation. Most recently, we raised \$8,540 for the G2H Foundation at our annual bowling fundraiser, with the support of both LBSEA and ASPPG. These are just a few examples of the many charitable initiatives we've championed, along with numerous individual Sunshine events held at the building level throughout the year.

A special thank you to our Executive Officers for their exceptional leadership in organizing these events and their tireless efforts to meet the needs of our members. Their dedication and hard work often go unnoticed, so I want to take a moment to acknowledge and sincerely thank them for everything they do.

In addition to our community efforts, it's the strong bonds we share within our own ranks that truly set us apart. The dedication and camaraderie among our members at the grade, department, and building levels are nothing short of inspiring. Now, more than ever, our collective actions in support of our students and one another amplify our voices and make our efforts unmistakable. It's a privilege to serve each of you, both as individuals and as a united force.

The partnerships we foster with our students, their families, and other stakeholders in the district are a testament to our commitment to Long Beach. These relationships strengthen the community's trust in and support for Long Beach Public Schools, including the annual budget. We are fortunate to be part of a district that consistently champions public education. Our efforts in the community and the connections we build are what truly define us as an organization.

We've also achieved significant victories on a larger scale. With the support of NYSUT's intense advocacy, we regained control over APPR, returning it to local control. This shift allows teachers to prioritize student learning over test scores. Efforts to negotiate a fair and effective teacher evaluation system are already underway. Additionally, NYSUT, with support from many locals like ours, has made notable progress with fixing Tier 6, successfully reducing the Final Average Salary calculation from five years to three. This is the most significant pension reform in 20 years. Furthermore, Governor Hochul's decision to sign the Classroom Heat Bill into law demonstrates a commitment to ensuring that our classrooms provide an environment conducive to learning.

These achievements, powered by our solidarity, are truly worth celebrating. Together, we have made great strides, but there is still work to be done.

In the year ahead, we will be entering into contract negotiations as our current contract expires July 2026. The LBCTA is committed to working tirelessly to secure a fair and strong contract for our members. We understand the importance of these negotiations and the impact they have on your professional lives. Our goal is to ensure that your hard work and dedication are properly recognized and compensated. We will advocate for better working conditions, competitive salaries, and benefits that reflect the value each of you brings to our schools and community. Rest assured, we will remain united, focused, and determined to achieve a contract that serves the best interests of all our members.

Now, more than ever, we must stand together. We cannot afford to be divided. Every one of us plays an essential role in advancing our mission. Whether you're in the classroom, the library, or the nurse's office, your voice matters, and your contributions have a meaningful impact. Our success relies on our unity, and we can only achieve our goals if we stand together as one.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank the Executive Board and all our members for the hard work and dedication you bring in making Long Beach Public Schools a better place for both students and staff. Your passion, commitment, and tireless efforts are truly appreciated.

Together, we will continue to make a lasting impact. Solidarity forever!

B. Nuts & Bolts

We had a very productive meeting with Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Natali, Dr. Ostroff and Mr. DeVito. We were able to follow up on previous items from the last meeting regarding increasing Support Staff throughout the district as well as Revisiting the Bring Your Own Device Policy. Major discussion topics addressed were:

- Clarifying the MS Grading Policy
- Tri-State & its Purpose
- Reiterating the Chain of Command
- Delayed Openings & Teacher Responsibilities

- Plans for the Social Studies Director position
- Workplace Violence Prevention Forms & Process
- Learning Walks versus Informal Observations
- Sports & Clubs Attending Nationals

We also discussed Pink forms being Optional as well as attempting to look at the WINGS schedule to address some concerns that have come up. We felt that the discussions were open and honest and that everyone was willing to work through the issues together.

C. Negotiations Google Form

Believe it or not, we are quickly approaching Contract Negotiations! I will be sending out a Google form this week for members to complete. If there are specific suggestions or recommendations for items to bring to the table, please be sure to complete the form!

D. Disconnected Conference

I recently attended the NYSUT Disconnected Conference with our HS VP, where hundreds of union leaders, BOE members, administrators, parents and students got together to discuss the impact that cell phones are having on our students. There were a variety of panel discussions surrounding the potential ban that Governor Hochul may place on cell phones in schools. We are waiting to hear the specific legislation and then can discuss the possible ways that we can enforce them. NYSUT is pushing for a bell-to-bell ban, but we're not quite sure that will happen.

E. LIPC Presidents Conference

This past weekend, I attended the LIPC Conference, where the NYSUT officers gave us a presentation on all things NYSUT! We were lucky to have Melinda Person (President), Jaime Ciffone (Executive VP) and Philippe Abraham (Sec/Treas) there to discuss some of the most recent NYSUT wins, as well as where we are headed. We also had NYSUT Associate General Counsel Lena Ackerman, and NYSTRS Trustee Eric Iberger, who both had extremely informative presentations as well. Additional workshops from LIPC and LITBF were also given.

F. NYSUT ELT: RISE & Wellness Seminars

We are going to be hosting an inservice class run through NYSUT ELT, which means that it will be free of cost for all NYSUT members. RISE is an evidence-based professional development program anchored in the science and practice of mindfulness, yoga, and positive psychology. The RISE program brings together more than a decade of research in mindfulness, resilience, brain science, and social and emotional intelligence. For more details on RISE [click here](#). This will be offered in combination with two Wellness Seminars on the topic of Managing Stress. For more details on these, [click here](#). RISE will take place in person (6 hrs) and the Wellness Seminars will be held virtually (4 hrs), totalling 10 hours (1 credit) The sign up should be available by the first week of April. The course will start on April 24th and the 3 in person dates will be 4/24, 5/8 & 5/22, from 4-6 pm, at the LBMS Library. The virtual times have not yet been chosen. I am working with NYSUT to try to get the class posted in Frontline, so keep your eyes out for an email!

G. NYSUT Digital Membership Cards

NYSUT is excited to announce that they are transitioning to digital membership cards to provide easier access to benefits while modernizing their systems. [Click here to learn more!](#)

H. Second Chance at First Eligibility

The Board of Education has approved the District's recommendation to offer a "2nd Chance" **Retirement Incentive** for eligible employees. This is a great opportunity for those of you who may have decided to stay longer but don't have another chance at receiving the incentive. This

gives you full access to our LBCTA incentives. ***You must inform Dr. Natali by Wednesday, April 9th.***

I. First Eligible Retirement Incentive - *Reminder*

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 April 1, 2025. The BOE has decided to extend the deadline for those first eligible this year. First eligible means that you are able to retire without an age or service reduction. If you are unsure if you are first eligible, or need more information, you can look at your NYSTRS Benefit Profile or contact NYSTRS directly at: [NYSTRS](#).

J. AFT Robert G. Porter Scholars Program - *Reminder*

The program offers four 4-year, \$8,000 post-secondary scholarships to students who are dependents of AFT members. ***The deadline is March 31.*** All scholarship winners will be notified by June 30. In addition, there are 10 one-time \$1,000 grants to AFT members to assist with their continuing education and/or fund their proposed ideas to strengthen and grow their union. [Click Here](#)

K. NYSUT Offers Online Guide for a Successful Retirement - *Reminder*

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! [Click here.](#) A login for NYSUT.org is required to access the online publication.

L. Coaching Pay Dates - *Reminder*

High School

Spring: First check: 4/11, Second check: 5/9

Middle School:

Spring: First check: 4/25, Second check: 6/6

M. Mandated Reporting: Child Abuse Training - *Reminder - LAST CHANCE!*

Remember that you must complete updated training by April 1, 2025. Training is free, on-line, self-directed, and can be completed using the instructions sent by Dr. Natali. The NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) is offering the 9-module (2-hour) training through the Human Services Learning Center (HSLC) website (<https://www.hslcnys.org/hslc/>). In addition, the Nassau Regional Office is hosting two virtual training sessions per month, free of charge, for NYSUT members. You may use the links below to register for the date of your choice:

- [April 1, 2025, 4:15-6:15 - Frontline Education](#) (Last one available to book)

****Remember that you cannot receive graduate or in-service credit for this class. Some people have been putting this into Frontline for credit. Be aware that regardless of whether it was approved or not, you WILL NOT get paid or receive credit hours.**

N. NYS Paid Sick Leave- *It is still in effect, until July 31, 2025 - Reminder*

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



O. Study Money Dates - *Reminder*

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program: **Summer – Friday, May 16, 2025**. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. The application is available online at - [Request for Participation in Study Program - Group A](#).

P. Annual Turn-In of Sick Days

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

II. Committee Reports

A. Grievance Committee - Amy Leder

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

B. Board of Elections - Grace Parisi

1. The following members are running in this year’s officer and delegate election;
President, NYSUT Delegate/AFT Delegate - Karen Bloom
Executive Vice President, NYSUT Delegate/AFT Delegate - Jennifer Garrett
Secondary Vice President - Matthew Hartmann
Elementary Vice President - Jennifer Maggio
Recording Secretary - Patricia Van Loon
Corresponding Secretary - Elleen Parks
Treasurer - Jonathan Bloom
NYSUT Delegate - Molly Drake and Patricia Van Loon
AFT Delegate - Elleen Parks and Patricia Van Loon
2. REMINDER: Candidates must have their petitions, with the required signatures of thirty-five (35) members of the association who support your candidacy by **March 30th**. Thank you!
3. There will be a Candidates Forum on Monday, April 28th directly prior to the Executive Board Meeting. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where you will be able to talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns you may have.

C. New Members - Alison Katulka

1. Please join us at the Spring New Member gathering on April 25, 2025 at EGP Land & Sea. This is a private event open to all new members, union buddies, mentors, and members of the LBCTA executive board. Make sure to fill out the RSVP Google form so we can have an accurate headcount.
2. If you know of a new member who needs a buddy, please contact me at akatulka@lbeach.org.

D. Political Action Committee - Jennifer Garrett

1. Production of the LBCTA Newsletter is in the works. This edition reaches an expanded distribution list that includes our NYSUT brothers and sisters residing in the City of Long Beach, Lido Beach, Point Lookout and East Atlantic Beach to keep them informed of all the great happenings in our district. If you have any thoughts or ideas for content for the next newsletter please email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com. All suggestions are greatly appreciated!

2. We continue our fight to Fix Tier 6! SAVE The DATE! The Long Island NY Fix Tier 6 Rally will be on Tuesday, May 6th at 4:30. The location is TBD. Be on the lookout for updates!
3. Thank you to everyone that has emailed to join our LBCTA Fix Tier 6 team. All are welcome so if you would like to join please email lbctapac@gmail.com.
4. If you are not receiving PAC emails, please email lbctapac@gmail.com to update your contact information with a current personal email address. Thank you to everyone that has already reached out to update their contact information.
5. As always, please feel free to share your ideas on how LBCTA PAC can better serve our members. You can email your thoughts to LBCTAPAC@gmail.com.

E. Public Relations Committee - Jennifer Garrett and Jennifer Maggio

1. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who played a role in the success of the 8th Annual LBCTA Bowling Fundraiser. Your remarkable efforts were pivotal in making the event a success. With the invaluable support of LBSEA and ASPPG, we were able to raise \$8,540 to support G2H. A special thanks goes to Patty VanLoon for her behind-the-scenes work, which was instrumental to the event's success. We would also like to extend a heartfelt shout-out to Amy Leder and Karen Bloom for their continued dedication and support. It is also crucial to recognize the invaluable contributions of our building reps - without your efforts, this event would not have been possible. The raffle baskets were amazing and we are truly grateful. We are already excited for next year! If you would like to join the PR Committee and get in on the planning of our many events, please email jmaggio@lbeach.org.
2. Save the date! The 3rd Annual Long Beach Public Schools Wellness Fair will be held on Saturday, March 29th from 10 AM to 1 PM. The event will feature a variety of activities, including community vendors, Zumba and Yoga classes, and student performances. Don't miss out on this exciting day of wellness!
3. NYSUT has launched [a Peer Support Line](#). This is a free and confidential helpline provided through Member Benefits that is available to all NYSUT members and their loved ones.
4. Please save the date, April 25, 2025, for our Spring New Member gathering at EGP Land and Sea.
5. Please consider attending our LBCTA End-of-the-Year Celebration honoring our retirees at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside on Thursday, May 15, 2025.
6. Please follow us on Instagram [@LongBeachClassroomTeachers](#)
7. Wishing everyone a relaxing Spring Break.

F. Social Committee - Elleen Parks

1. Our End of Year celebration is on Thursday, May 15th. We will be at a new venue (O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside) with a new DJ and a different set up for our photos. We look forward to the changes and hope you can come celebrate this year's retirees with us. Please look for the flyer which will be posted shortly.

G. Long Beach Teacher Center - John Marr

1. Are you interested in running a Professional Development class for the Teacher Center this summer? The LBTC is currently looking for instructors to run 10-hour classes. We pay \$800 per 10-hour class and half the hours must be synchronous. If you want to post a

class, please do it on Frontline Professional Development or contact the Director at lbtcl@lbeach.org to discuss. I would like a list of classes in the next few weeks to add to the continuation application for the 2025-2026 grant.

III. Executive Vice President's Report - Amy Leder

A. APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review)

1. The state has released APPR guidelines that go into effect March 26, 2025. We will continue adhering to our agreed-upon plan for this year. Discussions with administration about future plans will also continue.
2. **Key Changes:**
 - **New Evaluation System (3012-e):** The "STEPS" (Standards-based Educator evaluation and Professional Support) framework replaces the previous APPR system. It eliminates mandatory use of student performance metrics and allows locally developed plans aligned with state teaching standards. Plans must include multiple measures like observations, portfolios, or surveys.
 - **Transition Period:** Districts have until the 2031-2032 school year to adopt the new STEPS plans, which must be approved by the State Education Department (SED).
 - **Tenure and Discipline:** APPR scores are no longer tied to tenure decisions or expedited disciplinary actions. Shortened probationary periods no longer require proof of prior APPR ratings.
 - **State Aid Penalty Removed:** Districts are no longer penalized for failing to submit annual APPR plans.
3. **Observations and Ratings:**
 - Minimum of two observations per year for probationary teachers; tenured teachers can be evaluated on a multi-year cycle.
 - Ratings now use a 1-4 scale instead of Highly Effective to Ineffective.
4. **Implementation:**
 - Plans must be collectively bargained and submitted for SED review. Once approved, they remain in effect until revised.
 - STEPS plans must be publicly accessible on district websites, with parents retaining the right to request teacher ratings.
5. This reform shifts focus from punitive measures to fostering professional growth through local control and flexibility.
6. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health and Safety

1. *Air Quality*

- a) All building walk-throughs and air quality testing have been completed, and there are no concerns at this time. I am arranging a meeting with JC Broderick, Mr. DeVito, and Mr. Kramer to review the reports in person. Reports should be available in your principal's office if you need to see them. If you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

2. *Workplace Violence*

- a) Please refer to Mr. DeVito's email on February 13 titled: [District All] Fwd: Incident Forms. At this point, a workplace violence incident report is available on the district webpage under *staff resources/forms: Health and Safety* and may be

used to record a workplace violence incident after you inform a supervisor and / or designated contact person of the incident.

The data will be reviewed at the end of each school year. A GCN training module covering various elements of the workplace violence prevention program will be available shortly. The goal is to have this training available and completed before the end of this school year.

- b) The Board of Education adopted a workplace violence prevention policy which can be found [here](#). Please take some time to read and review it.
- c) We have an opportunity to have representatives from NYSUT offer us an in person or virtual presentation on the WPVPP. I have included a description of the presentation below. If you think you would be interested in participating in a workshop like this, please contact me at aleder@lbeach.org.

Creating Safer Schools: Integrating the NYS Workplace Violence Prevention Program with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Join us for an informative presentation focused on the New York State Workplace Violence Prevention Program and recent amendments to the Commissioner's Regulations concerning updates to behavioral interventions. This session will provide guidance on integrating these regulatory changes into educational environments to enhance school safety. We will also examine the rights of students with disabilities under IDEA, highlighting how these rights intersect with the NYS Workplace Violence Prevention Program to ensure a supportive and secure learning atmosphere for all.

- 3. The next Health & Safety meeting is May 5th. Staff members are encouraged to report any unresolved health and safety issues at the building level.
- 4. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at aleder@lbeach.org.

C. Other

- 1. A heartfelt thanks to Jennifer Garrett and Jenn Maggio for organizing a successful bowling event in honor of the G2H organization. It was wonderful to see so many of our members and district employees come together, enjoying themselves while supporting a great cause. Your hard work and dedication made this event truly memorable.
- 2. Save the date for our end of the year celebration, Thursday, May 15, 2025.

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

- A. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on April 7, at 4:00 in the East School Library.
- B. Please save the date, April 25, 2025, for our Spring New Member gathering at EGP Land and Sea.
- C. Please consider attending our LBCTA End-of-the-Year Celebration honoring our retirees at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside on Thursday, May 15, 2025.
- D. Please consider donating a day to our sick bank.
- E. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at jmaggio@lbeach.org.

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

- A. Congratulations to Dr. Andrew Smith on being named LBHS Principal. We look forward to working with you.

- B. Our next Secondary Council meeting will be on Tuesday, April 22, at 3:30, in High School room 212.
- C. Please save the date, April 25, 2025, for our Spring New Member gathering at EGP Land and Sea.
- D. Please consider attending our LBCTA End-of-the-Year Celebration honoring our retirees at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside on Thursday, May 15, 2025.
- E. 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. Wishing everyone a relaxing Spring Break.

VI. Treasurer's Report - Jonathan Bloom

A. February's Financial Report

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT Dues	\$16,325.60	Union Dues	\$43,120.17
AFT Dues	\$9,765.35	Retirees Dues	\$306.00
Training	\$409.21	TOTAL	<u>\$43,426.17</u>
Payroll Fees	\$466.50		
Workers Comp.	\$22.50		
TOTAL	<u>\$26,989.16</u>		

- B. Congratulations to Dr. Andrew Smith on being named LBHS principal. Thank you to Mr. Myers for your leadership and dedication to Long Beach High School.
- C. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. I would encourage you to attend a few School Board meetings during the year. Your presence is always noted.
- D. For tax purposes LBCTA dues for the 2024 calendar year were \$1,040.30.
- E. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy spring recess.

VII. Building Reports

A. West School

1. Congratulations to Jessica Culkin and Terry on the birth of their son, Sullivan John.
2. Condolences to Lisa Pignataro on the loss of her father, Nicholas Dionisio.
3. Congratulations to Thalia Rodriquez on the birth of her daughter.
4. A special thank you to all of the teachers and support staff that participated in our Bedtime and Books event. The students and their families had a wonderful time.
5. We loved having our Scholastic Book Fair! Thank you to the PTA and all of the volunteers who made it happen.
6. Thank you to all who organized, donated and participated in the 8th annual bowling fundraiser. A fun night was had by all!
7. Thank you to the West PTA for organizing the Harlem Wizards assembly and all the PARP Activities.
8. Save the date for our Spring New Member party on April 25th at EGP Land and Sea.
9. Save the Date for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration on Thursday, May 15th at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside.
10. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.

B. Lindell School

1. The LBCTA 8th annual bowling event was another great success. Donations made by our members were truly appreciated.

2. Our sympathies go out to the Bass Family on the loss of their house due to fire. Thank you to all who contributed to help the family rebuild.
3. Thank you to sunshine for organizing a very lucky and delicious March 17th breakfast. Thank you to all teachers and staff for contributing.
4. The Lindell PTA has been very generous organizing The Brain Show (before break), hosting an additional scholastic book fair in preparation of PARP week and arranging an Islander Assembly for our students.
5. The Lindell PTA is hosting a Booster Fundraiser from March 17th-April 4th. Students will be raising money for our school and participate in a Fun Run to tie it all up April 4th.
6. There is a need for additional PPS staff to support social emotional needs in our building.
7. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick bank.
8. Please consider attending school board meetings.
9. Enjoy a relaxing Spring Break!

C. East School

1. Congratulations to Julianne White on the birth of her daughter, Charlotte Marian.
2. Congratulations to Katherine Meyers on the birth of her daughter, Shaye Elizabeth.
3. Thank you to the PTA for organizing an amazing week of PARP, the students were so excited for the Book Fair, guest readers and activities. The assembly with the author Darren Sardelli was very engaging for the students.
4. Thank you all who attended and supported the annual Bowling Fundraiser, a great time was had by all.
5. The 5th grade students had their culminating event for Dancing Classrooms. They were amazing and the parents were very impressed with their learning through the program.
6. Please consider donating a day to the LBCTA sick bank.
7. Wishing everyone a wonderful spring break!

D. Lido School

1. Welcome back to Diana Armada!
2. Thank you to Officer Turner from the NCPD office of Community Affairs for speaking to our PreK-5th grade students about being safe. The students enjoyed participating in the assembly.
3. Thank you to the Lido PTA for another successful Scholastic Book Fair! Students enjoyed choosing books to add to their collections at home. Teachers also appreciated the books donated to their classrooms.
4. The Pre-K MOLA (Museum of Learning Activities) Event was enjoyed by all who attended to see the created exhibits as the culminating activity of their museum unit. Pre-K students worked hard and learned about fairy tales, dinosaurs, and much more.
5. Congratulations to Christopher Webel on receiving tenure as our Lido Elementary School Assistant Principal. We appreciate your continued support and leadership.
6. Thank you to all the presenters who came to share their professions with students during Career Day. Students enjoyed their time learning about the different professions and even received some fun items too.

7. Thank you to all who participated in the 8th Annual Bowling Fundraiser on March 6th. Everyone had a great time in support of the G2H Foundation. Kudos to Jennifer Garrett and Jennifer Maggio for putting together this great event.
8. Thank you to Lido PTA for sponsoring the Jared Campbell Assembly. His message delivered through the power of his music focused on overcoming obstacles, anti-bullying, respect, leadership and having an amazing outlook on life.
9. Condolences to retired teacher, Beth Prostick, and her family on the loss of her father, Frank P. Naudus.
10. Save the date for our Spring New Member gathering at EGP Land and Sea in Island Park on Friday, April 25th. This is a private event for new members of the LBCTA, mentors, and members of the LBCTA executive board. Please be on the lookout for an RSVP form to be emailed.
11. Save the date for our LBCTA End of Year Celebration on Thursday, May 15th at O'Connell Gardens in Oceanside.
12. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.
13. Wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and restful Passover/Easter Holiday Break!

E. LBMS

1. Please be aware that the middle school is used for several extracurricular and community activities throughout the year. It is safe to assume that any classroom may be used after school hours and/or over the weekend. Teachers are encouraged to report any issues to the main office immediately.
2. A damaged steam pipe has compromised the heating system affecting the heat in some classrooms in the 30s and 100s hallway. Building admin will relocate those in effected classrooms when/if necessary. We understand things break but relocating is an inconvenience for our members and students alike. We look forward to a permanent solution to ongoing heating issues.
3. Multiple areas are available for teachers to use for phone calls and/or virtual CSE meetings. Please see Raquel Lopez to reserve flex space in the main office or Ms. VanLoon to reserve the flex space in the library. You can also join the meeting chairperson in their office for the Google Meet. Mrs. Northcutt is exploring more availability in spaces near the 200 and 300 hallways.
4. This year's Black History Month Celebration Through Music assembly was held on February 28th. Special thanks to Caroline Espinet, Natasha Nurse, Christina Farrell, Dave Lobenstien, Danny Neri, Justin Marks, Parker Ramsey, and Wally Kramme for their participation in this celebration.
5. This year's bowling fundraiser was a tremendous success. We had a lot of MS staff participation. Congratulations to the winning teams and the raffle winners. We are looking forward to next year's event!
6. Congratulations to Jennifer Donovan on the birth of her son, Brady William.
7. Congratulations to Rich Pelligrini on the birth of his daughter, Raelynn Moon.
8. Thank you to our Math department for organizing our Pi Day contest and decorations.
9. Congratulations to our 6th-grade Science teachers for a successful Science Fair on March 18th.

10. Thank you to the PTA and our ELA teachers for another successful book fair.
11. Thank you to our 7th grade Social Studies teachers for their support during our National History Day competition. LBMS had 24 students move on to the regional competition at Hofstra and 6 students will move on to the state competition.
12. Thank you to our Student Organization advisors Wally Kramme and Billy Papetti for organizing our “Underground Spirit Week”. Teachers participated in secret theme days to keep our students guessing!
13. Our sincerest condolences to the friends and family of Edith “Eydie” Yarwood on her sudden passing.
14. Save the date for the CTA End of the Year party on May 15th!
15. Please consider donating a sick day to our district sick bank.

F. LBHS

1. A warm welcome to Deborah Bernadino-Arden to the high school.
2. Congratulations to the Music and Theatre Department for their performance of *Anything Goes*.
3. Shout out to Michelle LeBarbara on another successful Staff vs Student badminton tournament! Fun was had by all.
4. Shout out to our LBHS Math Team, Mrs. Papetti, and Mr. Krinsky on a successful Pi Day 2025. Also special thanks to all that participated and showed your math spirit.
5. Shout out to LBHS student organization, Dr. Morand, and advisors Mrs. Yaker, Ms. Todaro, Mr. Allen, Mr. Lainez, and Mrs. Papetti for a successful Class Olympics.
6. Congratulations to Stephanie Mena on her recent wedding.
7. Congratulations to Amy Gunther on the birth of her grandchildren, Theodore and Sebastian.
8. Congratulations to Brian Horne and Jarnita Davis on the birth of their daughter, Charlotte Rose.
9. Thank you to all the faculty and staff who donated for the creation of our High School Basket that was raffled off at our Bowling Fundraiser.
10. Save the date for the 3rd annual Wellness Fair on March 29th from 11-2pm at the high school.
11. Our sincerest condolences to Christine Lynch on the loss of her father and to Megan Salerno on the loss her father.
12. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
13. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy upcoming Spring Break!

VIII. New Business

- A. A motion was made by Jennifer Maggio and seconded by Ali Katulka to donate the Annual Joe Farrell Basketball game at the MS. It passed unanimously.
- B. A motion was made by Alison Katulka and seconded by Daniel D’Ottavio to make a donation to Morning Madness. It passed unanimously.
- C. **G2H Foundation Request**
Please refer to the LBCTA President’s email from March 25th in regards to the G2H Fundraiser on April 5th.

At 5:23pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Matthew Hartmann.

In attendance:

West: Chelsea Way

Lindell: Susan Simons, Cathy Barone, Heather Puckhaber

East: Tamara Sommers, Melissa Zimmerman, Eileen Bauer, Sara Hagen

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Dan D'Ottavio, John Marr, Grace Parisi

LBHS: Stephanie Mena, Matthew Hartmann, Greg Milone, Calie Yousha

Long Beach Teacher Center: John Marr

Retiree Representative: Frank Volpe

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.



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Our **Financial Counseling Program** offers access to certified financial planners that provide fee-based financial counseling services. Participants can get help with retirement planning, 403(b) & 457(b) plan advice, debt management, savings, budgeting, and more.

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March/April 2025