



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

April 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 4:05pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

4/29/19, 5/13/19, and 6/10/19

B. Please join us as we celebrate the end of the 2018-19 school year and honor our retirees. Wednesday, May 29, 2019—Bridgeview Yacht Club

C. NYSTRS Delegates

The following two members have volunteered to be NYSTRS Delegates; Lisa Rundo, TRS Delegate and Deborah Capodiferro, Alternate Delegate. These positions are unopposed. With the approval of the Executive board, and under the Landrum-Griffin statute, I will cast one vote to appoint them as our Delegates.

D. Long Beach Board of Education

The Long Beach Board of Education will vote on April 11, to adopt the proposed 2019-20 School Budget. It is at this meeting the Board will discuss and adopt the final budget that will be voted on by the community on Tuesday, May 21.

E. State Testing Debacle

The State Education Department postponed computerized state testing for New York's third through eighth-graders last week because of software "glitches." This is the second year in a row that there were issues with the software used for state testing. This coming off the 2017 data breach that exposed personal data of some users. These are just some of the many concerns educators have with the current 3-8 ELA and math state tests. As a result, "NYSUT has launched the [Correct the Tests \(Link\)](#) campaign to raise awareness of the serious issues with the grades 3-8 ELA and math tests and demand state action to fix these flawed, invalid tests that are harmful to New York students.

- the state tests are flawed and invalid;
- invalid scoring benchmarks mislabel children;
- ELA and math tests are too long;
- untimed testing can be cruel and traumatic;
- the tests are developmentally inappropriate; and
- computer-based testing is problematic and has been rolled out too quickly." ~ NYSUT



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

Table of Contents

- I. President's Report
- II. Committees
- III. Executive Vice President
- IV. VP for Elementary Schools
- V. VP for Secondary Schools
- VI. Treasurer's Report
- VII. Building Reports
 - A. West
 - B. Lindell
 - C. East
 - D. Lido
 - E. Pre-K
 - F. Middle School
 - G. High School
- VIII. A. NYSUT Benefits
 - B. Wizard of Oz Flyer
 - C. End of Year Party Flyer

F. 2019-2020 School Calendar

The [school calendar](#) was approved for next year. Should there be any annual conflicts in scheduling on the main calendar, please make your Building Reps aware so they can address them with your principals.

G. MOA for Summer School

The District once again plans to contract with Nassau BOCES to run a Regional Summer School Program in Long Beach. We are in the process of reviewing the language from last year's to ensure a smooth transition.

H. Study Money Dates

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study 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](#).



I. Coach Pay Dates

High School Spring: 4/12 and 5/23
Middle School Spring: 4/26 and 6/7

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. Board of Elections—Jennifer Garrett

The following members are running in this year's officer and delegate election;

President, NYSUT Delegate/AFT Delegate—Keith Harvey
Executive Vice President, NYSUT Delegate, AFT Delegate—Karen Bloom
Secondary Vice President—Amy Leder
Elementary Vice President—Beth Prostick
Recording Secretary—Patricia Van Loon
Corresponding Secretary—Elleen Parks
Treasurer—Jim Fiola
NYSUT Delegate (2) - Beth Prostick, Patricia Van Loon
AFT Delegate (3) - Beth Prostick, Patricia Van Loon and Elleen Parks

C. New Member Committee—Jim Fiola

1. Save the date! Please join us for the Year End Celebration on May 29th. We will be honoring many retirees on their many years of service to the district. Please come even if you don't personally know any of them. You will have the opportunity to meet many new people and perhaps gain insights from their experience. Enjoy the spring recess and Jim will continue to see many of you at the mentor meetings.
2. You can direct any questions or concerns via email to Jim Fiola at jfiola@lbeach.org or Alison Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org. Please contact us if you don't have a buddy or mentor. Don't be afraid to ask questions. There are many people here who will help you.

D. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick

1. **Let's make sure everyone we know who is eligible to vote is registered.**

In person Voter Registration Day is Tuesday, May 7, 2019 from 2 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Long Beach Middle School.

2. Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballot applications may be obtained from the District Clerk, 235 Lido Blvd., or from the district website at www.lbeach.org. Applications must be received in the Office of the

District Clerk by May 13, 2019 if a ballot is to be mailed to the voter or by May 20, 2019 if a Ballot is to be personally delivered to a voter. The ballot must be received by the District Clerk by 5 p.m. on the day of the election, Tuesday, May 21, 2019.

3. Our next PAC meeting will be on Tuesday, April 16 at 3:45 Lido L25.

4. 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. Come see the MS production of *The Wizard of Oz* this Wednesday, April 10th at 7 pm and Friday, April 12th at 7 pm.

2. Congratulations to the group of seventh graders who will have their work featured in the Brooklyn Art Library Sketchbook Project's fourteenth volume, "Body-Line: Form and Function." Under the guidance of Laura Swan and Lauren Behan, the students contributed illustration as well as writing components to publications.

3. Save the date... Sunday, October 20th 2019 is the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Jones Beach. We would love to have you and your families join us. This year we will continue to honor all of our cancer survivors on our LBCTA Making Strides t-shirt. If you are a survivor, and you are comfortable, please send me (or your building rep) your name before the end of the school year.

4. Congratulations to the 7th graders who participated at the Long Island History Day! One group received a special award from the Smithtown Historical Society.

5. We hope to see you all at our LBCTA end of the celebration on Thursday, May 29th 2019.

F. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

The CTA Retirement flyer has been distributed. If you plan to attend, please send your reply slip to Elleen Parks at West School along with your payment by Friday, May 17, 2019.

G. Teacher Center—John Marr

1. I am pleased to report that the Governor funded NYS Teacher Centers in his recently passed budget. Centers across the state will have the same amount of money to work with next year!

2. This year the center ran over 15 classes beyond the scope of our grant using the monies in our non-profit account. To continue this level of course offerings the Long Beach Teacher Center will begin to charge for classes next year once the grant runs out. The fee will allow the non-profit side of the Teacher Center to continue to operate and provide additional services. Running classes outside the grant will also allow flexibility in course offerings including offering classes over the summer which is currently prohibited by the grant.

3. The Center has recently purchased a Cricut Maker with attachments with the hope to create a makerspace in the center to assist teachers. You can design projects at home on your laptop and bring it to the center to print!

4. If you have any questions please contact me at lbtc@lbeach.org or visit our newly redesigned website at lbeachtc.org.

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

- A. Congratulations to Dr. Romanelli on his recent promotion to Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction! We are looking forward to working with him in the upcoming years.
- B. We are still disappointed with the decision to move forward so quickly with the proposed changes to the Science sequencing in the middle school and the high school. It seems that now the district has chosen NOT to change the 7th grade science curriculum at all. This means that students will have 2 years in a row of Life Science; in both 7th and 8th grade, rather than having a year of Life and a year of Earth Science. This limits exposure to all four sciences at the middle level, and will eliminate Earth Science completely for students who choose Chemistry in 9th grade. We hope that they reconsider this rushed decision.
- C. **APPR**
 - 1. Please be sure to remain actively engaged in the APPR process. 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.
 - 2. If you do not know who your observers are, please contact Dr. Natali's office.
 - 3. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.
- D. **Health & Safety Committee**
 - 1. Energy Performance Contract: Honeywell has finished sealing the doors and openings relating to the building envelope and began insulating all the pipes throughout the district. Replacement of the steam traps and replacement of the high school roof are moving along. The roof replacement at West School should begin on Saturday.
 - 2. East School: In the wake of some recent repair work, air quality testing results indicate that a couple of spaces at East School needed to be re-cleaned. None of results showed any hazardous levels, just slight elevation. We will continue to monitor the air quality throughout the building as work continues.
 - 3. Please continue to inform your head custodian if you have any air quality or temperature issues in your classrooms.
 - 4. The next meeting is scheduled for May 13th at 11 am, email to follow with location. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.
- E. **District Safety Team**
 - 1. We are still waiting for the security guard to be put back in place at the back of the middle school. Currently, there is a guard in a car in the back. However, this does not help with students entering the building and/or trying to enter or wander around the building after school. We hope that this will be resolved as soon as possible.
 - 2. The next meeting is scheduled for May 13th at 11 am, email to follow with location. If you have any District Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.
- F. **Other**
 - 1. Please mark your calendars for May 29th! CTA end of year celebration to honor our retirees!
 - 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.
 - 4. Have a well-deserved spring Break! Happy Passover and Happy Easter!

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

- A. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
- B. If you would like to run for Building Representative for the 2019-2020 school year, please send me a letter of intent by May 17. You can inter-office it to me at Lido or you can email me with the letter attached to bprostick@lbeach.org.
- C. I hope each school can be well represented at our annual End of Year party on May 29. The flyers should be arriving soon.
- D. Our next Elementary Council meeting will be on May 6 at 3:45 in Lido room L25. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns before this meeting date.
- E. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful holiday break!
- F. If you have any questions or concerns I can be reached at bprostick@lbeach.org.

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

- A. We will be holding our Building Rep elections during the week of May 20th. If you are interested in serving as a Building Rep please email me at aleder@lbeach.org or send a letter of interest to me c/o High School. The letter or email must be received by the close of business Friday, May 17th. This will also allow any new Building Reps to attend our last meeting of the year on June 10th. Middle School: 5 Reps High School: 6 Reps.
- B. Congratulations to Dr. Romanelli on his new position as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction.
- C. Thank you to Dr. MacArthur for your service this year.
- D. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful holiday break!

IV. Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola

A. March Financial Results

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT	\$14,981	Union Dues	\$40,202
AFT	9,062	Retiree Dues	63
Taxes and Insurance	6,509	Total	<hr/> \$40,265
Meeting Expenses	560		
Officer and Rep Stipends	24,141		
Year End Celebration	1,408		
Donations	125		
Phone	121		
Total	<hr/> \$56,907		

- 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. Please save the date and join us for the LBCTA Year End Celebration on May 29th. We will be honoring many retirees for their dedication to this community. Enjoy the Spring Recess!
If you have any changes to your personal file (address, name, etc.), please email them to me at jfiola@lbeach.org.

- C. Union dues for 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. Thank you to Mrs. Bynoe and Student Council for generating and distribution of supplies for Baxter's Pet Pantry, a Long Island Cares Program. The West School Family donated pet food, dishes, collars, and toys to the cause.
2. Thank you to our dedicated PTA for our Book Swap lunches. Children can bring books to swap or look through to see if there is a book they would like to read and take it home. No one goes empty handed.
3. Thanks so much to the PTA for running the PARP reading Initiative. Our students LOVED IT!!!
4. Congratulations to 1st and 2nd grades for their successful Paramount Person Day. The students really enjoyed sharing with their friends and family. A special thank you Mrs. Krywe for her musical arrangements and Mr. Mule and the crew for our set up. It worked out beautifully.
5. Congratulations to Jeannie Larson and her husband Chris on the birth of Christopher William.
6. Please consider donating a sick day to our sick bank.
7. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful holiday break!

B. Lindell School

1. Our "Very Important Person" day ,VIP Day for grades K-2 was a Very Impressive Presentation! Congratulations to Ms. Rynecki, Mrs. Krywe, the students and staff on a job well done!
2. Thank you to all who have donated sick days. Please consider if you haven't.
3. Please join us for the LBCTA End of the Year Celebration at Bridgeview Yacht Club on May 29. Send your checks to Elleen Parks at West School by May 17th.
4. Congratulations to Dr. Paul Romanelli on his recent appointment to Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.
5. Wishing everyone a wonderful Spring Recess!

C. East School

1. Congratulations to Dr. Paul Romanelli on his recent appointment as our Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. We are looking forward to working with you.
2. Save the Date for the LBCTA Year End Celebration where we will be celebrating many colleagues including FIVE long-time East School Teachers!!! Our party will be at Bridgeview on Wednesday May 29th.
3. Have a wonderful Spring Break!

D. Lido School

1. Students and teachers are looking forward to participating in the Health Fair Week activities.
2. Congratulations to Dr. Romanelli as the new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction!

3. Thank you to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.
4. Please join us for the LBCTA End of Year Celebration at Bridgeview Yacht Club on Wednesday, May 29th from 5 - 9 pm.
5. Enjoy the spring recess!

E. Pre-K

1. Enjoy the spring recess!

F. Middle School

1. Congratulations to Dr. Romanelli on his appointment as Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.
2. Congratulations to our Odyssey of the Minds team (advisors C. Kyle and S. Kasper) for winning the regional competition and competing in the state championships in Binghamton. You did a great job!
3. Congratulations to some of our 7th grade students whose work was published in the Brooklyn Art Library Sketchbook Project volume 14 “Body-Line: Form and Function”. Under the guidance of L. Behan and L. Swan students contributed illustrations and a writing component.
4. The 2019 Joe Farrell Memorial Scholarship Basketball Tournament was a tremendous success. Kudos to all the students and staff that participated. Special thanks to Keith Biesma for organizing this wonderful event.
5. Mark your calendars! The middle school production of the *Wizard of Oz* is on Wednesday, April 10th and Friday, April 12th in the middle school auditorium at 7pm.
6. Special thanks to Lindsay Pichichero, Nicole Vasheo, and Barbara Vahey for organizing our Sunshine Social event on March 15th. A great time was had by all.
7. Congratulations to the 7th graders who participated at the Long Island History Day! One group received a special award from the Smithtown Historical Society.
8. Thank you to our PTA for the book fair with a special preview for teachers!
9. Please join us at the LBCTA End of the Year party on Wednesday, May 29th at 5:00 at Bridgeview Yacht Club.
10. Hope everyone has a relaxing Spring Recess!

G. High School

1. Congratulations to Dr. Paul Romanelli on being named Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. Thank you to Dr. MacArthur for your service to the district.
2. Condolences to Liz-Sherlock Garcia on the loss of her brother.
3. Condolences to Jordan Hue on the loss of his Grandmother.
4. Thank you and congratulations to PTSA and all students involved in the Morning Madness Fashion Show.
5. Congratulations to LB Girls Softball Coach Carmine Verde on being selected to Nassau County High School Sports Hall of Fame.
6. We would like to see the district address the lack of uniform door locks and keys at the HS.
7. The internet connectivity continues to be problematic throughout the HS. It has been extremely disruptive for students and staff.
8. Building cleanliness continues to be an issue. We welcome continued dialog and discussion between building administration and buildings and grounds to ensure a clean and healthy environment for students and staff.

9. 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.
10. The lack of conversations and input from science teachers regarding the restructuring of the science curriculum and course sequencing is extremely upsetting. These changes have not been fully developed and there are many potential implications that have not been fully considered. We would urge the district to fully consider them before implementing any changes.
11. We are disappointed by the district's decision to cancel the January Midterm Testing Week. This decision will negatively impact students by denying them an important opportunity to pass their regents examinations.
12. 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.
13. Please consider attending our LBCTA Year End Celebration on May 29th at Bridgeview.
14. Please considering donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Day Bank.
15. Please consider volunteering to serve on a district committee.
16. Wishing everyone a Happy and Healthy Spring Recess.

VIII. New Business

A motion was made by Jonathan Bloom to donate to donate water bottles to support LB Aware Teen Night at the HS. 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 Jennifer Maggio.

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot, June Schechter

Lindell: Heather Puckhaber, Susan Simons, Lisa Rundo

East: Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dana Monti, Dorothy Lopez

Pre-K:

LBMS: Jennifer Garrett, Camila Gamboa, Stacey Rice

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, 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.

Union-endorsed benefits designed to protect your loved ones

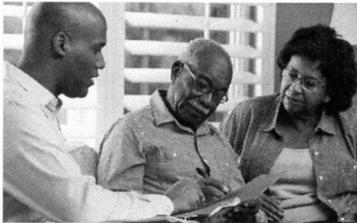


Legal Service Plan

NYSUT members have access to dozens of endorsed programs available through NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality legal and financial planning assistance services that can help to protect their loved ones and provide them with peace of mind.



For an annual fee, the **Legal Service Plan** -- provided by Feldman, Kramer & Monaco, P.C. -- offers legal expertise on a variety of personal legal matters such as dealing with a speeding ticket or handling estate planning. With the base plan, you'll get access to unlimited, toll-free advice from plan attorneys.



Financial Counseling Program

Meanwhile, the **Financial Counseling Program** -- provided by Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. -- offers unbiased, objective advice customized to your specific financial situation. The full-service program provides you up with to six hours of toll-free phone consultations with a certified financial planner or registered investment advisor.

And unlike with purchasing products available to the general public, there's no need to go it alone when Member Benefits has your back. Member Benefits acts as your advocate for any program you participate in, and we'll do our best to quickly resolve any issues or concerns you may have.

Whether you are participating in one of our legal or financial services; insurance plans; or shopping, travel or entertainment offerings, NYSUT members have the **"Power of the Union"** behind them.

A wealth of financial
information -- Now
available on the
**NEW Member
Benefits website**

Financial Planning Center

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs
& services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.



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

Mar./Apr. '19

SAVE THE DATE!

**The Long Beach Middle School's
Theater Department**

is proud to present...



Wednesday, April 10th at 7PM

Friday, April 12th at 7PM

The performance will be in the
Long Beach Middle School Auditorium.

TICKETS SALES WILL BEGIN APRIL 8TH

The Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

End of the Year Celebration



Wednesday, May 29, 2019

5:00 - 9:00pm

Bridgeview Yacht Club, Island Park

\$70.00 per person

Honoring this year's retirees:

Donna Braunhut, Jennifer Cifarelli,
Sally-Anne D'Andrea, Lynn Dean, Susan Epstein,
Rosemary Farrell-Garde*, Phyllis Flaum,
Darlene Glasser*, Amy Goldenberg, Michele LaBiento*,
Barbara Lewy*, Angela Madigan, Betsabé Montoya,
William Muirhead, Elizabeth Sherlock and Michele Vais

*unable to attend event

**Open bar... hors d'oeuvres... sit down dinner...
Photo booth... DJ... dancing... celebrating...**

Please return the completed form, along with your check made out to LBCTA, to
Elleen Parks c/o West School, 91 Maryland Avenue, Long Beach, NY 11561.

Please return form and check together by Friday, May 17, 2019.

Your Name(s): _____

Please name one person you would like to be seated with: _____

Building: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Seating request will be honored if payment is received by May 17.