



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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

Executive Board Minutes

April 24, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:12pm by Keith Harvey.

I. President's Report – Keith Harvey

A. Executive Board Meeting Dates

5/8/17, 5/22/17, and 6/12/17

B. Long Beach Board of Education

The school board adopted the draft 2017-18 School Budget on April 6th. The budget maintains all programs with minor faculty changes. The changes proposed are due to student enrollment and course selection.



C. School Board and Budget Votes— May 16, It Matters

In an era of constant attacks on public education it is important that we speak with one voice to support our communities. On May 16th, I urge each of you, your families and your friends to go to the polls and vote “yes” on your school district’s budget and for “pro-education” candidates for school boards.

D. CTA Sick Bank

Thank you very much to all who have donated so far. Unfortunately the number of request has exceeded the number of donations and the bank is currently at zero with requests waiting in the queue. Please consider donating to the bank to ensure its accessibility and continuance.

E. Pre-Retirement Workshop

Member Benefits is hosting a no cost Pre-Retirement Workshop for **All Members** at the Nassau Regional Office. Members can register for **only one** of these dates: Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 4:40 – 6:45 pm **OR** Thursday, May 18, 2017, 4:30-6:45 pm. Please see the attached flyer at the end of the minutes for more detail.

F. Summer Study Money

There is one more opportunity to participate in the Study Program, Summer- May 12, 2017. Members with permanent or professional certification may apply for up to \$1,750 in study money per semester. Request for [Participation in Study Program Group A](#)

Keith Harvey

President

Karen Bloom

Executive Vice-President

Amy Powers

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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G. Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) Registration

All members who hold a permanent or professional certificate in classroom teaching, educational leadership service or a Level III Teaching Assistant certificate must apply for initial registration during the 2016-2017 school year during his/her month of birth and must renew every five years through the TEACH system.

H. Coach Pay Dates

High School Spring: 5/12

Middle School Spring: 4/28 and 6/9

I. Credit Swap

Debra Cupani—1.5 credits for Long Island University

II. Committees

A. Election Committee—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 Powers

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

There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4 PM in the Middle School large cafeteria. 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.

A motion was made by Jennifer Garrett to allow the president to strike one ballot for this uncontested election as per our constitution. The motion was seconded by Karen Bloom. After an extensive conversation by the executive board, it was determined that a full election was not necessary for an uncontested election and would cost the association hundreds of dollars. A vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

B. Grievance Committee—Karen Bloom

1. We received a date for arbitration, scheduled for May 10, for our Pre-K grievance, allowing their children to attend school here.

2. Please contact me if you have any issues that you feel are a violation of our contract.

C. Negotiation Committee—Chief Negotiator's Report—Keith Harvey

CTA- We are currently reviewing the ways to improve the availability and sustainability of days in the bank. If we have a solution it will first need to be accepted by the district and then it will be presented to the executive board and the general membership.

Permanent Subs-

I am pleased to announce that we have reached a tentative agreement with the Long Beach Board of Education for a contract settlement. For ratification, it must be approved first by the Executive Board and then by the permanent substitutes.

The terms of the deal are the same as the teachers' contract with an additional increase to the year ten longevity, in year three.

Details:

2015-16, 0%

2016-17, .5% starting April 1, for salary

2017-18, .5% for salary and all rates, year 10 longevity goes from \$13.26 to \$15.

2018-19, .75% for salary, rates and longevity

2019-20, .75% for salary, rates and longevity

D. New Member Committee—James Fiola

1. If you have ANY questions or concerns, please email 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.
2. We will also be attending the mentor meetings to speak to the new members about various issues. The next meeting is at 3:45 pm on May 23rd in the Lido School library. We hope you are enjoying your career here at Long Beach. Please do not be afraid to ask for help if you need it. We (and many others) are here for you.
3. Thank you to all who attend the Spring Buddy/Mentor party April 21st. We look forward to running another one in the Fall.

E. Political Action Committee—Beth Prostick

1. Please email me at LBCTAPAC@gmail.com if you are interested in joining our PAC meetings.
2. “Con Con Bingo - It’s a Crap Shoot”. Please play Con Con bingo at your next CTA meeting. Use the following link to print out cards. <http://mfbc.us/m/xyb9n>
3. Our very own Lori Montgomery is running for School Board. She has requested our endorsement and the PA committee will be interviewing her on Thursday, April 27.
4. If you haven't already, please download the NYSUT MAC (Member Action Center) app to your phone. You can find it at the following link: <https://mac.nysut.org/get-the-nysut-mac-smartphone-app>
5. Please let us know if you would like to become a friend of our LBCTA Facebook page.
6. Our next PAC meeting will be on April 27. We will also have a meeting on Tuesday, May 2 at 3:45 in Lido room L25.

F. Public Relations—Amy Powers

1. Please remind all Long Beach family and friends that the annual school budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 16th. Please encourage them to vote YES! Look for our Ad in the Herald as well.
2. If you have a FB account and you are not a member of our LBCTA private group, please email me at amylo609@aol.com your FB screen name so that we can add you to our group. We currently do not have all of our members in our private group. We will be posting information about the 2017 Constitution Vote weekly on our FB page. Please spread the word to your family and friends to vote NO on November 7, 2017.
3. The end of the year party honoring retirees will take place Wednesday, May 17, 2017. We would love to see you all there.

G. Social Committee—Elleen Parks

The CTA [End of Year Celebration](#) flyer has been distributed. The party will take place at Bridgeview on Wednesday, May 17 at 5:00. The cost is \$70.00 and payment should be sent to Elleen Parks, West School, 91 Maryland Avenue, Long Beach by May 11th. Please make sure the bios are sent to PVanloon@lbeach.org by May 5, 2017.

H. Teacher Center—John Marr

1. Thanks in part to the lobbying efforts of NYSUT and the Committee of 100, for the first time in ten years NYS Teacher Centers have been funded as part of the Governor's Budget. Even better, the state grant has been increased to \$20,000,000. This has been verified by the SED Finance Office and a letter has been sent to districts.

2. As a result, the Long Beach Teacher Center will have its grant increased by 1.40252 percent for the 2017-2018 school year making the next year's grant \$28,254.
3. Thank you to all of the district educators who submitted course proposals and took the time this year to provide over three-hundred educators and teaching assistants living or working in Long Beach with high-quality professional development.
4. At this time our grant has been expended. If you would like to run a class next year, please let me know in the next few weeks as I need to put your name into the grant application for next year.
5. If you have any questions please contact the LBTC at lbtc@lbeach.org.

III. Executive Vice President's Report—Karen Bloom

A. APPR

1. It has been reported to me that many teachers at the high school are not receiving timely feedback, if at all. Remember, there are timelines for administrators. If you do not receive your feedback within the time required and your feedback is negative, we can discuss having that observation removed.
2. As we approach the end of the year, be sure that your supervisor has made it clear how your APPR score will be calculated.
3. Our APPR handbook is on our website. You can find all conversion charts and percentages [here](#).
4. Feel free to contact me if you have specific concerns regarding APPR.

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. We have still not had our meeting rescheduled, as was promised to us, to discuss the details of the HVAC system cleaning and maintenance at the high school, with the architect. We are hoping that this will happen before we need to put the AC units back on, but that is not looking good!! We are extremely concerned about the cleanliness of the vents and the odors that continue to emanate from them.
2. The next Health & Safety meeting is tomorrow at 11:00 am in the administration building.
3. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at kbloom@lbeach.org.

C. District Safety Team

1. The next District Safety Team meeting is tomorrow at 11:00 am in the administration building.
2. If you have any Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at 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.

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

- A. The election for Building Reps will be taking place the week of May 22. If you would like to run for Building Representative for the 2017-2018 school year, please send me a letter of intent by May 19. You can inter-office it to me at Lido or you can email me with the letter attached to bprostick@lbeach.org.
- B. Elementary Council will meet on May 1 at 3:45 in Lido.
- C. Please consider donating one or more sick days to your colleagues in need.

D. If you have any questions I can be reached at bprostick@gmail.com.

V. **Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report—Amy Powers**

A. Please take the time to read and educate yourself about the 2017 Constitution Vote. We will continue to share important information about the risks of opening the state constitution. Please spread the word to your family and friends to vote NO on November 7, 2017. Building reps, please continue to discuss this issue at every CTA meeting moving forward.

B. We will be holding our building rep elections during the week of May 22nd. If you are interested in serving as a building rep please email me at apowers@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 19th. This will also allow any new building reps to attend our last meeting of the year on June 12th.

Middle School: 5 Reps

High School: 6 Reps

VI. **Treasurer's Report—Jim Fiola**

A. **March Financial Results**

Expenditures

NYSUT	\$14,903
AFT	8,920
Taxes, Insurance & Fees	7,469
Meeting Expenses	865
Donations	4050
Officer and Rep Stipends	26,018
Bowling Fundraiser	949
Phone	176
Total	\$24,798

Revenues

Union dues	\$39,656
Bowling Fundraiser	3,883
Retiree Dues	162
Total	\$43,701

B. Please consider donating a sick day to the Sick Day Bank. In addition, please try to attend some additional board meetings through the end of the school year. Thank you for reading the minutes and please encourage your fellow members to do the same.

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 2016/2017 for full-time members will be \$998.36. The break-out is \$384 local, \$378 NYSUT, \$228.36 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.

The 2016 union dues for tax purposes was \$990.60

VII. **Building Reports**

A. **West School**

1. Congratulations to Julie Feldman and her husband on the birth of their daughter, Melanie.
2. Congratulations to our Computer Lab Specialist Mrs. Farrell on the birth of her grandson, Nolan.
3. Thank you to our Kindergarten crew and parents for a successful Community Day! On

Community Day our kindergarten classrooms are transformed into a mini Long Beach, which includes a pizza parlor, Post Office, and Superette. Each unit is run by parent volunteers, 5th grade helpers and kindergarteners. Thank you all who worked so hard to make the day a successful one!

4. Thank you to our PTA for another successful Supermarket BINGO this past Friday. Your hard work and effort was visible with the amazing turn out of Long Beach people who come back year after year to support our school.

5. Staff parking continues to be an issue with regards to the new construction of driveways in the West End of Long Beach.

6. We are hoping the District's Capital Improvement Plan will include fixing the leaks on the north side of the building. The kindergarten classrooms, technology room, and a 3rd grade classroom seem to take on water when we have a significant rainstorm. These leaks damage materials, rugs, and equipment.

7. Thank you to those who have donated sick days to our bank. We encourage anyone who has not done so to consider donating a day.

8. Thank you to the District for supplying our elementary teachers with Chromebooks.

9. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.

B. Lindell School

1. Famous people past and present came to life in the 3rd grade's Living Museum. Costumes and presentations were outstanding.

2. Thank you to our many parents and community members who participated in our 5th Grade Career Day. This was a meaningful and worthwhile learning experience for our 5th Grade students.

3. The PTAs Bunny Shoot Fundraiser was a fast, fun and fantastic event!

4. Our Custodians were recognized as Lindell's Earth Day Heroes. We appreciate all their work in helping to maintain our beautiful building.

5. We would like to recognize our staff members in Group C. We appreciate their hard work and support of our students. They are a vital part of our educational system.

6. Congratulations to Ivania Sanchez on the birth of her son Luciano, and to Stephanie Esposito on the birth of her daughter Joanna.

7. Thank you to the Life Skills students for creating the super tie dye T-shirts. Thank you to the staff members for supporting Autism Awareness through the purchase of these shirts.

7. A warm welcome back to Darlene Glasser.

8. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.

C. East School

1. Congratulations to Julie Feldman on the birth of her daughter, Melanie Rose Feldman.

2. Congratulations to Cristine Zawatson on receiving tenure.

3. Welcome back to Stephanie Meyer.

4. A speedy recovery to Jackie Eiger.

5. Thank you to the PTA for the Mathemagic Assembly.

6. Thank you to the district for providing the elementary teaching staff with Chromebooks.
7. Please consider donating days to the LBCTA sick bank.
8. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.

D. Lido School

1. Welcome back to Stephanie Meyer. Many thanks to Marlon Lainez for covering her leave of absence.
2. Welcome back to Darlene Glasser. Much appreciation to Jaqi Riccio for covering her leave of absence.
3. Congratulations to Jaqi Riccio on her recent engagement.
4. Congratulations to Mitzi Goodman who has announced her retirement at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. She will be missed.
5. We would like to thank the District for providing Chromebooks to the elementary school teachers.
6. To meet the health needs of our students in *Pre K- 5th* grade, we would greatly benefit from having an additional Nurse at Lido. It continues to be difficult to manage the demands of students in *Pre K - 5th* grade with just one Nurse on duty.
7. Thanks to members who have donated sick days to the LBCTA District Sick Bank. Please consider donating a day.

E. Pre-K

1. Get well wishes to Jean Kushel. We wish her a speedy recovery!
2. Welcome to Marlon Lainez.
3. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.

F. Middle School

1. We are pleased that we now have a security guard walking the hallways after school. We are hoping that this will help keep our hallways clear and safe during after school activities.
2. Kudos to Dayna Obidienzo, the TAs, and students in our Life Skills class for helping to organize a very successful Autism Awareness Day.
3. Congratulations to the student members of The LBMS Odyssey of the Mind team under the guidance of Dayna Obidienzo and Christina Kile for winning 4th place at the NY State Odyssey of the Mind competition on April 8th in Binghamton, NY.
4. Kudos to Mrs. Berman and Mr. Pross for working together with MS students to get our MYP garden opened and blooming!
5. Welcome back to Darlene Glasser.
6. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.
7. Please join us at the LBCTA End of the Year party on May 17th at Bridgeview Yacht Club.
8. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA Sick Bank.

G. High School

1. Congratulations to Dr. Andrew Smith on his receiving of tenure.
2. Congratulations to Krystal Cardenas for her recent engagement.
3. Congratulations to Serena Field for her recent engagement.
4. Thank you to Dr. Andrew Smith for organizing our annual Kevin Lawlor Golf Shirt Day day of remembrance.
5. Thank you to the life skills program and teachers for a successful Autism Awareness Day.
6. Thank you to the Asian Culture Club and its advisor for a hosting a Successful Talent show.
7. Please consider attending the annual LBCTA End of the Year Celebration on May 17th, 2017 at the Bridgeview Yacht Club. We will be honoring all of the district retirees including HS staff members Gail Davis and Liz Lebowitz.
8. The state of technology continues to be a problem-
 - a) With the arrival of the chromebooks, there is a need to increase the number of in-house techs devoted to handling the many issues that have and will continue to arise.
 - b) The district needs to hire a person to take charge of developing and implementing a technology plan for the district.
9. While there was some progress to properly outfit Classroom 215, there still remains a few remaining issues that need to be completed. We are hopeful that the district will continue to work to finally get this classroom properly outfitted.
10. We were disappointed by the district's decision to hold two separate full day professional development sessions. Teachers were poorly notified, as they were only given two days notice before the training was to begin. Since it is a critical time of the year where teachers are finishing their curriculum and preparing their students for their IB and Regents examinations, we believe that having teachers miss classes at this point of the school year should be avoided. We as always would welcome professional development sessions that are scheduled well in advance either on conference days or at earlier points in the school year.
11. We would like to see feedback on teachers observations be returned to them in a more timely basis.
12. We would still like to see the cleanliness of the building addressed and a new checklist for building cleaners be developed and implemented.
13. We still would like to see the district investigate the weird smells on the pond side of the third floor. We would like for our entire ventilation system thoroughly examined.
14. With the spring coming we would like to see the necessary steps be taken now in order to finally conduct a proper traffic pattern study be finally held.
15. We are hopeful that building administration can develop a plan to improve student attendance in detention.
16. Please consider donating a sick day to the LBCTA sick day bank. Donation forms are available in the main office.
17. There will be a Candidates Forum on Thursday, May 4th at 4:00pm in the MS cafeteria. Given the uncontested election the forum will be a Town Hall style meeting where members can talk to the candidates about any questions or concerns they may have. All members are encouraged to attend.

At 5:35pm, a motion was made by Stacey Rice to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Alison Katulka .

In Attendance:

West: Cheryleann Fontenot

Lindell: Jane Quinton and Susan Simons

East: Jennifer Maggio

Lido: Dorothy Lopez, Dana Monti and Marilyn Pilo

Pre-K:

LBMS: Alison Katulka, Camila Gamboa, Jennifer Garrett and Stacey Rice

LBHS: Jonathan Bloom, Anthony Balsamo, Elena Frishman, Erik Heck, and Jay Spitz

Retiree: Frank Volpe

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

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

Is retirement around the corner?

If you are retiring or considering retirement in the next three years, you are invited to attend the NYSUT Member Benefits **Pre-Retirement Workshop**.

This no-cost workshop held exclusively for NYSUT members is designed to highlight many of the subjects you will face in retirement. Please note that this is **NOT** a TRS or ERS-sponsored presentation, and neither retirement system will be in attendance at this workshop.

Topics include:

- 403(b)/IRA Options
- Social Security Basics
- Tax-Related Tips
- Asset Preservation
- Popular Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services for retirees

Where: NYSUT Nassau Regional Office
1000 Woodbury Road -Suite 214
Woodbury, NY 11797

When: May 17, 2017, 4:30 – 6:45pm
OR
May 18, 2017, 4:30 – 6:45pm
Pizza and beverages will be served

Presenters: Derek Clement, CFP®
NYSUT Member Benefits

Brian Johnson, Director of New Business
New York Long-Term Care Brokers

**There is no cost to enroll in this workshop,
but seats are limited!**

To reserve your seat, please click on the registration link below:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/s5q7ht>

Simplifying your life insurance options

As an educated consumer, you realize the earlier in life that you purchase life insurance, the cheaper the premiums will likely be. You're also aware that life insurance offers financial protection for your dependents upon your death, helping to cover the costs of funeral and burial expenses; assistance to help with your children's education; and offering financial assistance with paying debts and other expenses.

It can be overwhelming, though, trying to determine the best type of life insurance policy. Let's take a look at some of the different types of life insurance options available.

#1: Whole Life Insurance – This type of insurance is usually the most costly since policies are guaranteed to remain in force as long as premiums are paid. Whole life insurance offers permanent protection with premiums that never increase and builds cash value you can borrow against while you are living (like a loan). **Important:** Understand that you will reduce your death benefit if you don't repay loans with interest and will no longer have coverage if you surrender the policy.

#2: Term Life Insurance – This type of insurance pays a benefit in the event of the death of the insured during a specified term, offering a fixed rate of payments during that time period. Once that period ends, coverage at the previous premium rate is not guaranteed and the insured would need to get

further coverage. Term life insurance (and its level term life cousin) is designed only to protect your dependents if you were to die prematurely -- offering NO cash value.

#3: Level Term Life Insurance – Like term life insurance, level term life insurance pays a benefit in the event of the death of the insured during a specific time period. Premiums may not be increased during the time period due to change in your age or health status.

“Term life and level term life policies are often popular options for those individuals with young families since there is a greater need for life insurance protection. They also tend to be much less expensive than their whole life counterparts. If you are considering a term or level term life policy, make sure to consider how long you would need the coverage.”

#4: Universal Life Insurance – This type of insurance offers a way to protect your dependents while building tax-deferred cash value. While the cost of a universal life plan needs to be covered so the policy remains in force, the policyholder has the option to adjust how much he or she will pay in premiums each year. Policyholders can also access a portion of the balance without affecting the

guaranteed death benefit as the cash value accumulates over time.

Keep in mind that NYSUT members & their spouses/certified domestic partners can help protect their dependents from life's uncertainties with a variety of NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed life insurance plans. Many of these plans offer group rates not available to the general public along with additional convenience and savings opportunities.

For more information about these plans, visit the Member Benefits website at 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.



The Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association



2017 Annual End of the Year Celebration

Wednesday, May 17, 2017, 5:00—9:00 PM
Bridgeview Yacht Club, Island Park

\$70.00 per person

Honoring this year's retirees:

Patricia Anajovich, Bob Berkowitz, Carol Cintonino,*
Gail Davis, Linda Fuller, Mitzi Goodman,
Liz Lebowitz & Jane Quinton*

Open Bar... hors d'oeuvres... sit down dinner...
...Photo Booth...DJ and dancing... and more

*Unable to attend event

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 Thursday, May 11, 2017.

Your Name(s): _____

Seating Preference: _____

Building: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Seating requests will be honored if payment is received by **May 11.**