



Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association

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President
Karen Bloom

Vice President for Elementary Schools
Jennifer Maggio

Recording Secretary
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Executive Vice President
Jennifer Garrett

Vice President for Secondary Schools
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Corresponding Secretary
Tamara Sommers

Treasurer
Jonathan Bloom

Executive Board Minutes

November 24, 2025

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

I. President's Report - Karen Bloom

A. I'm incredibly grateful for all of our members, and especially for our Executive Board and officers whose dedication makes everything we do possible. As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your hard work, passion, and support throughout the year. I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved break surrounded by family, friends, and good memories. Happy Thanksgiving!

B. Nuts & Bolts

Thank you to Dr. Gallagher, Dr. Natali and Mr. DeVito for taking the time to meet and discuss a variety of topics with us last week. We learned that the BYOD policy has been replaced by the current new legislation. So, despite a few exceptions, NO students should be using anything other than a school-issued device. We also discussed the timing of Elementary conferences; trying to ensure that they are not this late again next year. We spoke about many issues in the Lido Complex surrounding space and room use as well. In addition, we clarified a few items in regards to the STEPS plan which will be shared with all administrators and teachers sometime in the near future. We also had a conversation surrounding the cleanliness of some of our buildings, and that there are areas of concern that should be addressed more often. Lastly Dr. Gallagher agreed that we should really not be having observations before 10/1 or after 5/15, as there is very little room for feedback and improvement when observations are so late in the year. We truly appreciate the open dialogue and willingness to work together to resolve these issues.

C. Superintendent's Conference Day

Thank you to Dr. Gallagher and the PDP Committee for planning an extremely productive day! Members were appreciative that they could choose what to spend their time doing, whether it was collaborating with colleagues or attending a workshop. The Wellness offerings were awesome, and we were happy to see the focus on Teacher Wellness. We look forward to seeing more offerings like this in the future.

D. Long Beach Food Pantry Donation

At this year's Superintendent's Conference Day, we were able to collect donations for the Long Beach Food Pantry to assist with holiday meals in our community. A HUGE thank you to everyone that donated. This year we were able to raise \$1650 dollars for this worthwhile cause.

E. Long Beach PTA

Once again, I am proud to announce the LBCTA has 100% teacher participation in the LB PTA. I am grateful for the collaboration and teamwork between our two organizations. Together, we can

LBCTA 11-24-25/1

make a positive impact on the lives of our students and ensure they receive the best education possible. Thank you to all the teachers who actively participate in the PTA and help to strengthen our school community. Your dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed and are truly appreciated. Let's continue to work together to support our students and create a thriving learning environment.

F. LBCTA SWAG

Be sure to check your personal email for the information on how to order your LBCTA Item. This year, you will also have the opportunity to buy additional items if you would like. All information & instructions are found on the google form and was sent on **Monday, 11/17**. This form will be **closed on Friday, 12/5**. There will be **no extensions**, so if you miss the deadline, you will be out of luck! If you did not receive the email, then we do not have a personal email on file for you. Please reach out and let me know if that is the case. Also, check your spam folder; if you do not frequently open emails from me, it may show up there. The email came from lbctapresident@gmail.com.

G. NYSUT Trainings & Workshops

We held our Workplace Violence training on 11/20, given by a health & safety expert from NYSUT, Trish Geisel. We had over 70 people registered, including members from Groups A, B & C. Thank you to everyone who attended. We felt it was extremely worthwhile & we may set up another one to focus on Special Education in the Spring. Additionally, Dr. Garrett attended a workshop on Tenure, Seniority, Layoff and Recall, which she reported was extremely informative and she acquired lots of useful information, especially for our newest members.

H. NYSTRS

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a retirement seminar on **Monday 12/1 at 4pm in the LBHS Auditorium. Any member who attends will be entered into a raffle to win a prize, just for showing up!** Robin Wagner, a NYSTRS rep, will be presenting about Guaranteed Benefits of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System.

If you have questions specific to your potential benefits, you can contact NYSTRS at 1-800-348-7298. (Extensions are at [NYSTRS](#) for different departments). If you are considering retirement within the next three years, you should schedule a benefits consultation through [MY NYSTRS](#) or by calling 1-800-348-7298, ext. 6100.

Additionally, the Nassau Regional Office is sponsoring three Teacher Retirement System workshops at their Garden City office:

- December 15, 2025 - 5pm - 7pm
- January 5, 2026 - 5pm - 7pm

Please use this link to select and register for the date you would like:

[NRO TRS Workshops - 2025-2026](#)

I. First Eligible Retirement Incentive

If you are considering retiring in June, under the terms of our first eligible retirement incentive, you must notify the district of your intention by January 15, 2026. 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. LIBTF (Long Island Teachers Benevolent Fund)

We know that sometimes unexpected catastrophes befall our members. There are a variety of Grants offered by the LITBF to its membership; A Financial Grant for Catastrophic Loss, A Burial Grant & A Military Grant. I wanted to make you aware of the availability of these forms so that if the need arises, the LITBF can help ease your burden. Feel free to reach out if you are in need of any of these forms.

K. Cancer Screening

Employees of the District may be excused from their duties for a sufficient period of time, not to exceed four hours on an annual basis (July 1-June 30). Please be sure to follow District procedures for notification of your absence so that appropriate coverage may be secured. Upon return from your screening leave, you must complete the Cancer Screening Verification form. The original must then be submitted to the Office of Human Resources.

L. 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.

M. Mandated Reporting: GCN

All GCN Training Modules are due by **December 12, 2025**. Dr. Natali sent an email on 8/25 with all of the instructions on how to access and what modules need to be completed. This can be done on Professional Periods while you are at work.

N. Mandated Reporting: Child Abuse Training

All certified educators must have a record of completion of the new, updated training reported to TEACH by their chosen provider by **November 17, 2026**. You must complete the 15 minute addendum with the same provider that you used previously. If you took it through NYSUT ELT, they are sending links directly to members to complete the 15 minutes. If you used OCFS, then you can log on and complete the new add on. If you are a new employee, you will need to complete the full training. Once we receive guidance from Dr. Natali, I will be sure to include it in my report.

O. Club Pay Dates

This year’s clubs will be paid half at the midpoint of the season, and half at the end of the season. This means if you are a seasonal club, you will be paid twice during your season. All other clubs will be paid half the stipend in the 12/5/25 check, and half in the 5/8/26 check.

P. Coaching Pay Dates 2025-26

High School

Winter: First Check: 12/19, Second Check: 2/13

Spring: First Check: 4/24, Second Check: 5/8

Middle School

Winter I: First Check: 12/5, Second Check: 1/16

Winter II: First Check: 2/13, Second Check: 3/13

Spring: First Check: 4/24, Second Check: 6/5

Q. Study Money - Winter 12/12/25, and Summer 5/15/26 Applications to participate in the fall Study Money program should be received by the HR department by December 12th. 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](#).



II. Committee Reports

A. Negotiations - Karen Bloom

We are continuing to prepare for negotiations and will keep you updated as the process progresses. Remember that ALL Negotiations updates are being sent to your personal email address. If you are still not receiving them, please reach out and let me know.

B. Grievance Committee - Jennifer Garrett

1. Currently, there are no active grievances to report. If you have any concerns or believe there may be a violation of the contract, please feel free to reach out to me at lbctaexecutivevp@gmail.com
2. Our first Grievance Committee meeting was held on October 28th. Members discussed the committee's future goals, including increasing member understanding of key contract topics. We will be reviewing the contract to identify important items to highlight for members, as well as addressing any negotiation suggestions that are actually already-covered provisions. We also discussed the WPVA training.
3. Our next meeting will be on December 10th at 4 PM. All are welcome to attend!
4. Happy Thanksgiving!

C. Membership Committee - Tamara Sommers

1. Our New Member Gathering was on November 7th at EGP Land and Sea. It was a great turnout of new members, buddies, mentors, and members of the LBCTA executive board. We enjoyed delicious food, great conversation, and most importantly, camaraderie. Congratulations to our SWAG raffle winners. Let's continue to get to know and support our newest members.
2. There are still a few new members at the high school who need a buddy. If anyone from the high school is interested in becoming a buddy to a new member, please email Ali Katulka at akatulka@lbeach.org.
3. Both the social and membership committees met recently and discussed celebrating our union pride by wearing LBCTA gear collectively. In anticipation of days where we will wear gear together, I'd like to remind everyone to fill out the google order form sent to your personal email. There are many great options.
4. Please reach out if you are interested in participating in the membership committee.
5. We hope everyone enjoys a restful, healthy, and happy Thanksgiving.

D. Political Action Committee - Jennifer Garrett

1. PAC, in collaboration with the PR Committee and our webmaster, is putting together the next edition of the LBCTA Newsletter, Volume 5, Issue 2. This second edition of each year reaches an expanded audience, including our NYSUT brothers and sisters living in 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 ideas for topics or highlights for the next newsletter, please email us at lbctapac@gmail.com using your personal email. We'd love to hear from you!
2. The LBCTA continues to collaborate with NYSUT and the Long Island Against Charter Schools Committee to advocate for stronger fiscal accountability in charter schools. This campaign focuses on raising awareness among members, school boards, and community stakeholders about the harmful impact charter schools can have on public education. We will continue to share campaign updates, including future social media thunderclaps, and we encourage you to help amplify these messages. Thank you to everyone who

participated in the most recent thunderclap and helped spread the post and accompanying hashtag.

3. **Help Fix Tier 6!** NYSUT is committed to the Fix Tier 6 campaign to fight for a fair and dignified retirement for all public employees. This campaign seeks to change the system because it is less beneficial than previous tiers. It is unfair that new members must work longer, and contribute more, to earn a significantly reduced pension.

We're calling on **all members** to join NYSUT's Tier 6 Fix-It Team movement by scanning the QR code provided.

Also, please consider joining our **LBCTA Fix Tier 6 Team** by emailing lbctapac@gmail.com

Together, we can raise our voices and advocate for the secure, dignified retirement every educator has earned and deserves.

4. Please follow us on Instagram @LongBeachClassroomTeachers.
5. **SAVE THE DATE!** Our PAC meeting will be on January 13th at 4 PM. All are welcome to attend! Email LBCTAPAC@gmail.com to join!
6. Happy Thanksgiving!

E. Public Relations Committee - Jennifer Maggio and Matthew Hartmann

1. Thank you to Ali Katulka and the New Member Committee for a wonderful New Member Gathering. It was a great opportunity for new and veteran members to meet, as well as for members from all the buildings across the district to catch up and have some fun.
2. The Public Relations Committee met on November 12. Topics discussed included how to improve our summer communications, some possible new ways to organize across buildings for the Making Strides walk, and planning for our bowling event in February. Thank you to those who attended! Your ideas and input are greatly appreciated. Our next meeting will be on January 5th. Please reach out if you'd like to get involved in the PR committee.
3. **Save the Date!** Our 9th annual LBCTA bowling event will be held on Thursday, February 26th, at Maple Lanes in RVC. More information will be coming soon. As in the past, we hope each building can donate a basket for the raffle. So start thinking of those basket themes!
4. Please follow us on Instagram @longbeachclassroomteachers.
5. Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

F. Social Committee - Tamara Sommers

1. Both the social and membership committees met recently and discussed celebrating our union pride by wearing LBCTA gear collectively. In anticipation of days where we will wear gear together, I'd like to remind everyone to fill out the Google order form sent to your personal email. There are many great options.
2. Please reach out if you are interested in joining the social committee.

G. Teacher Center - John Marr

1. The Long Beach Teacher Center is seeking individuals who would like to run PD beginning in January. The center pays \$800 for a 10 hour synchronous course.
2. There have been many educators taking advantage of our poster printing and book binding services. If you are interested in either of these, please reach out to the director at lbtc@lbeach.org.



3. Keep an eye out for PD offerings that I will be sending out when I hear of them. If you find any good PD you would like to share, please email the director and I will share with everyone in the next pd email.

III. Executive Vice President's Report - Jennifer Garrett

A. APPR → STEPS Update

1. Final approval from NYS on our STEPS plan is still pending. It passed the first stage of review by State attorneys and is now awaiting approval from the Assistant Commissioner. We remain optimistic and look forward to receiving final approval soon.
2. As noted in Dr. Gallagher's 11/20 email, Administration is waiting for final approval before sending out the project Google Form. This helps avoid distributing a form that may need revisions, so your patience is appreciated while we await confirmation. In the meantime, because the project is largely teacher-driven, Dr. Gallagher suggested you may begin working on your ideas if you wish.
3. Most staff members will submit their project to the administrator who introduced it on SC Day. The only anticipated adjustments apply to some elementary classroom teachers and AIS teachers. Administration will share those updates as soon as they are finalized, if you have not already been notified.
4. With regard to untenured members and observations, untenured members should have received notification identifying their evaluators for the school year. If you have not yet received this information, please reach out to your immediate supervisor.
5. As always, we encourage you to actively participate in the observation and evaluation process. Our evaluation system continues to be grounded in the Danielson Framework, which emphasizes observable, research-based best practices. Evaluations and feedback should be evidence-based, not opinion-based, to ensure a fair, consistent, and constructive process. Please share any questions or concerns during your post-observation conferences so they can be addressed promptly.
6. If you have any questions or concerns about STEPS or the evaluation process, please don't hesitate to contact me at lbctaexecutivevp@gmail.com

B. Health & Safety Committee

1. The next H & S meeting date is February 9th. The spring meeting will be May 4th.
2. Staff members are encouraged to report any unresolved Health & Safety issues at the building level. If you have any Health & Safety issues that you are unable to resolve at the building level, please email me at lbctaexecutivevp@gmail.com
3. Please take a moment to confirm that your classroom phone and window blinds are working properly. If you notice any issues, please notify your Head Building Custodian right away.

C. Workplace Violence Prevention

1. **A Special Thank You** to everyone who attended our Workplace Violence Prevention Act training on November 20th. We truly appreciate you taking the time to join us for this important session and for your dedication to fostering a safe and supportive learning environment. If you have any follow-up questions or would like additional resources, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your participation and engagement make a difference! Thank you again for being part of this important conversation.
2. The Board of Education has adopted a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy, which can be found [here](#). Please take a few moments to read and review it.

3. Additionally, the district added the Workplace Violence Prevention Module to the GCN platform.
4. If you experience a workplace violence incident, the updated reporting form is available on the district website under **Staff Resources > Health and Safety**. Once completed, the form should be submitted to your principal.
5. All submitted forms and previous findings from our Workplace Violence Risk Assessment are carefully reviewed, and we will actively pursue any necessary remediation to ensure safety across our buildings.
6. We look forward to working with Administration regarding updates to workplace violence protocols.

D. Other

1. Please consider joining an LBCTA or District committee.
2. Thank you to Ali Katulka for organizing an awesome fall buddy party!
3. Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and a well-deserved, restful break with family and friends.

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

- A. Thank you to Ali, Tamara and all who came out for our New Member Party on Friday, November 7th. I loved seeing our members winning LBCTA merchandise. What a fun event - with a new spin!
- B. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with family and friends.
- C. I'm thankful to all members of the LBCTA for your dedication to the children of Long Beach.
- D. If you have any questions or concerns that you were unable to work out at your building, I can be reached at jmaggio@lbeach.org.

V. Vice President for Secondary Schools' Report - Matthew Hartmann

- A. Thank you Dr. Gallagher and the PDP Committee for organizing a productive Superintendent's Conference Day.
- B. Thank you to Ali Katulka and the New Member Committee for a fun New Member Gathering. What a great way to get our secondary and elementary teachers together while meeting our new members from across the district.
- C. There will be a Secondary Council meeting on February 3.
- D. Reminder: Global Compliance training is due December 12, 2025.
- E. Thank you to those who have attended a NYSUT Fall Workshop this month. Be sure to let me know if you attend any of the remaining Fall Workshops.
- F. Please consider volunteering to serve on a district and/or LBCTA committee. It is important we have member representatives on each of the committees to make our voices heard!
- G. Your Building Reps are here to answer any questions or assist you with any issues/concerns you may have. Also, we encourage you to keep open the lines of communication with administration about any issues and/or items you may have.
- H. Save the Date! Our LBCTA 9th annual bowling event will be held on Thursday, February 26th at Maple Lanes in RVC.
- I. Keep an eye out for opportunities every month to participate in YOUR union!
- J. Wishing everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving.

VI. Treasurer's Report - Jonathan Bloom

A. October 2025 Financials

<u>Expenditures</u>		<u>Revenues</u>	
NYSUT Dues	\$16,370.35	Union Dues	\$42,143.77
AFT Dues	\$9,744.98	Retirees	\$65.00
Making Strides	\$3,131.13	Music Bingo Funds	\$4,228.50
Music Bingo Fundraiser - Rikos	\$1,046.87	Paychex Refund	\$183.86
Pizza			
Fall Newsletter	\$648.49	Total	<hr/>
End of Year Party Deposit	\$600.00		\$46,621.13
Meeting Expense	\$600.07		
Website Renewal	\$260.57		
Paychex Fees	\$220.95		
LI Presidents Council Fall Mtg	\$125.00		
Election Website Subscription	\$63.88		
ED 18 Secretarial Fees	\$50.00		
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Total	\$32,862.29		

- B. Union dues for 2025/2026 for full-time members will be \$1,062.16 The breakdown is \$407 for local dues, \$402 for NYSUT dues , \$245.16 for AFT dues and \$8 for PTA membership. \$106.21 will be taken from your first check of the month and will show up under the column "Dues-Teachers". 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.

- C. Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

VII. Building Reports

A. West School.

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Red Ribbon Week was a huge success. Students enjoyed dressing up each day and learning about ways to be healthy.
3. The West School Storybook Parade was so much fun. Students chose their favorite book and dressed up as that character for a traditional parade around the school.
4. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing a wonderful fall craft for all the students to make.
5. Thank you to the West School PTA for another successful Book Fair. We appreciate all you do for our students.
6. West School STEAM Night was a great success! Thank you to Hannah Gallo for organizing and all the teachers who coordinated activities for the students and their families.
7. Thank you to the West School PTA for providing a STEAM planetarium assembly to our students!

8. Thank you to Bryan Rosen and Marisa D'Angelo for organizing a terrific turkey trot. The students had a ball! Thank you to the West School PTA for all of your fundraising efforts!
9. Thank you to Allie Katulka for a fabulous Buddy Party. We had such a nice time getting to know our new members.
10. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, February 26th at Maple Lanes.
11. Wishing everyone a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving!

B. Lindell School

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Thank you to the Lindell PTA for a fabulous Fall Festival and pumpkin patch opportunity for all our students to take home a pumpkin.
3. Much appreciation to Lindell Sunshine who organized another plentiful Staffgiving Luncheon.
4. We would like to thank Ali Katulka for organizing the Fall Buddy Gathering.
5. Thank you to Hannah Jean for providing us with a fun Red Ribbon Week focusing on our districtwide theme: “Be Healthy. Be Proud. Be You!”
6. With our building’s ongoing behavioral concerns we anticipate continued support of the leave replacement Behavior Specialist until Mr. Romanoff comes back. It is required to assist our students and teachers daily.
7. Many thanks for all the Thanksgiving donations given to help support the Long Beach community.
8. We are concerned with the cleanliness of our building and appreciate Brendan Scully for coming to our Building Committee meeting to hear our concerns.
9. Congratulations to Travis VanNostrand on the birth of his son, Richard Joseph VanNostrand.
10. Enjoy a happy and healthy Thanksgiving with your family and friends.

C. East School

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Red Ribbon Week was a success, the children loved dressing up each day.
3. The Storybook Parade was a wonderful experience for all!
4. Thank you to Melissa Zimmerman for collecting Veterans Day cards created by East School students that were shared with our veterans at the Northport VA Hospital.
5. Thank you to Katherine Dascher for implementing the Marathon Kids Program and kicking it off with the Turkey Trot. The students had a great time participating and getting their steps in.
6. Congratulations to Matt Jones on the birth of his daughter, Parker Layne.
7. Thank you to our PTA for our wonderful Book Fair, the students loved shopping for books.
8. Thank you to Ali for organizing the new member fall gathering, a fun time was had by all who attended.

9. Thank you to all who planned Superintendent Conference Day, staff was appreciative to have choices based around wellness.
10. We look forward to continuing the discussion about the addition of a vestibule to ensure the safety of staff and students.
11. Save the date for the annual Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, February 26th.
12. We hope everyone has a well deserved break, Happy Thanksgiving to all!

D. Lido School

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Students and staff had a good time dressing as their favorite characters on Friday, October 31st. The parents enjoyed seeing the Character Parade!
3. Thank you to the Lido PTA for hosting another successful Scholastic Book Fair!
4. A big thank you to our administrators for putting together a luncheon for your SRP workers! We appreciate all that you do!
5. Welcome back to Tova Markowitz!
6. Congratulations to the Veltre family on the birth of Lucy Shea Veltre born on November 21, 2025!
7. Congratulations to Krista Piarulli on her engagement!
8. Thank you to the custodians for their help with our mice problem. However, more mice are coming into the classrooms each day.
9. Shout out to Mr. Finneran for assisting students create their Thanksgiving floats and balloons for our Balloons over Lido parade. Parents enjoyed being able to see these projects during the parade.
10. Congratulations to all the Lido girls who participated in the Girls on The Run 5K Event with Ms. Hyman.
11. Save the date for our Bowling Fundraiser on Thursday, February 26th at Maple Lanes.
12. We are very thankful for our Lido family. Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

E. LBMS

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Congratulations to Nilka McDonnell for being a recipient of the School Counselor of the Year Award and was honored by the Long Beach Latino Civic Association.
3. Thank you to our Sunshine Committee for organizing our Annual Halloween Costume Contest. Congratulations to Shelley Cepeda for winning the individual costume and Tara Mele and Kerry McNichols for winning the group costume.
4. Thank you to our New Member Coordinator Alison Katulka for organizing the Fall New Member Gathering on November 7th. Thanks to our new members, buddies, and executive board members for attending.
5. Thank you to Team 7-1 teachers Lauren Behan, Buddy Hoffman, and Kerri Rehnback for preparing the Field of Honor to recognize the men and women who have served during Veterans Day.

6. Condolences to Diana Mazzitelli on the passing of her mother, Marylyn Kalny.
7. Thank you to Jess Hemmerdinger, Ilyssa Berman, Kirstyn Golden, and all teachers involved in the Beautiful Me kickoff assembly on November 12.
8. With recognition from different local news outlets, we commend Natasha Nurse for spearheading the development of an innovative STEM extension curriculum.
9. Thank you to Meg Kalner and Jen McWilliams for organizing a great trip for the 7th Grade students to One World Observatory.
10. In observance of SRP Recognition Day, we thank all of the school related professionals that keep our building running each and every day.
11. Welcome back to Krystal Ferraro! Thank you Samantha Tamborello for filling this leave and now taking on the role of permanent sub.
12. The middle school recently made a major upgrade to its attendance and hall pass procedures by launching the MOOV platform for all students. Thank you to all of our teachers for embracing this change, troubleshooting early glitches, and taking the time to learn a new system that strengthens the way we track and support student movement and attendance. Your flexibility and professionalism made this transition a success.
13. Please remember to place your LBCTA Swag Orders by Friday, December 5.
14. As Thanksgiving approaches, the LBMS building reps would like to say how grateful we are for our entire faculty. We are thankful for the countless things you do every day that keep the building running and our students cared for. We see it, we appreciate it, and we're proud to stand alongside you. Wishing everyone a restful break and a Happy Thanksgiving!

F. LBHS

1. Please join us for a NYSTRS Retirement Seminar on Monday, December 1st at Long Beach High School Auditorium.
The seminar will run from 4:00–5:00 PM, followed by a Q&A session from 5:00–6:00 PM. All attendees will be entered into a raffle just for attending!
2. Congratulations to Kerri Sinatra on the birth of her son Jake. Mom and son are happy and healthy!
3. Congratulations to Michelle LaBarbara on her recent engagement.
4. Welcome back Jeannie O'Shea-Saroka!
5. Congratulations to the Girls Varsity Swimming & Diving Team for finishing 2nd in the NY State Meet. Congratulations to coaches Lynn Volosevich and Phil Cabasino.
6. Condolences to Gillian Bella-Greenfeld on the passing of her aunt, Joyce Kelly. Joyce was a long-term employee in food services for many years.
7. Condolences to Michael Corrigan on the passing of his father.
8. Thank you to all of our School-Related Professionals who help keep our buildings running smoothly. SRP Day was celebrated on 11/18.
9. Thank you to the Sunshine Committee for organizing their annual Halloween department costume contest. Congratulations to the Math Department ("*Disney on Ice*") on their victory.
10. Congratulations to Matthew Jones and Hannah Gallo, East and West School STEM Teachers, on their successful Hydroponic Grow Tower Pilot Program. Special thanks to Directors Kyle Swan and Cristie Tursi for their continued collaboration.
11. The enforcement of the NYS cell phone mandate continues to be a large topic of concern.

12. The cleanliness of the building continues to be a major topic of concern.
13. Thank you to Dr. Smith and the administration at LBHS for continuing to work with the building representatives closely in order to ensure that the needs of our faculty, staff, and students are being met.
14. We appreciate this year's professional development opportunities offered at Superintendent's Conference Day (11/4).
15. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving season!

At 5:12pm, a motion was made by Alison Katulka to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Susan Simons.

In attendance:

West: Julie de Bruin, Anne LaPenna, Chelsea Blum

Lindell: Susan Simons, Melissa Canner, Heather Puckhaber

East: Jeanne Richards, Melissa Zimmerman

Lido: Emily Ciavarella, Erica Yoo

LBMS: Billy Papetti, Alison Katulka

LBHS: Tim Cabasino, Lisa Casey, Carina Morales Hauser, Andrew Rossi

Long Beach Teacher Center:

Retiree Representative: Frank Volpe

Executive Officers: Karen Bloom, Jennifer Garrett, Jennifer Maggio, Matthew Hartmann,
Patricia VanLoon, Tamara Sommers, Jonathan Bloom,

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Van Loon, Recording Secretary.

PACK YOUR BAGS AND SAVE!



Do the colder temperatures have you longing for a little getaway?

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses several programs that can help with all your travel plans, including MB Discounts & Deals, Grand Circle Travel & Overseas Adventure Travel, and Purchasing Power.

MB Discounts & Deals offers NYSUT members exclusive access to savings at over 850,000 popular hotels and resorts worldwide along with flights, vehicle rentals, theme parks and attractions, Broadway shows and museums, sporting events and concerts, movie tickets, ski tickets, restaurant dine-in or take-out, and so much more. If you have not already done so, you can create an account at mbdeals.enjoymydeals.com with a preferred email address, a password, and your seven-digit NYSUT ID number (which can be found at nysut.org/memberid).

Does your bucket list include taking an unforgettable excursion to Asia, the South Pacific, Mediterranean, Africa, Europe, or numerous other destinations? NYSUT members save at least \$150 per person on published

Grand Circle Travel & Overseas Adventure Travel tours along with the opportunity to save thousands per trip with additional discounts and savings. GCT & OAT provide the chance to become fully immersed in the culture of the region you are visiting, including lesser-known locations that most Americans never get to experience. Discovery opportunities, activities, and educational discussions are included with each trip.

With **Purchasing Power**, eligible NYSUT members can package their entire vacation together – including hotels, flights, attractions, vacation rentals, and cruises – while paying over 12 months through payroll deduction or Automated Clearing House (ACH) withdrawals. Purchasing Power is not a discount program, but offers no credit check and no down payments; it serves as an option over traditional financing options like high-interest credit cards.

Explore all that is available to you from Member Benefits by scanning the QR code, visiting mb-nysut.org/travelmb, or calling 800-626-8101.

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November/December 2025

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