

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 18, 2023

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Administration Building Conference Room

Members Present: President Anne Conway
Vice President Sam Pinto
Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq. (via Zoom)
Board Member Alexis Pace

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC

Board President Conway called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:25 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session

Motion by: Board Vice President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

President Conway called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:52 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Vice-President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 18, 2023

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary Multipurpose Room

Members Present: President Anne Conway
Vice President Sam Pinto
Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.
Board Member Alexis Pace

Absent: Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. for Finance and Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC
Ms. Lori Dolan, District Clerk
Members of the Public

I. Superintendent's Opening Remarks/Call to Order

Board President Conway called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:03 pm and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Conway welcomed everyone back from the spring break vacation. Wonderful to see a packed house tonight.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

- **Student Showcase: Surf for All Program**
- **2023-2024 Budget Presentation – Budget Adoption**

Dr. Gallagher said she was excited to introduce a relatively new program in the district that has grown over the past few years and one of our biggest points of pride. She then introduced Dr. Ostroff, who thanked all who make the program possible, including Board, administrators, students, the athletic department, and high school and PPS staff. Students are able to practice patience and balance, courage and joy in a sport that is unique and special to our community. Dr. Ostroff showed a video highlight of the program; the Board presented Surf for All participants with certificates; Kiashaw Felder, a participant in Surf for All, spoke about his experience in the program.

The Surf for All Presentation Video and Presentation of Certificates can be viewed on the District website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LECLqJZG8>

Board President Conway expressed regrets on behalf of Board Member Vrona, who could not be in attendance due to a prior family commitment.

Mr. DeVito then presented the “Final Draft Budget and Revenue Projection”, stating that the 2023-24 Proposed Budget does not include funding for capital projects the there is a proposal to spend \$5.2 million from the district’s capital reserve to fund work at the high school, middle school and Lindell Elementary; there is about \$4 million in additional operating costs; \$1.2 million of additional (increase) in State Aid, LIPA Pilot remains the same, additional revenue through interest of \$1.3 million, increase in tuition from students transferring in from Island Park. This has allowed us to keep the tax levy at a low 1.5%. Mr. DeVito reiterated that the increase in program costs at the elementary, middle and high schools are largely due to contractual salary increases. Transportation increases are due to the addition of three new routes based on additional students and schools, contract transportation costs increased due to additional students traveling to existing and new out of district schools, and bus monitor cost increases. Facilities increase largely due to increase in natural gas heating and electricity costs. Mr. DeVito reiterated to the public that we are requesting to ask the public for permission to use \$5.2 million in the capital reserve fund to complete certain capital projects. Since we are using funds already on hand, this will have no impact on the budget or tax levy.

The “Final Budget and Revenue Projection” presentation is on the District Website and available in the office of the District Clerk.

BOE Comments

III. President Conway called for Board of Education Comments

- Board Member Ryan thanked Mr. DeVito, stating that a 1.5% tax levy is a pretty responsible number; district has done its best to preserve program, and particularly grateful for that. Dr. Ryan asked how much of the “Biden Money” (ARP Grant) will be left to spend next year, and Mr. DeVito replied approximately \$1 million. Dr. Ryan asked about electricity increases – is that about a million dollars? (Yes). He also asked if Science Research is continuing (yes). He asked if the district has sufficient coverage for cyber insurance, and Mr. DeVito replied yes, we consult with experts and is confident we are well protected. Dr. Ryan stated to the public, that he would like all to know that we are a very responsible group here, and is proud of the 1.5% tax levy.
- Board Member Pace asked Mr. DeVito to share what can be publicly shared regarding measures the district has in place for security, and Mr. DeVito stated that we do have a District Safety Plan published on the district website, and there are building level emergency plans in place that are kept confidential, we have drills, we have a specialist from BOCES that reviews the plans. We also have regular meetings with law enforcement. He added that when experts do come in, they commend us on what we have in place in terms of security. Ms. Pace then asked, regarding capital projects, what happens if that is not approved, where does that money go? Mr. DeVito said that then the money “just stays there”, as it can only be used for capital projects.
- Board Vice President Pinto asked if doing a 1.5% in the tax levy, does that impact everyone, and Mr. DeVito replied that everyone who is a property owner has a share in that levy; how each homeowner is assessed is based on dwelling classification, which varies based on assessment that comes from the County. Mr. DeVito stated that we are very grateful that the State has awarded the district approximately \$2 million for full day Pre-K at all four elementary schools.

- Board President Conway asked about the slight reduction in AIS in math at the Middle School, and Mr. DeVito replied that it was enrollment-based. Ms. Conway asked if we have enough bus drivers, and Mr. DeVito replied that we are almost there, we have the most we have had and are looking to hire 1 – 2 more. Ms. Conway asked about the recent fire alarms, do we know when that work will start or when it will be completed, and Mr. DeVito replied that he does not know yet what the specific scope of work is; difficult time finding a vendor we feel comfortable with, at the very least, we want to replace the fire panels.

IV. President Conway called for Student Organization Announcements

None.

Student Organization
Announcements

V. President Conway called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Today’s Agenda Only

None.

Questions/Comments from Public –
Items on Tonight’s Agenda Only

VI. President Conway recommended the Acceptance of the Treasurer’s Report February 2023.

No action required.

Acceptance of
Treasurer’s Report

VII. Mr. DeVito recommended the Approval of Minutes of Executive Session and Regular Meeting of March 21, 2023 and Executive Session and Regular Meeting of March 28, 2023

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Pace
Seconded by: Board Vice President Pinto
Approved: 4-0

Approval of Minutes for
Exec. Session of Exec.
Session & Reg. Mtg of
March 21, 2023 and Exec.
Session & Regular Mtg of
March 28, 2023

VIII. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Presentations of the Superintendent
Approval of: Personnel Matters:
Certificated and Non-Certificated

VIII.1 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Personnel Matters: Certificated.

Motion by: Board Member Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

VIII.2 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Personnel Matters: Non-Certificated.

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Vice President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

RESOLUTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following personnel actions.

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Leaves of Absence

Name: Julieann White
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/East School
Effective Dates: May 8, 2023-June 30, 2023 (on or about)
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

Name: Andrea Hinke
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teacher/LBMS
Effective Dates: May 24, 2023-June 30, 2023 (on or about)
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

Name: Dana Runfola
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lindell School
Effective Dates: September 1, 2023-June 30, 2024
Reason: Maternity

(b) Amended Leaves of Absence

Name: Rachel Ray
Assign./Loc. Physical Education Teacher/Lindell School
Effective Dates: February 4, 2023-May 8, 2023
Original Dates: February 4, 2023-April 3, 2023 (on or about)
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

(c) Appointment Part Time Teacher Assistant 17.5 hours per week start date through June 23, 2023 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate Per Hour according to contract.

Name	Step	Rate \$	Location	Reason	Start Date
Alexis Caruso <i>*resigns as a Teacher Aide</i>	1	18.53	Lido School	CSE	4/19/23
Robert Forkin <i>*resigns as a Teacher Aide</i>	2	19.30	East School	CSE	4/19/23

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(d) Appointment: Interscholastic Coaches for the Spring 2023

Position	Coach	Stipend \$
Varsity Assistant Softball	Jessica Loyer <i>*rescind Kerri Rehnback</i>	6,340
Middle School Track	Anthony LaPenna <i>*rescind Jessica Loyer</i>	5,111

(e) Appointment: East Enrichment Program Substitute Instructors/Classes for the 2nd and 3rd semesters 2022/2023 School Year-rate of pay \$78.50 per hour-Maximum 9 hours per class-American Rescue Plan Federal Grant

Denise Levitt	Nicolette Samardich
Christina Franceschini	Nicole Petruzzo
Danielle Kaplowitz	Lindsay Kupferman-Schade
Jackie Nyman	

(f) The following Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval for the

2022-2023 school year-rate of pay \$150 per day.

NAME	CERTIFICATION AREA
Laura Romeika	Permanent Physical Education

II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignations

Name:	Vanessa Pugh
Assign./Loc.:	Part Time Teacher Aide/West School
Effective Date:	March 29, 2023 close of day

Name:	Katharine Scanio
Assign./Loc.:	Part Time Teacher Aide/Lindell School
Effective Date:	March 29, 2023 close of day

Name:	Li-ing Woo
Assign./Loc.:	Payroll Clerk/Business Office
Effective Date:	April 19, 2023

(b) Appointment Part Time Teacher Aide 17.5 hours per week start date through June 23, 2023 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate Per Hour according to contract.

Name	Step	Rate \$	Location	Reason	Start Date
Alexis Wash	1	17.35	Lido School	CSE	4/19/23

(c) Appointment: Probationary Bus Driver (30 hours per week)

Name:	Fraini Cabrera
Assign./Loc.:	Probationary School Bus Driver/Transportation Department
Effective Date:	April 19, 2023
Probationary End Date:	April 18, 2027
Salary Classification:	\$31,693 per annum-prorated
Grade/Step:	Grade II/Step 6
Reason:	To fill a vacancy

(d) Appointment: Part Time Lunch Aide (15 hours per week)

Name:	Djira Ridenhour
Assign./Loc.:	Part Time Lunch Aide/Lido School
Effective Date:	April 19, 2023
Salary Classification:	\$15.30 per hour
Grade/Step:	Grade I/Step 1

(e) The following Per Diem Substitute is recommended for approval for the 2022-2023 school year.

Name	Position
Cody Werner	Lunch Aide
Ashley Woo	Clerical

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items VIII.3 through VIII.4 as amended.

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Vice-President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

Adoption of 2023-24
Budget

VIII.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ADOPTION OF 2023-2024 BUDGET as amended

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the budget for the 2023-2024 school year in the amount of \$151,631,248.

VIII.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF SECTION 1716 OF EDUCATION LAW: 2023-2024 PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD

Approval of 2023-24
Property Tax Report Card

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education adopts the 2022-2023 Property Tax Report Card, with a budget of \$151,631,248 and corresponding tax levy of \$107,468,510.

VIII.5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF BOCES VOTE – NASSAU BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES VOTES

Approval of Nassau
BOCES Votes

A. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County ("Nassau BOCES") has proposed and presented its Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2023-24 school year (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2023-24 school year in the amount of twenty-five million, two hundred twenty thousand, eight hundred twelve dollars (\$25,220,812) be approved.

B. ELECTION OF THREE CANDIDATES TO THE NASSAU BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ("Nassau BOCES") BOARD OF EDUCATION

RESOLVED, that the Board of education of the Long Beach City School District hereby votes for the following candidates to fill three vacancies on Nassau BOCES Board:

Deborah Coates
Lawrence Greenstein
Eric B. Schultz

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Vice-President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Pace
Approved: 4-0

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items VIII.6 through VIII.13 as amended.

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Pace

Seconded by: Board Vice President Pinto

Discussion: Dr. Ryan thought that there may be an error in Item VIII.11 – CSE recommendation for #260535, as it noted nine periods of science rather than 5.

Approved: 4-0

VIII.6 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF AWARD OF BID #1932-2023 – PUMP AND MOTOR

Award of Bid #1932-2023 – Pump and Motor

WHEREAS, the District placed a legal notice advertising a bid for Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance in the official district papers on March 16, 2023, and provided bid documents to IVS, Inc and Deltek; and

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law, invited bids on the Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance which bids were opened publicly on March 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, IVS, Inc. was the sole bidder, see below, on the Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance Bid;

Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance BID Opened 3/30/23 @11:00AM	
Contractor	Bid Amount
IVS, Inc.	\$42.50 per hour
Deltek	No bid

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby determines that IVS, Inc. was the sole bidder on the Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance Bid and approves the award of the Pump and Motor Repairs and Maintenance contract to IVS, Inc., and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute said agreement on its behalf.

VIII.7 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO EMERGENCY EXPENDITURE RESOLUTION

Approval of Amendment to
Emergency Expenditure
Resolution

WHEREAS, on January 4, 2023, emergency work was required at the Long Beach High School in order to address an unforeseen break in a water main, resulting in water penetrating the pool filter room through concrete walls; and

WHEREAS, the District needed, on an emergency basis, to have emergency plumbing services to remedy the above referenced condition and Seaford Avenue Corporation was engaged to provide the services; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with General Municipal Law Section 103(4), the ability to obtain services as referred to above in a timely manner was essential to protect the life, health

and safety of District students, staff and others present in the affected District buildings and constitutes such immediate action which cannot await competitive bidding or competitive offering; and

WHEREAS, on January 10, 2023, the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District approved a resolution to declare the timely and immediate procurement of plumbing services at the Long Beach High School as referred to above to be essential to protect the life, health and safety of District students, staff and residents; to constitute action which could not await competitive bidding or competitive offering, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 103(4); and to authorizes the engagement of Seaford Avenue Corporation as referred to above for a sum of not to exceed \$30,000 without competitive bidding or competitive offering; and

WHEREAS, there was an unexpected cost increase in the plumbing services by Seaford Avenue Corporation to remedy the emergency at the Long Beach High School which necessitates a modification of the January 10, 2023 resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby declares the timely and immediate procurement of plumbing services at the Long Beach High School as referred to above to be essential to protect the life, health and safety of District students, staff and residents and to constitute action which could not await competitive bidding or competitive offering, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 103(4); and hereby authorizes the engagement of Seaford Avenue Corporation as referred to above for a sum of not to exceed \$65,000 without competitive bidding or competitive offering.

VIII.8 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER

Approval of Budget
Transfer

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a transfer in the amount of \$94,800 to the Operations Repairs and Maintenance code A1620-431-00-0000 from the Teacher Reclassifications code A2110-150-00-0000 to cover the cost of additional plumbing work at the high school and 100's wing of the middle school.

VIII.9 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ADOPTION OF REVISED POLICY #7510 STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

No action required.

Adoption of Policy
#7510 Student Health
Services

VIII.10 Dr. Gallagher recommended the Adoption OF REVISED POLICY #7521 STUDENTS WITH LIFE-THREATENING HEALTH CONDITIONS

No action required.

Adoption of Policy
#7521 Students with
Life-Threatening Health
Conditions

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items VIII.8 through VIII.10.

President Conway called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Ryan

			6:00pm – 8:30pm
Hagen School of Dance	Dance Recital	Lindell Elementary Auditorium	Saturday May 20, 2023 11:30am – 6:00pm
Long Beach/Lido Beach Little League	Baseball practice and games	Middle School Baseball & Softball Fields	Mon. – Fri. 6:00pm – 8:00pm 4/19/23 – 6/29/23 Sundays 9:00am – 2:00pm 4/23/23 – 6/25/23

Board of Ed – Additional Comments

II. Board of Education – Additional New/Old Business, if any

- Board Vice President Pinto stated that he had the privilege of participating in the Odyssey of the Mind program, a handful of teams are going to the States, and five teams going to the World Championships.
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Questions and Comments from the Public

III. Questions and Comments from the Public

- A member of the public expressed concern over IEP issues regarding her daughter, who was diagnosed with dyslexia; felt daughter’s needs were neglected.
- A member of the public spoke in support of Hockey Coaches Joseph Brand and Richard “Dickie” Chimenti and that they be allowed to join the high school hockey staff.
- A member of the public spoke in support of Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti; coached together; he helped his son grow; deserve coaches that care, dedicated, know how to make a team grow.
- A member of the public spoke in support of Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti; three sons played hockey for Long Beach for ten years; their mentoring style works for the kids; created a bond.
- A member of the public spoke in support of Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti; son grew up looking forward to playing under them; presented a petition in support of hiring Joe Brand and Richard Chimenti as Long Beach High School hockey coaches for the 2023-24 year/season, with over 600 signatures. Dr. Ryan requested a copy of the survey.
- A member of the public shared his great experience playing hockey for Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti.
- A member of the public spoke in support of Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti; these coaches created a middle school intramural program, great chance for these students to play with their classmates; spoke of many of Mr. Brand’s dedication and efforts in furthering the hockey programs and experiences of Long Beach students. Spoke of important roles Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti continue to play in the community despite no longer being on the bench.

- A member of the public who is a Long Beach High School graduate, current Middle School Hockey Coach and now parent, spoke in support of reinstating Joe Brand and Dickie Chimenti.
- A member of the public spoke of his experience as a hockey player from 2003-2007 under Coach Brand and Coach Chimenti; spoke of what they did for him personally and as an athlete.
- A member of the public spoke of Joe Brand's and Dickie Chimenti's many accomplishments as coaches and their positive work in the community.
- A member of the public spoke of his experience as a hockey player under Coach Brand and Coach Chimenti.
- A member of the public spoke of his son's experience looking forward to playing hockey for Coach Brand and Coach Chimenti; son felt betrayed by the school district when coaches were dismissed; reiterated how much the players felt the need to succeed despite what they feel was a lack of district support; requested that both coaches be reinstated.
- Board President Conway thanked all for their comments, but unable to discuss personnel issues in public, but the Board does listen; true testament to Mr. Brand and Mr. Chimenti, how many turned out at tonight's meeting.
- Board Member Ryan stated that it was nice to see so many former students speak, and thanked all who came out to speak.

IV. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Keith Harvey spoke in support of the school budget. Kurt Allen won bowling tournament and raised \$8000 for Surf for All.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – Keith Biesma thanked Mr. DeVito's team for presenting a responsible budget.
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None

Motion to Go into Executive Session
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Board Member Pace called for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues regarding specific personnel and pending and proposed legal matters at 8:40PM.

Motion by: Board Member Pace
Seconded by: Board Vice President Pinto
Approved: 4-0

V. Adjournment

President Conway called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 PM.

Motion by: Board Vice President Pinto

Seconded by: Board Member Pace

Approved: 4-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by:

Lori Dolan, District Clerk
April 18, 2023