

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: May 27, 2025

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Central Administration Conference Room

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

Absent: Board Member Anne Conway

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction

Absent: Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations

Board President Pinto called for a motion to go into executive session at 4:10 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session
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Motion by: Board President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey
Approved: 4-0

Board President Pinto called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:40 PM.

Adjournment

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

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: May 27, 2025

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Long Beach High School Auditorium

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

Absent: Board Member Anne Conway

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Susannah Familetti, District Clerk
Members of the Public

Absent: Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations

I. Pledge of Allegiance / Call to Order / Opening Remarks – Board President

Board President Pinto called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. Mr. Pinto welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for voting and passing the budget. Mr. Pinto congratulated Ms. Conway on her re-election and stated she sends her regrets that she is unable to attend tonight's meeting.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gallagher introduced the two Student Presentations: the LARC program and Odyssey of the Mind program. Dr. Gallagher turned the presentation over to Dr. Ostroff.

Student Showcase: LARC / Odyssey of the Mind

Dr. Ostroff stated they are very proud of the student there tonight and there is so much to celebrate. Dr. Ostroff spoke about the two videos that were played. The first video was of the students in the LARC program. The Students won an array of different awards. The second video played was of the Odyssey of the Mind students. After the videos played, the students in

both programs received awards and went up on the stage to take pictures with the Board of Education. Dr. Ostroff acknowledged the award winning teachers which included Dr. King, Mr. Kramme, Eric Fox, Rachel Yousha, Doug MacConnell and Andy Olivera.

III. Board President Pinto called for Board of Education Comments

BOE Comments

- Mr. Pinto congratulated the students and teachers. He stated everyone was welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting if they wish too. He reminded everyone if an audience member wanted to make a comment at the meeting, there are comment cards to fill out. He congratulated the students and staff on all of their accomplishments. He expressed that it shows how the district is investing in the kids in all areas: Technology, English, Math, Web Masters, OM or the arts and sciences. The Board is proud of the students and well deserving of their awards. Mr. Pinto thanked the teachers and parents who supported kids.
- Dr. Ryan congratulated the students. He said they support them and celebrate their academic achievements. Dr. Ryan thanked the High School and Elementary school concerts. He said they were outstanding and salutes the kids who participated and worked hard. There are many competitions going on now in athletics, fine arts and many other disciplines. It is an exciting time of year and congratulated the student, teachers and parents.
- Ms. Pace congratulated the students. She said that someone recently asked the Board what's so special about Long Beach and what do they like so much about being part of the district? Ms. Pace said that tonight's showcases exemplify it and the activities every night this time of year highlighting the students. She answered the question by saying she has three very different children that have attended Long Beach schools and each one of them have had a wonderful experience in a completely different way. She feels that is something the district hangs their hat on. She hopes as a Board of Education, they provide for students and families. She felt proud to see all the kids so excited about their education.
- Ms. Bellsey said congratulations and to all of the students whose creativity and hard work didn't go unnoticed. The Board is very proud of all of them. She said it is a wonderful time of year for the Board with all of the awards and concerts. She said it really shows what Long Beach is all about. The Board is very proud of the accomplishments of the teachers, staff and students.

Board President Pinto called for Student Organization Announcements

Student
Organization
Announcements

- Mr. McCaffrey stated the Student Organization has started elections for next year's Student Organization. They have decided to have two Treasurers so that the fundraisers are more constant and it will be easier to get things done. They have been working on increasing the exposure between the Principal and the students. They hold monthly roundtable meetings where they discuss student life and sometimes Mr. Swan attends and they talk about the food in

the cafeteria. They have been talking about integrating the Island Park students. They had their final blood drive for the year and it was very successful. They had enough blood donated for two scholarships.

IV. Board President Pinto called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Today's Agenda Only

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

- Ms. Tozer stated she feels the Odyssey of the Mind program is one of the best programs/clubs the district offers. The community appreciates the previous financial backing but are concerned over the future of the program. They have heard parents will have to pay for the registration and the teachers will have to pay for their travel. She added that there is always money for sports programs. Dr Gallagher responded that the Board and Central Administration have discussed that OM is a wonderful program and they support it. There is isn't another comparable program where the district sends students to a world competition and it was costing the district over \$100,000. The district felt it was enough of an exciting competition and challenge for the Elementary and Middle School kids to compete at the State level. If parents want to do fundraising to pay for competing at the worlds level, the District cannot stop people from doing that. The teachers have been advised that they will not have to use their personal time to compete. The Board is being realistic in what the taxpayer dollars can support. Ms. Tozer clarified that the district will pay for the registration for States, there can be fundraising and the teachers will not be docked time to attend competitions.

V. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of a Walk-on Agenda Item to approve that Employee "A" appear for a medical examination in the office of Dr. Ira Finegold.

BE IT RESOLVED, that pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law, the employee named in executive session and referred to as Employee "A" may be directed by the Superintendent to appear for a medical examination in the office of Dr. Ira Finegold, and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Dr. Ira Finegold is hereby appointed school medical inspector pursuant to § 913 of the Education Law in order to evaluate said employee's ability to perform her duties as an employee of the District.

Board President Pinto called for a motion.
Motion by: Board Member Bellsey
Seconded by: Board Vice President Pace
Approved: 4-0

Approval of Walk On Agenda Item

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

Board President Pinto called for a motion.
Motion by: Board Member Dr. Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Vice President Pace
Approved: 4-0

Presentations of the Superintendent
Approval of: Personnel
Matters: Certificated

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) Resignation

Name: Jennifer Reznick
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teaching Assistant/Lido School
Effective Date: May 30, 2025 close of day

Name: Christina Franceschini
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teacher/Lindell School
Effective Date: June 27, 2025 close of day

(b) Amended Leave of Absence

Name: Lauren Muscarella
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lindell School
Effective Dates: May 24, 2025 – January 6, 2026, on or about
Original Effective Dates: May 24, 2025 – June 30, 2025, on or about
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

Name: Sandra Hnis
Assign./Loc. Spanish Teacher/LBMS
Effective Dates: September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026 on or about
Original Effective Dates: September 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025 on or about
Reason: Medical/Disability Retirement

(c) Appointment: Probationary Vice Principal

Name: Christopher Webel
Assign./Loc. Probationary Vice Principal/Long Beach High School
Certification: Professional School Building Leader, School District
Leader, Coordinator of Work- Based Learning-Permanent,
School Counselor-Permanent
Effective Date: August 1, 2025
End Date: June 30, 2028
Tenure Date: July 1, 2028
Tenure Area: Vice Principal
Salary Classification: \$153,000 per annum
Reason: To fill a vacancy

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(d) Appointment: Probationary School Guidance Counselor

Name:	Geoffrey Noss
Assign./Loc:	School Guidance Counselor/Long Beach High School
Certification:	School Counselor
Effective Date:	September 1, 2025
End Date:	August 31, 2027
Tenure Date:	September 1, 2027, credit for time served as a regular sub
Tenure Area:	School Counseling and Guidance
Salary Classification:	MA/20 Step 3 \$83,098 per annum
Reason:	To fill a vacancy

(e) Appointment: Probationary Elementary Teacher

Name:	Gabrielle Saugar
Assign./Loc:	Probationary Elementary Teacher .6 LBMS/.4 Lido
Certification:	Childhood 1-6 Professional, Birth-Grade 2 Professional, Technology Education Professional
Effective Date:	September 1, 2025
End Date:	August 31, 2028,
Tenure Date:	September 1, 2028, credit for time served as a regular sub
Tenure Area:	Elementary
Salary Classification:	MA/Step 3 \$80,195 per annum
Reason:	To fill a vacancy

(f) Appointment: Regular Substitute Elementary Teacher

Name:	Matthew Hartman
Assign./Loc:	Regular Substitute Elementary Teacher/East School
Certification:	Childhood 1-6 Initial
Effective Dates:	September 1, 2025-June 30, 2026
Salary Classification:	BA/Step 1 (\$68,206 per annum)
Reason:	To fill a vacancy

(g) Appointment: Teachers for the ENL Summer Program-July 1, 2025-July 25, 2025 rate of pay-\$66.63 per hour stipend-Title III Grant Funded. Max 50 hours.

Emily Taxin
Edith Guzman
Nicolette Samardich

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

- (h) **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated May 27, 2025
- (i) **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated May 27, 2025

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

Board President Pinto called for a motion.
Motion by: Board Member Dr. Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey
Approved: 4-0

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

NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignation for the Purposes of Retirement

Name: Arlene Werner
Assign./Loc: Part Time Building Aide/LBHS
Effective Date: June 27, 2025 close of day

(b) Appointment: Provisional Data Specialist

Name: Maria Borsellino
Assign./Loc. Provisional Data Specialist (10 months)/East School
Effective Date: June 2, 2025
Salary Classification: \$33,979 per annum, prorated
Grade/Step: Grade II/Step 5
Reason: To fill a vacancy

(c) The following Per Diem Substitute is recommended for approval for the Summer 2025 and the 2024-2025 school year at the rate of \$29.76 per hour

Denise Isola Clerical

**VII.3-5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Policy reads
And adoption of Revised Policy 7350**

**Approval of Policy Reads
and Adoption of Revised
Policy**

- No action necessary

Board President Pinto called for a motion.

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

VII.6-11 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of items VII 6-11

President Pinto called for a motion.

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

**Approval of High
School Scholarship
Distribution**

6. APPROVAL OF HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP DISTRIBUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the distribution of funds for the announced Long Beach High School scholarships in the amount of \$226,825.00.

**7. APPROVAL OF NASSAU BOCES TECHNOLOGY
PROGRAM CONTRACT PROJECT 32-972398**

**Approval of Nassau BOCES
Technology Program
Contract**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Long Beach School District 32-972398 desires to enter into a 3 year contract with the Nassau BOCES in order for the Regional Information Center to furnish certain services to the District pursuant to Education Law 1950(4)(jj), those services being: CoSer 532 Instructional Technology Services, CoSer 630 Technical Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Long Beach School District agrees to enter into a contract with the Nassau BOCES for the provision of said services to the District not to exceed \$854,253.97 which is inclusive of related estimated borrowing fees, plus yearly Regional Information Center support during the term of this contract, finalized by the Superintendent, subject to the approval of the Commissioner of Education, for a period from 7-1-2025 to 6-30-2028.

8. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT RENEWAL – KLH FIRE SAFETY CONSULTANTS

**Approval of
Contract
Renewal**

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education wishes to exercise the option to renew the contract with KLH Fire Safety Consultants for the 2024-25 school year as stated in the Request for Proposal dated August 17, 2020.

9. ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

**Approval of CPSE / CSE
Recommendations**

10. PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES

**Approval of payment of Legal
Bills**

A) VOLZ & VIGLIOTTA, PLLC

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$2,575.00 to Volz & Vigliotta for the general counsel legal services for the period of April 3, 2025 through April 24, 2025 and \$250.00 for the labor counsel legal services for the period March 31, 2025 through April 22, 2025.

11. APPROVAL OF USE OF SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS

Approval of Use of Schools

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the use of schools as attached, not to conflict with District events. However, please note that events may have to be modified and/or rescheduled based on building schedule.

APPLICATIONS FOR USE OF SCHOOLS

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Facility Requested</u>	<u>Dates Requested</u>
Long Beach Theater Guild	Rehearsal for Annie	Lindell Elementary First Floor Faculty Room #142 and Auditorium	Monday through Friday September 8 – 19, 2025 6:00 pm – 9:15 pm
Long Beach Theater Guild	Rehearsal for Annie	Lindell Café A and Auditorium Lobby	Saturdays October 11, October 25 and November 1, 2025 9:15 am – 2:00 pm Monday through Friday November 3-7, 2025 5:00 pm – 9:15 pm

Long Beach Theater Guild	Rehearsal for Annie	Lindell Auditorium Lobby	Monday November 17, 2025 5:30 – 9:15 pm
Long Beach Theater Guild	Performance of Annie	Lindell Auditorium and Lobby	Saturdays November 8 and November 15, 2025 5:30 pm-10:15 pm Sunday November 9, 2025 12:00 pm – 4:45 pm Sunday November 16, 2025 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Long Beach Civil Service Commission	Long Beach Civil Service Police Officer Exam	Long Beach Middle School Classrooms	Saturday September 20, 2025 7:00 am – 5:00 pm Sunday September 21, 2025 7:00 am – 5:00 pm
Long Beach Civil Service Commission	Long Beach Civil Service Police Officer Exam	Long Beach High School Gym	Saturday September 20, 2025 7:00 am – 5:00 pm Sunday September 21, 2025 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

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

**Board of Ed – Additional
Comments, New/Old
Business**

- Ms. Bellsey congratulated Mr. Noss on his appointment that he deserves. MS. Bellsey told Mr. Webel that he wears many hats in the district, he wears them well and makes the district proud. She welcomed Mr. Webel to his new position.
- Mr. Pinto “Second” what Ms. Bellsey said.
- Ms. Pace agreed.
- Dr. Ryan thanked the Superintendent, Dr. Brancaccio. Mrs. Familetti and Ms. Conway for their efforts with the policy committee.
- Dr. Ryan asked if Lindell Elementary or Middle School is the Theater Guilds home. Dr. Gallagher replied that it depends on what is going on at that time in each of the buildings. They tried to move them to the Middle School auditorium this year but it conflicted with too many events.

VII. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions and Comments from the Public

- Mr. Dan Creighton, City Manager of Long Beach, congratulated all of the award recipients for the night. He felt it was important to get facts out since a lot of conversations have been had since the last City Council meeting regarding West School playground. He wanted everyone to know that he has worked hard since he started to foster a better working relationship between the school district and the city. At last week's city council meeting the city's capital plan was approved. One of the items on the plan was to solve the parking issues in the West end. He was approached by the district approximately a year ago to discuss the possibility of a parking structure in West School. The discussions focused on solving the parking issues and the need for a new/improved playground for West school. Most of the usage would be in evenings and weekends for residents and customers of businesses. It would provide parking for the staff while school is in session. The city proposed the playground be moved to the roof of the parking garage. He wanted to address some of the questions and concerns seen on social media. He is available after the meeting to discuss with the public and also will make himself available to the Board of Ed and the central administration should anyone want to further discuss. He thanked the Board for the time to speak.
- Board President thanked Mr. Creighton.
- Board Vice President Pace thanked Mr. Creighton for coming to the meeting. She stated she does not attend City Council meetings, watch them streamed or follow the social media about this issue. Ms. Pace only knows what was shared by the Superintendent about the project. She disagrees that and feels there are more disadvantages than advantages, She has heard people on the community that largely disagree with the project. From her perspective she is open to listen but it is up to the Board if they want to arrange a meeting.
- Dr. Gallagher stated that Mr. DeVito communicated to Mr. Creighton that he had a discussion with Dr. Gallagher about significant concerns over safety, security and aesthetics.
- Angela Scolaro a West School parent asked the Board of Ed what is their position on the parking structure and who owns that decision. Dr. Gallagher replied that the District is not in favor of the project. Ms. Scolaro asked who owns the property? The reply was "the District". Ms. Scolaro stated she lives on Louisiana Street on the beach end, a stone's throw from the school. There are 5 homes with 4-5 individuals living in each house with only 12 parking spaces on the street. She said addressing those issues would mitigate the parking problem, not building a that is up to five stories high. She invited the Board to the resident to view their ring camera footage on weekends after 10 pm. Ms. Scolaro shared some of her bullet points regarding the parking structure and advised she would like to discuss with the district further.
- Alison Kalleis, thanked everyone on behalf of the boy's hockey team announced that there was some leftover fundraising money. They would like to donate the money to the school to purchase new uniforms for the boys. Dr. Gallagher replied that there is always an ability to be had to make a donation but the issue is directing the donation for a specific purpose. Ms. Kalleis clarified that the specific purchase of uniforms cannot be made. Dr. Gallagher confirmed. Ms. Kalleis asked if they could purchase the uniforms or the fabric for the uniforms and donate those. Ms. Pace asked commented about purchasing the fabric and donating the jerseys. Mr. Pinto advised it is a workable project that can be discussed. Dr. Gallagher stated

that the district is restricted by New York State laws on how they can accept donations. Ms. Kallelis thought the West End thing was a neat idea.

- Sarah Mordetsky parent of a Middle School student spoke about a few cuts to the budget this year that sort of have a direct effect on students like her child. She spoke about students with ADHD that will benefit from alternative learning, students that thrive with the arts program and student that would benefit from the mental health resources the school provides. The theater and art programs have inspired her child to go to school every day. She is concerned that the cut in hours for her teacher are detrimental to the students. Her child has relied this year on counseling from REACH and if the program is pulled it will make those services unattainable for families. Dr. Gallagher stated two things: the district did not cut the arts program or the mental health services. District cannot discuss personnel issues.
- Michael Macaluso Vosganian, an 11th grader in Long Beach High School, told the Board he has had amazing teachers in Long Beach High School including his theater teacher. His theater teacher has taught the students all they need to know to be successful in the craft and to be better human beings. The students are afraid to lose the teacher.
- Gary Vosganian read a statement written by the director of Professional Youth Theater and co-director of Dance Loft in regard to the Long Beach School District Theater program. Ms. Pace asked Dr. Gallagher to reiterate to the public that the BOE is not reducing the art program. Dr. Gallagher stated the program is staying the same. The theater program is run in conjunction with another subject. It depends on how many students select a class.
- Guillian Carmichael thanked Mr. Creighton for coming and speaking about the West schoolyard. She is a former West school parent and is in agreement with concern stated by previous parent who spoke about the west. She asked the school Board to not to continue with the parking garage. Dr. Gallagher stated that there is money in the bond to improve the outside pace at West School. MS. Pace thanked the two parents from West and said she hears what they are saying. She asked the City Council to keep in mind the drama with the schools and communities in the past.

VIII. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association – Karen Bloom, President, congratulated all the students and teachers that were presented at the meeting. The LBCTA is very happy to hear about Mr. Noss and Mr. Webel and congratulated them.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – Keith Biesma congratulated all the students that were recognized for their accomplishments that night. He thanked the teachers for their dedication to the programs. He congratulated Mr. Noss and Mr. Webel on their new positions.
3. LBSEA – Karissa Nash congratulated all the award recipients that night. She congratulated Mr. Noss and Mr. Webel.
4. Parent / Teacher Association – Stated it was awesome to see the amounts of awards that the kids received, how phenomenal they are and the staff members that make it happen.

IX. Adjournment

Board President Pinto called for a motion to adjourn at: 8:10 PM.

Adjournment

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

Minutes submitted by: _____
Susannah Familetti, District Clerk
May 27, 2025