

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: October 14, 2025

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Central Administration Conference Room

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

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration
Mr. Michael Vigliotta Esq, Attorney

Board President Pace 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 Member Anne Conway
Seconded by: Board Member Sam Pinto
Approved: 5-0

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:45 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Member Sam Pinto
Seconded by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Approved: 5-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: October 14, 2025

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary Multipurpose Room

Members Present: Board President Alexis Pace
Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Board Member Sam Pinto
Board Member Anne Conway

Absent: Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.

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
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Esq. Volz and Vigliotta
Members of the Public

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

The regular meeting of the Long Beach Board of Education was called to order by Board President Pace at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Ms. Bellsey said Homecoming was a successful and well attended community celebration. congratulated everyone who participated in the event. She gave recognition to Sam Pinto for emceeing the Wall of Fame ceremony and congratulated all the inductees.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

Student Showcase: Elementary STEM

Cristie Tursi, Director of Science and Kyle Swan, Director of Food Services introduced the district's growing Farm-to-School hydroponics program. Students demonstrated their knowledge of hydroponics and shared personal experiences with growing vegetables. A video showcased classroom hydroponic systems and student engagement. The program's alignment with science standards, hands-on learning, and nutrition education was noted. Dr. Gallagher noted that the district is restricted as far as what can be grown in the ground.

Presentation: AI in our Schools

Dr. Gallagher presented an update on how AI is being used to support teaching and learning in the district. AI has rapidly evolved and is being integrated into many industries, including medicine, data analysis, advertising, and education. Teachers can use AI to generate lesson plans, assessments, outlines, and differentiated materials, support routine tasks drafting letters, creating rubrics, etc. and enhance instructional planning and provide student feedback. Examples demonstrated included a complete science lesson generated by AI, multiple-choice question sets, writing structure outlines and revision suggestions, text analysis, such as Romeo & Juliet theme exploration and mind maps for visual learners. District tools include platforms such as Khanmigo and other teacher-approved AI resources. The presentation emphasized: AI as a powerful tool, not a replacement for human interaction, the importance of teaching students to use AI responsibly and the continued role of creativity, critical thinking, and teacher oversight.

Presentation: Capital Schematics

Mr. DeVito gave a construction and facilities update, including conceptual designs for upcoming work. Upcoming work included High School entryway redesign, new science laboratory, wrestling room renovation, Robotics and technology classroom upgrades, updated locker rooms, Cafeteria modernization and Elementary school playground replacements (transitioning from wood chips to modernized surfaces). The total proposed capital project is \$87.7 million. New debt will replace retiring debt, resulting in no additional tax impact. The timeline is December 2026: Final approvals and then Summer 2027–2028: Construction periods. Renderings and diagrams were presented to illustrate project scope, including hallways, classroom expansions, student pathways, and utility improvements.

III. President Pace called for Board of Education Comments

BOE Comments

- The Board recognized the program's benefits, including year-round vegetable production, elimination of soil-based concerns (contaminants, seasonality), Increased student ownership over nutritious choices, and strong curricular connections across grade levels.
- The Board members expressed their excitement and gratitude for the Hydroponic program's educational value and student enthusiasm, noting its positive impact on awareness of healthy eating and food systems.
- The Board members commented on the need to balance technology with human interaction, concerns about overreliance and shortcuts, equity, accessibility, and learning integrity and the importance of helping students develop foundational skills before using AI tools.
- The Board expressed appreciation for the comprehensive AI overview and encouraged ongoing professional development.

- The Board asked about the process should voters reject the bond. It was clarified that similar to the Budget vote procedures, a resubmission process exists but is not identical to budget revotes.
- Board members acknowledged and thanked the student representative for their leadership and hard work.

IV. Student Organization Announcements

Student Organization Announcements

The student representative presented updates on recent and upcoming activities:

- The fall carnival raised approximately \$6,000, with total numbers pending once all ticket reconciliations are complete.
- Pep Rally was a success with strong student participation.
- The group is working to expand faculty involvement for future events.
- Upcoming fundraising and school-spirit initiatives were discussed.

V. Questions and Comments from the Public on Tonight's Agenda only

- None

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

VI. Treasurers Report for September 2025

- No action necessary

Acceptance of the Treasurers Report for September 2025

VII. Approval of Minutes for Executive Session and Regular Meetings of September 9, 2025, and Executive Session and Regular Meetings of September 30, 2025.

Board President Pace called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.
Seconded by: Board Member Sam Pinto
Approved: 5-0

Approval of Exec Session and Meeting Minutes for September 9, 2025, and September 30, 2025.

VIII. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

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

Board President Pinto called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Anne Conway
Seconded by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Approved: 5-0

**Presentations of the Superintendent
Approval of: Personnel Matters: Certificated**

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

Motion by: Board Member Anne Conway
Seconded by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Approved: 5-0

**Approval of Personnel Matters:
Non-Certificated**

VIII.3 SECOND READING OF POLICY # 3180 TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

No Action Necessary

VIII.4 SECOND READING OF POLICY # 3180 TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

No Action Necessary

VIII.5-7 Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined voter items 5 through 7.

Motion by: Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph. D.
Seconded by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Approved: 5-0

**APPROVAL OF COLD SPRING
HARBOR PARTNER MEMBERSHIP**

5. APPROVAL OF COLD SPRING HARBOR PARTNER MEMBERSHIP

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby approves the Partner Membership agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory effective September 1, 2025, to and including August 31, 2026, to provide a Partner Membership with the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory DNA Learning Center.

**APPROVAL OF NASSAU BOCES SUMMER
PROGRAMS TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT**

6. APPROVAL OF NASSAU BOCES SUMMER PROGRAMS TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby approves a transportation contract dated October 8, 2025, with Nassau BOCES. in connection with Nassau BOCES 2025 Summer Program transportation in the sum of \$100,500 and authorizes the President of the Board of Education to execute the contract on behalf of the district.

**APPROVAL OF EXTENSION AGREEMENT
COACH BUS SERVICES**

7. APPROVAL OF EXTENSION AGREEMENT – COACH BUS SERVICES

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education wishes to extend the current contract with Hampton Jitney for coach bus services for the period of July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, at an annual cost not to exceed \$47,000.00.

VIII.8 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Funding of Capital Reserve

Motion by: Board Member Sam Pinto
Seconded by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Approved: 5-0

8. APPROVAL OF FUNDING OF CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

**APPROVAL OF FUNDING OF
CAPITAL RESERVE FUND**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has heretofore established a 2018 Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding voter-approved capital projects and/or expenditures, pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2025 the Board of Education approved for presentation to the voters a 2025-26 budget which was, in part, premised upon the District's intent to transfer excess fund balance from the District's 2024-25 General Fund to the 2018 Capital Reserve Fund in an amount not to exceed \$1.5 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby authorizes the transfer of \$550,000 from the General Fund's available excess fund balance as of June 30, 2025, into the previously established 2018 Capital Reserve Fund.

VIII.9 APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

Motion by: Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.
Seconded by: Board Vice President Anne Conway
Approved: 5-0

APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

(A) BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves budget transfers totaling \$2,410,294 for the 2024-25 school year into the following codes:

TO BUDGET CODE AMOUNT	
A1621.16– Operations: Non-instructional salaries	91,633
A2010.15– Curr. Development: Instructional salaries	59,547
A2010.49– Curr. Development: BOCES Services	115,055
A2020.16 – Supervision: Separation Pay	156,348
A2070.15- Inservice: Instructional Salaries	247,098
A2110.12b- Teaching: Salaries 4-6	597,553
A2110.14- Teaching: Substitute Salaries	267,491
A2110.16- Teaching: Non-instructional salaries	187,406
A2110.49b- Teaching: BOCES services not ELL	139,440
A2250.16- Spec Ed: Non-instructional salaries	349,654

A2630.49– CAI: BOCES Services	121,677
A2850.15– Co-curricular: Instructional Salaries	77,392
TOTAL	2,410,294

Funds for these transfers will come from the following codes:

FROM BUDGET CODE AMOUNT	
A2110.12a- Teaching: Salaries: Full Day K	370,000
A2110.130 – Teaching: Teacher Salaries 7-12	821,000
A2250.15 – Special Ed: Instructional Salaries	228,000
A2250.49 – Special Ed: BOCES Services	299,000
A2250.472– Special Ed: Tuition Private	415,000
A5540.4- Contract Transportation	112,000
A9060.8- Hospital, Medical, Dental	165,294
TOTAL	2,410,294

- (B) **BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a budget transfer totaling \$81,421.07 for the 2025 -26 school year into the following code:

TO BUDGET CODE AMOUNT	
A2250.470-00-0000 Special Ed Tuition NYS Public School	81,421.07

Funds for these transfers will come from the following codes:

FROM BUDGET CODE AMOUNT	
A2250.471-00-0000 Special Ed Tuition NYS Non-Public	84,421.07

VII.10-12 Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined voter items 10 through 12.

Motion by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey
Seconded by: Board Member Anne Conway
Approved: 5-0

**Acceptance of Recommendations
from the Committee on Pre-School
Special Education and Committee
on Special Education**

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

11. PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$5,083.33 to Volz & Vigliotta for the monthly retainer for general counsel legal services for the period of November 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025; \$3,666.67 for the monthly retainer for labor counsel legal services for the period November 1, 2025, through November 30, 2025; \$9,137.00 for general counsel legal fees for the period of August 1, 2025, through August 31, 2025.

12. APPROVAL OF USE OF SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS

Approval of Use of Schools Applications

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

Long Beach Wrestling Club	Practice	Long Beach Middle School Wrestling Room	Monday – Friday Oct. 6, 2025 – June 19, 2026 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Island Swimming	LIAC practice	Long Beach High School Pool	Saturday Nov. 1, 2025 – Dec. 20, 2025 11:00 am – 1:30 pm Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Nov. 4, 2025 – Dec. 18, 2025 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Long Beach Writers Club	Writing with Dana	Long Beach Middle School Library Multipurpose Room	Monday Oct. 20, 2025, Nov. 3, 2025, Nov. 17, 2025, Dec. 1, 2025, Dec. 15, 2025 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Long Beach Recreation	Long Beach Recreation Basketball	Lindell Elementary Gym	Saturday Dec. 6, 2025 – April 25, 2026 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

Long Beach Recreation	Long Beach Recreation Basketball	Long Beach Middle School Gym	Saturday Jan. 3, 2026 – Feb. 21, 2026 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Long Beach Recreation	Long Beach Recreation Basketball	East Elementary Gym	Tuesday & Thursday Jan. 6, 2026 – Feb. 26, 2026 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Recreation	Long Beach Recreation Basketball	Lido Elementary Gym	Monday, Wednesday & Friday Jan. 5, 2026 – Feb. 27, 2026 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Recreation	Long Beach Recreation Volleyball	Lindell Elementary Gym	Wednesdays April 29, 2026 – June 17, 2026 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

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

Board of Ed – Additional Comments

- Board Member Anne Conway asked about any updates regarding crossing guard coverage.

X. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions and Comments from the Public

- None from Public

X. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Karen Bloom stated the teachers would love to participate in student events. She thanked everyone for the presentations and thanked the Board members for their time and dedication.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – Keith Biesma thanked the members of the Board of Education for their dedication, leadership and support of Administrators, staff and students.
3. LBSEA– none

4. Parent/Teacher Association – The PTA spoke about improving advance notice for volunteer opportunities.

XI. Adjournment

Adjournment

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn at 8:11 PM.

Motion by: Board Member Sam Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Anne Conway
Approved: 5-0

Minutes submitted by:

Susannah Familetti, District Clerk
October 14, 2025