

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 26, 2023

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Administration Building

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

Absent: Board President 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
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Michael Vigliotta, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC

Board Vice President Pinto called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:34 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session

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

Board Vice President Pinto called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:46 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Member Conway
Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey
Approved: 4-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 26, 2023

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary School Multipurpose Rm.

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

Absent: Board President 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
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Tom Volz, Atty., Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC
Lori Dolan, District Clerk
Members of the Public

I. Superintendent's Opening Remarks/Call to Order

Board Vice President Pinto called the meeting to order and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Gallagher for the Superintendent's Report.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Gallagher stated that the district applied for and received a \$1.5 million grant that allowed the district to offer a full day Pre-K program this year, and introduced Lido Elementary Pre-K teacher, Molly Drake, who gave a presentation highlighting the full-day Pre-K program, Wondergarten, that integrates the natural resources of the barrier island and partnerships with local agencies such as the Long Beach Fire departments, Library, Long Island Children's Museum and the Jones Beach Nature Center. Ms. Drake stated that the Pre-K program is an inquiry-themed program ("we see, we think, we wonder") that invites children to learn through investigating questions and problem solving. She described the four types of inquiry-based learning: Structure Inquiry, Confirmation Inquiry, Guided Inquiry and Open Inquiry. At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms. Pace commented that, while conducting the building tours, she was lucky enough to see this program and action, and the enthusiasm and energy in the classroom was contagious. Ms Bellsey commented 'I love this!'. Ms. Conway added that the children looked engaged and motivated,

and Mr. Pinto added that he wishes his children had gotten the opportunity to participate in this program.

The complete presentation, "Long Beach Pre-K Wondergarten" can be found on the District website and in the office of the District Clerk.

- Dr. Gallagher introduced Dr. Ostroff, who presented on Achievement Data. She started with the elementary achievement data and the percentage of students meeting NWEA yearly growth targets. She outlined areas of student engagement, describing the dedicated small-group reading and mathematics, implementation of next generation aligned iReady math curriculum, student portfolio development and digital literacy and computer science standards. Dr. Ostroff announced the launching of the WINGS program, with uninterrupted instructional times, K-2 math focus and grades 3-5 literacy focus. She added that the goal is to close the achievement and opportunity gaps by enhancing student voice, targeting high need student enrichment attendance, supporting full-day Pre-K, expanding repertoire of literacy and math interventions and incorporating a tiered SEL and behavioral metrics and interventions into RTI plan.
- Dr. Ostroff then reviewed Middle School Achievement and iReady Growth Measures, adding that the NYS measures for 2022-23 for grades 3-8 were embargoed and will be reported at a later date. She then reviewed five-year data for Science and Algebra 1 Regents. She then outlined areas of student engagement, such as the second year of the advisory program, targeted tutoring support, enhanced inquiry practices with Trevor McKenzie. She went on to describe areas of student opportunity, such as an increase in the percentage of grade 8 students enrolled in accelerated math and science, all grade 6 students developed spaceflight experiments for competition, a new Science Bowl Club, the Cold Spring Harbor DNA Camp, the exit of 30% of students in grades 7 and 8 from reading services, the addition of a grade 6 Science Fair and a new musical theatre elective.
- Lastly, Dr. Ostroff reviewed High School Achievement, stating that, in 2023, 97% of students received a regents diploma, 64% had Advanced Regents, there were 44 students who received seals of civic readiness and 45 who received seals of biliteracy. She then reviewed regents results, adding that there were overall increases in 2023 in almost all areas. She reviewed advanced placement results, again with higher numbers than the previous six years in most areas. Dr. Ostroff reviewed IB numbers, stating that the number of IB diploma candidates has greatly decreased. With regard to high school achievement, she noted that the district once again received the Best Communities in Music Education distinction, was recognized as a Scholar-Athlete School of Excellence, was awarded the highest honors for *Fragments* publication, and the new Twilight Program enabled 12 additional students to graduate. She added that the high school doubled participation in internships, expanded the CTE program to include automotive, metal working, TV and film, innovation and design and medical technician, coordinated Names Not Numbers film, and had the highest percentage of students taking regents chemistry and physics in 10 years.

The complete presentation, "Achievement, Engagement and Opportunity" can be found on the District website and in the office of the District Clerk.

BOE Comments

III. President Ryan called for Board of Education Comments

- Regarding the increase in students in the accelerated track, Board Member Pace cautioned against the potential for pushing students that might do better in the regular track. Dr. Gallagher replied that they are mindful of that, and it's actually a small number of additional students, so there is a greater fluctuation in the percentage.
- Board Member Bellsey asked what is considered Mastery (85% or better); loves the addition of the 6th Grade Science Fair, asked about the development of a school within a school, Dr. Ostroff said they reviewed the Synergy program in Mineola.
- Board Member Conway asked about NWEA and would like to see more of looking at the child as a whole, asked about strategic interventions, and Dr. Ostroff replied that it depends on the specific needs of the student; she asked about the online Student Portfolio, Dr. Ostroff replied that that work is just starting; asked if there has been an increase in the number of student participation in clubs and Dr. Ostroff said she would get back to her on that.
- Board Vice President Pinto asked how the district can bridge the gap to get to Mastery – Dr. Ostroff replied with student engagement and Dr. Gallagher said we have to ask ourselves, "yes, we want to increase mastery, but mastery of what?". We want students to achieve mastery levels but we also want our students to be good learners, to be literate, give presentations, and be science researchers.

IV. President Ryan called for Student Organization Announcements

None.

**Student Organization
Announcements**

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

- A member of the public said that she taught Twilight English for five years in another district and was excited to see it being implemented here.

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

VI. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of a walk-on resolution:

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has been requested to bring the personnel records of tenured and non-tenured administrative staff to a meeting of the Board of Education for review in executive session pursuant to Part 84 of the regulations of the Commissioner of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined that the information contained in said personnel file(s) will aid in fulfilling its legal responsibilities in making decisions in employee personnel matters; it is

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education shall meet at the next succeeding board meeting executive session to review the personnel files of non-tenured administrative staff and tenured administrators after which said files shall be returned to the custody of the Superintendent of Schools.

Vice President Pinto called for a motion.

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

Presentations of the Superintendent

Approval of: Personnel Matters:
Certificated

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

Vice President Pinto called for a motion as amended.

Motion by: Board Member Conway
Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey
Discussion: New staff members were introduced and welcomed.
Approved: 4-0

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

Approval of Personnel
Matters: Non-Certificated

Vice President Pinto called for a motion as amended.

Motion by: Board Member Pace
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Discussion: New staff members were introduced and welcomed.
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) Recission

Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher

Name: Devin Thelemann
Assign./Loc: Permanent Substitute Teacher/LBMS

(b) Leaves of Absence

Name: Stacey Mason
Assign./Loc: Reading Teacher/LBMS
Effective Dates: October 10, 2023-January 29, 2024 (on or about)
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

Name: Victoria Stanishia-Ferrara
Assign./Loc: Elementary Teacher/Lido School
Effective Dates: October 26, 2023-December 22, 2023 (on or about)
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

(c) Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teachers

Name: Christine Smith
Assign./Loc.: Permanent Substitute Teacher/Lido School
Certification: Initial Childhood Education 1-6

Effective Dates: September 20, 2023-June 24, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
 Rate of Pay: \$241.02 per day
 Reason: Annual appointment

Name: Dwayne Thacker
 Assign./Loc.: Permanent Substitute Teacher/LBMS
 Certification: Initial Social Studies 7-12
 Initial Social Studies 5-6 extension

Effective Dates: September 18, 2023-June 13, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
 Rate of Pay: \$241.02 per day
 Reason: Annual appointment

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(d) **Appointment Part Time Teacher Assistants 17.5 hours per week Start date-through June 26, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate according to contract-subject to negotiations**

Name	Step	Rate	Location	Reason	Start date
Morgan Sapolsky	1	18.26	Lindell	CSE	9/21/23
Jean McKeon	1	18.26	Lido	CSE	9/18/23
Brigid Whelan	1	18.26	Lindell	CSE	9/13/23

(e) **Appointment: Advisors for LBMS Co-Curricular Activities 2023-2024 School Year**

MS Club Activity	Name	Stipend
Intramural Grade 6-8	Sean Miller/Dina Callahan	2,473 split

(f) **Appointment: Advisors for LBHS Co-Curricular Activities 2023-2024 School Year**

HS Club Activity	Name	Stipend \$
United Students	M. LaBarbera/E. Siegel	1,649 split

(g) **Appointment: Alumni Coordinator for the Long Beach School District for the 2023/2024 school year, with a stipend of \$5,000.**

Jaime McQuillan

(h) **The following Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval for the 2023-2024 school year-rate of pay \$150 per day.**

NAME	CERTIFICATION AREA
Laured Clarke-Dadah	Initial Childhood Education 1-6
Bruce Kaplan	Permanent Music
Susan Fishel	Permanent Reading
Courtney Genirs	Initial Biology 7-12
Brian Murphy	Permanent Social Studies

(i) **RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Superintendent or her designee to appoint individuals to staff vacancies that the Superintendent determines must be filled prior to the next regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting on October 10,

2023, which appointments shall be subject to review and approval of the Board of Education on October 10, 2023.

II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignations

Name: Shaqueena Compton Sanders
Assign./Loc. Part Time Teacher Aide/Lido School
Effective Date: September 29, 2023 close of day

Name: Philip Cesario
Assign./Loc. Bus Driver/Transportation Department
Effective Date: August 18, 2023

Name: Karissa Nash
Assign./Loc. Secretary I/PPS Office-LBHS
Effective Date: September 15, 2023
Comment: Returns to Sr. Data Specialist position (Grade III/Step 7)

Name: Michael Melendez
Assign./Loc. Cleaner/LBMS
Effective Date: October 6, 2023 close of day

(b) Recission

Name: Steven Salerno
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Aide/LBMS

(c) Amended Appointments: Part Time Lunch Aides (15 hours per week)

Name: Fran Terrill
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Lunch Aide/West School
Effective Date: September 11, 2023-June 30, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 5
Comment: amended step

Name: Ayanna Henry
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Lunch Aide/West School
Effective Date: September 11, 2023-June 30, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 5
Comment: amended step

II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(d) Appointment Part Time Teacher Aides 17.5 hours per week Start date-through June 26, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate according to contract-subject to negotiations

Name	Step	Rate	Location	Reason	Start date
Connor Murphy	1	17.35	Lido	CSE	9/18/23
Nicollette Spinella	1	17.35	Lido	CSE	10/02/23
Dulce Amaya Reyes	1	17.35	Lido	CSE	9/18/23
Lilo Pearlman	1	17.35	Lindell	504	9/26/23

(e) Appointment: Part Time Building Aides (19 hours per week)

Name: Brandon Hughes
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Building Aide/LBHS
Effective Date: September 5, 2023
Salary Classification: \$17.35 per hour-subject to negotiations
Grade/Step: Grade IA/Step 1
Reason: To fill a vacancy

Name: Thomas Talenti
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Building Aide/LBHS
Effective Date: September 5, 2023
Salary Classification: \$17.35 per hour-subject to negotiations
Grade/Step: Grade IA/Step 1
Reason: To fill a vacancy

(f) Appointment: Part Time Lunch Aides (15 hours per week)

Name: Maria Morales
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Lunch Aide/Lido School
Effective Date: September 18, 2023-June 30, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Salary Classification: \$16.03 per hour-subject to negotiations
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 2
Reason: To fill a vacancy

Name: Jessica Brennan
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Lunch Aide/Lindell School
Effective Date: September 20, 2023-June 30, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Salary Classification: \$15.30 per hour-subject to negotiations
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1
Reason: To fill a vacancy

II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(g) Appointment: Part Time Bus Aides (10 hours per week)

Name: Caren Riskin
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation Department
Effective Date: September 18, 2023-June 30, 2024 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Salary Classification: \$17.33 per hour-subject to negotiations
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1
Reason: To meet a district need

(h) Appointment: Translators for the 2023/2024 school year-\$25.00 per hour as needed

Sohail Akbar	Grace Buonocore Mitchell	Raquel Lopez
Cindy Algarin	Caroline Espinet	Mohsin Mizra
Elisana Alvarenga Moreira	Gloria Ferrer	Vania Oliveira
Paige Bade-Ankudovych	Rosa Maria Goeller	Ana Umanzor
Claudia Canner	Beatriz Gruber	Elizabeth Wisey
Crystal Castillo	Aracely Guandique	Sandra Yanowitch

(i) The following Per Diem Substitutes are recommended for approval for the 2023-2024 school year.

Name	Position
Dana Dudderar	Nurse
Lori Field	Nurse
Lorie Montgomery	Nurse
Kathryn Noble	Nurse
Pamela Kavanaugh Smith	Nurse
Erin Brennan Sofield	Nurse

(j) **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE LONG BEACH SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION**

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Long Beach School Employees' Association, dated August 31, 2023.

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items IX.3 through Item IX.9.

Vice President Pinto called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Conway

Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey

Approved: 4-0

VI.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF EXTENSION AGREEMENT – COACH BUS SERVICES

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 exercise the option under the Bethpage UFSD Coach Bus Transportation Cooperative RFP to extend with Hampton Jitney for coach bus services for the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 at an annual cost not to exceed \$47,000.

VI.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the AGREEMENT WITH COLD SPRING HARBOR LABORATORY

Approval of Agreement – Cold Spring Harbor Lab

WHEREAS, the Long Beach City School District (“District”) desires to enter into an agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory for a partner membership with the DNA Learning Center for the 2023-2024 school year and summer 2024;

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in the amount of \$34,000 for a partner membership with the DNA Learning Center for the 2023-2024 school year and summer 2024;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes the District Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute said agreement with Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory on its behalf.

VI.5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the FIRST READING OF REVISED POLICY #6121 SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE
No action required.

First Reading of Policy #6121 Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

VI.6 Dr. Gallagher recommended the FIRST READING OF REVISED POLICY #3420 NON-DISCRIMINATION AND ANTI-HARASSMENT IN THE DISTRICT
No action required.

First Reading of Policy #3420 Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment in the District

VI.7 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION
None. Item tabled.

VI.8 Dr. Gallagher recommended the PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES

Approval of Payment of Legal Bills: Legal Services

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 \$269.50 to Volz & Vigliotta, PLLC for general counsel legal services on August 31, 2023; and \$1,764.00 for labor counsel legal services for the period of August 18, 2023 through August 29, 2023.

VI.9 Dr. Gallagher recommended the 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

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Facility Requested</u>	<u>Date Requested</u>
Super Soccer Stars	Youth Soccer Classes	Lido Elementary Gymnasium	Saturdays Dec. 9 , 2023 – March 23, 2024 9:00am – 1:30pm

Board of Ed – Additional Comments

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

- Board Vice President Pinto asked about food services and the possibility of reviewing the menus and Mr. DeVito replied that he would be happy to send that information

and added that they are looking at upgrading some of the elements of the offerings as part of joining the cooperative this year.

- Board Member Conway thanked the staff for great 6th and 9th grade orientations; spoke to Mr. Epstein – over 500 students signed up to participate in sports programs this year! Shout out to Mr. Epstein and all of our wonderful coaches.

VIII. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions and Comments
from the Public

- Board Member Conway stated that at Open School Night at the High School, she noticed some water stained ceiling tiles and Mr. DeVito replied that they are working on some leaks and waterproofing issues in the roof; she added that the new high school library is gorgeous, asked about the issue of finding poison ivy near the pond and Mr. DeVito replied that he would follow up with the Director of Facilities.

IX. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Keith Harvey thanked the Pre-K teachers for their presentation and welcomed all of the new hires.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group –Keith Biesma congratulated the Pre-K teachers
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – George Krucs thanked the team and Administration for working together on the agreement.
4. Parent/Teacher Association – Ms. McNicholas stated that parents are really looking forward to the return of in-person parent-teacher conferences.

X. Adjournment

Adjournment

President Ryan called for a motion to adjourn at 8:20 PM.

Motion by: Vice President Pinto
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Approved: 5-0

Minutes submitted by: _____
Lori Dolan, District Clerk
September 26, 2023