

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 24, 2024

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Administration Building Conference Room

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

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
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction

Board President Pinto called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:00 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into
Executive Session

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

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: September 24, 2024

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary School Multipurpose Room

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

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
and District Clerk Pro Tem
Dr. Janna Ostroff, Asst. Supt. for Curriculum & Instruction
Members of the Public

Absent: Lori, District Clerk

I. Superintendent's Opening Remarks/Call to Order

Board President Pinto called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led everyone in the pledge of allegiance. He welcomed all; expressed regrets for Dr. Ryan, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting; kudos to Middle School for a great Back to School Night; turned the meeting over to the Superintendent.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Gallagher turned it over to Dr. Ostroff who presented on the achievement data for 2023-34, stating that there have been so many amazing initiatives; there was an increase in percentage of students meeting their yearly growth targets from 54% in 2018 to 64% in 2024; launched Universal Full Day PreK, increased Kindergarten readiness, exited 50% of ENL students in time for Kindergarten; 9 teams of LARC students earned competitive National Honorable Mentions in the Toshiba NSTA Exploravision Competition; One Beach Read, community-wide author visit; elementary schools hosted LBHS Senior Clap-out, reinforced Profile of a Graduate; reviewed iReady growth measures and Middle School Regents proficiency percentages; highlighted Middle School engagement initiatives, such as S.T.O.P. Then Send Internet Safety, National Math Club Gold Level Project, Beautiful Me, Betty Mae Fikes visit; Middle School

opportunity initiatives include Cold Spring Harbor DNA Summer Science Camp, Student Spaceflight Experiments and Tri-M Doug Renoud Scholarships awarded to nine student to name a few. Dr. Ostroff stated reviewed High School Achievement; 98% Regents Diploma, 62% Advanced Regents, and 67 students received Deal of Biliteracy. Dr. Ostroff reviewed Regents results, Advanced Placement and IB results also noted 1 National Merit Finalist and 3 commended students, awarded Best Communities in Music Education for the 14th year, received NYSSMA Award of Excellence; Twilight Program enabled 13 students to graduate, to name a few. Dr. Ostroff added that there has been a 10% decrease in chronic absenteeism, there are over 70 internship and work-based learning experiences offered; coordinated Names Not Numbers film to be viewed on Holocaust Remembrance Day; welcomed visiting lecturer Carl Wilkens, who presented on the Rwandan genocide; noted that we had the highest percentage of students taking the Chemistry Regents in 10 years. Dr. Gallagher added that she would like to give a huge shout-out to Dr. Ostroff, the Administrative team and all of the teachers. This presentation is a testament of their hard work and dedication. Dr. Gallagher reviewed the Action Plan for 2024-25, including developing metrics to allow for the evaluation of the quality of assignments, engagement levels; investigate uses for AI; expand culture of literacy and focus on reading interventions for struggling learners; reinforce WRaP; prepare for Tri-States site visit on just-right interventions; appoint Ex-Officio student BOE member, establish Superintendent's Cabinet for students at the High School; increase internships; continue improving instructional spaces; continue to implement strategies to further reduce absenteeism and expand opportunities for CTE and growth of Career Advisory Boards among others.

The complete presentation, "Achievement Data 2023-24" can be found on the District website and in the office of the District Clerk.

III. President Pinto called for Board of Education Comments

BOE Comments

- Board Member Bellsey thanked Dr. Ostroff, Action Plan very exciting; there's a lot to be proud of, it takes a village; asked what a clap-out is. Dr. Ostroff stated that seniors went back to home elementary schools, walked through the hallway in their caps and gowns, elementary students clapped for them.
- Board Member Conway stated that the Senior Clap Out was amazing and inspiring; happy to see an upward trend in NWEA; can you explain some of the downward trends; Dr. Ostroff replied that it's due to a different cohort, Dr. Gallagher added that you want to look at the trend over years, not specifically year-to-year.
- Board Vice President Pace thanked Dr. Ostroff and Dr. Gallagher for the presentation; happy to see decrease in chronic absenteeism – credits student opportunity and engagement.
- Board Member Bellsey asked if eighth graders self-select regents courses or are they chosen and Dr. Ostroff replied that it's a combination; there are criteria for recommendations.

IV. President Pinto called for Student Organization Announcements

Student Organization
Announcements

- Riley Barshak, Student Organization President, spoke about creating a fun and inclusive environment for all students; right now students getting ready for Homecoming, working on a fundraiser to donate to the neo-natal unit of the North Shore University Hospital; working on some Pep Rally surprises; meet with Mr. Myers to have roundtable discussions.

V. 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

- A member of the public thinks it’s wonderful that you are looking at ways to increase mental health supports for students; spoke in support of the High School Social Worker.
- A member of the public stated she hopes we don’t lose focus on mental health for elementary students as well. Dr. Gallagher noted that the supports will be available to all students.
- A member of the public asked about the AP Human Geography Regents not listed, Dr. Ostroff said that it’s included in the group, not specifically noted; the member of the public asked if teachers are allowed to give back any of their work back so they know where their errors are, and Dr. Ostroff replied that the AP College Board has strict rules about what can be shared; she also asked a question regarding Special Ed testing, and Dr. Gallagher stated that she would need more specific information.

VII. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Presentations of the Superintendent

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

Approval of: Personnel Matters: Certificated

Board President Pinto called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Vice President Pace

Seconded by: Board Member Conway

Approved: 4-0

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

Approval of Personnel Matters: Non-Certificated

Board President Pinto called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Conway

Seconded by: Board Member Bellsey

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) Resignation for the purposes of retirement

Name: Aileen Monahan
Assign./Loc: East School

Effective Date: April 30, 2025, close of day

(b) Amended Resignation for the purposes of retirement

Name: Elizabeth Connors
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teaching Assistant/Long Beach High School
Effective Date: August 15, 2024, close of day

(c) Resignations

Name: Ashley Robinson
Assign./Loc: Full Time Teaching Assistant/Lido School
Effective Date: September 23, 2024, close of day

(d) Amended Leave of Absence

Name: Bonnie Scholfield
Assign./Loc: Social Worker/West School
Effective Dates: September 12, 2024 – December 5, 2024 on or about at the district's discretion
Reason: Medical/FMLA

(e) Appointment: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant

Name: Yessica Amaya Reyes
Assign./Loc: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant/Lido
Certification: Teaching Assistant-Level I
Effective Date: September 1, 2024
End Date: August 31, 2028
Tenure Date: September 1, 2028
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Grade/Step: Grade IV/Step 5
Salary Classification: \$31,866
Reason: To fill a vacancy
Comment: Resigns from Reg Sub

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(e) Appointment: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant (Continued)

Name: Michael Blackburn
Assign./Loc: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant/Lindell
Certification: Teaching Assistant – Level I
Effective Date: September 25, 2024
End Date: September 24, 2028
Tenure Date: September 25, 2028
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Grade/Step: Grade IV/Step 1
Salary Classification: \$25,981
Reason: To fill a vacancy
Comment: Resigns as a teacher aide

Name: Tiahna Guerrero
Assign./Loc: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant/Lido
Certification: Teaching Assistant – Level I
Effective Date: September 30, 2024
End Date: September 29, 2028
Tenure Date: September 30, 2028
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Grade/Step: Grade IV/Step 1
Salary Classification: \$25,981
Reason: To fill a vacancy

(f) Appointment: Regular Substitute Full Time Teaching Assistant

Name: Milkan Melo Olivera
Assign./Loc: Regular Substitute Full Time Teaching Assistant/Lido
Certification: Teaching Assistant-Level III
Effective Date: September 17, 2024
End Date: June 30, 2025
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Grade/Step: Grade IV/Step 12
Salary Classification: \$42,169
Reason: To fill a leave
Comment: Takes a leave from part time position

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(g) Amended Appointment: Part Time ENL Teacher

Name: Rachel Wong
Assign./Loc: Part Time ENL Teacher/(.5) Lido School/(.2) Middle School
Certification: Initial English to Speakers of Other Languages
Effective Dates: September 17, 2024 – June 30, 2025
Salary Classification: .7 of BA/Step 1, \$46,923.10 per annum
Reason: To fill a vacancy
Comment: Annual appointment

(h) Amended Appointment: Part Time Permanent Substitute Secondary Teacher

Name: Rachel Wong
Assign./Loc: Part Time (.3) Permanent Substitute Elementary Teacher/LBMS
Certification: Initial English to Speakers of Other Languages
Effective Dates: September 17, 2024 – June 16, 2025 (or earlier at the district's discretion)
Salary Classification: (.3) of \$245.84 per day, prorated
Reason: Annual appointment

(i) **Amendment Tenure Date**

Name: Priscilla Edwards
 Assign./Loc: ENL Teacher/East School
 Effective Date: August 31, 2022
 End Date: August 30, 2025
 Tenure Date: August 31, 2025
 Tenure Area: ENL

(j) **Amended Appointment Part Time AIS Teacher/Yeshiva Darchei Torah – for the 2024/2025 school year – Stipend \$7,478 – grant funded/Title I**
Layah Mandelbaum

(k) **Appointment: Interscholastic Coaches for the Spring 2025**

Spring Sport	Position	Coach	Stipend
Lacrosse Girls	Varsity Assistant	Ryan Smith	\$7,049

I. **CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

(l) **Appointment: Advisors for LBHS Co-Curricular Activities 2024-2025 School Year**

HS Club Activity	Advisor	Stipend
Drama Production Set Design	Scott Scheinson	\$1,674
Musical Production Set Design	Scott Scheinson	\$1,674

(m) **Amended Appointment: Advisors for LBMS Co-Curricular Activities 2024-2025 School Year**

MS Club Activity	Advisor	Stipend
Cheerleading (Football)	Add Shakeina Green <i>Split w/Lindsay Pichichero</i>	\$1,674
Wellness Club	Nancy Connor Rescind Melissa Hartman	\$1,674

(n) **Appointment Part Time Teacher Assistants 17.5 hours per week for School Year 2024-2025 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate according to contract**

Name	Step	Rate	Location	Start Date	Comment
MaryAnn Scott	2	\$19.88	East	9/3/24	
Eleni Papatansiou	1	\$19.09	West	9/10/24	Resigns as Teacher Aide

(o) **The following Short Term Substitute Teacher is recommended for approval for the dates below. \$245.84 per day**

Name	Dates
Mary Radin	September 12, 2024 – January 24, 2025

(p) **The following Per Diem Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval for the**

2024-2025 school year. \$150 per day

NAME	CERTIFICATION
Bruce Kaplan	Music K-12
Sofia Stolberg	In a Program

(q) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE ASPPG

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the Long Beach City School District and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated, August 15, 2024.

II. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignation for the purpose of retirement

Name: Kelliann Santaniello
Assign./Loc: Senior Data Specialist/Administration
Effective Date: November 8, 2024, Close of day

(b) Resignation

Name: Brandon Hughes
Assign./Loc: Part Time Building Aide/Long Beach High School
Effective Date: September 19, 2024, Close of day

Name: Virginia Sweet
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Aide/West School
Effective Date: September 20, 2024, Close of day

(c) Recission

Name: Vasiliki Senken
Assign./Loc: Teacher Aide/Lido School

(d) Leaves of Absence

Name: Kelliann Santaniello
Assign./Loc: Senior Data Specialist/Administration
Effective Dates: September 11, 2024 – November 8, 2025 or earlier at the district's discretion
Reason: Medical Leave

Name: Barbara Martin
Assign./Loc: Teacher Aide/Long Beach High School
Effective Dates: September 17, 2024 – June 30, 2025 or earlier at the district's discretion
Reason: Medical Leave

Name: Tasha Phillips
Assign./Loc: Teacher Aide/East School

Effective Dates: September 18, 2024 – June 30, 2025 or earlier at the district’s discretion
Reason: Personal Leave

II. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(e) Appointment: Part Time Lunch Aide

Name: Arlene Hornstein
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Lunch Aide/Lindell School
Effective Dates: September 25, 2024
Salary Classification: \$17.84 per hour
Grade/Step: Grade1/Step 1
Reason: To Fill a Vacancy

(f) Appointment: Bus Aide (18.75 hours per week)

Name: Nancy Deras
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation
Effective Date: September 16, 2024
Salary Classification: \$17.84 per hour
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1
Reason: District Need

Name: Zoila Garces
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation
Effective Date: September 16, 2024
Salary Classification: \$17.84 per hour
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1
Reason: District Need

Name: Latreasha Daniels
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation
Effective Date: September 17, 2024
Salary Classification: \$17.84 per hour
Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1
Reason: District Need

(g) Appointment Part Time Teacher Aides 17.5 hours per week for School Year 2024-2025 (or earlier at the district’s discretion). Rate according to contract-subject to negotiations

Name	Step	Rate	Location	Comment	Start Date
Nicole Grandinetti	1	\$17.84	West	CSE	9/16/24
Wederlyn Kaplan	1	\$17.84	West	CSE	9/16/24
Katie Heneghan	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	9/16/24
Rita Harris	1	\$17.84	Lindell	CSE	9/25/24
Trevor Radin	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	9/16/24
Jessica Schweers	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	9/16/24
Gehrig Lundwall	1	\$17.84	Lindell	CSE	9/25/24
Trisha Esslinger	1	\$17.84	Lindell	CSE	10/8/24
Auyeung Ching	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	10/7/24
Madelyn Lustberg	1	\$17.84	West	CSE	9/26/24
Brian Benton	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	
Janiyah Wells	1	\$17.84	Lido	CSE	9/26/24

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items VII.3 through Item VII.6.

Board President Pinto called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Bellsey

Seconded by: Board President Pinto

Approved: 4-0

VII.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFERS

Approval of Budget Transfers

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves budget transfers totaling \$347,830 into the following codes to cover the cost of retirement/separation pay:

TO BUDGET CODE	AMOUNT
A2010.168.00.0000- Curriculum Development Clerical Separation Pay	\$ 81,377
A2110.122.00.0000 - Teaching: Elementary Separation Pay	\$266,453
TOTAL	\$347,830

Funds for these transfers will come from the following codes:

FROM BUDGET CODE	AMOUNT
A2110.132.00.0000 - Teaching: Separation Pay	\$288,318
A2110.121.00.0000 - Teaching: Prior Years Sick Days	\$ 59,512
TOTAL	\$347,830

VII.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

CPSE/CSE Recommendations

VII.5 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 \$225 to Volz & Vigliotta for general counsel legal services for the period of August 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024; and \$2,312.50 for labor counsel legal services for the period August 1, 2024 through August 31, 2024.

VII.6 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>Dates Requested</u>
Island Beach Girl Scouts	Girl Scout Meeting	Middle School Library	Thursday September 25, 2024 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Circulo de la Hispanidad	Christmas Show	Lindell Auditorium and First Floor Faculty Room #142	Friday December 6, 2024 4:30pm – 9:00pm

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

Board of Ed – Additional Comments

- Ms. Conway stated that we are very lucky to have such loving and caring staff; this past Sunday, Mr. Bragino and the marching band participated in the Suicide Prevention Walk, it was wonderful to see them; asked Mr. DeVito for an update on the slide at East and the elevator – Mr. DeVito said they are looking into whether it can be repaired, does not believe that is possible, and will check if it can be removed if it can't be replaced in the immediate future.
- Mr. Pinto was at the 34.3 Run on Patriot's Day – really great to see the marching band there as well; great seeing Long Beach Surfing Classic.

IX. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions and Comments from the Public

- A member of the public spoke in support of a High School senior – deserved a part in the High School play. Spoke in support of senior participation in clubs, sports, etc. that they have participated in their high school years. Dr. Gallagher thanked him for advocating for his friend, stated that this was discussed with the Board and from here on in have an official no cuts for seniors policy. Ms. Pace also thanked him for advocating for his friend.
- A member of the public also spoke in support of the high school senior getting a part in the high school play.
- A member of the public spoke about her daughter not getting a part in the high school play. Ms. Pace thanked her for her advocacy.
- A member of the public stated that their were more students who wanted to come to speak in support of the high school senior who did not get a part in the play, but were afraid of repercussions. Mr. Pinto stated that they take this very seriously and there will be no repercussions – what her son did was very commendable. Ms. Conway added that we all admire what he did in advocating for his friend.

X. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Karen Bloom congratulated retirees and new hires; thanks to Dr. Ostroff and Dr. Gallagher for the presentation and thank you to the Board for their support.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – Keith Biesma expressed gratitude to the Board and Administration for their leadership in making the contract possible.
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – none
4. Parent/Teacher Association – none

XI. Adjournment

Adjournment

President Pinto called for a motion to adjourn at 8:05 PM.

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

Minutes submitted by: _____
Lori Dolan, District Clerk
September 24, 2024