

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** January 13, 2026

**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 (arrived 5:09 pm)

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. Tom Volz, Attorney

Board President Pace called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:05 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

**Motion to Go Into Executive Session**

**Motion by:** Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.

**Seconded by:** Board Member Anne Conway

**Approved:** 5-0

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 7:00 PM.

**Adjournment**

**Motion by:** Board Vice President Nora Bellsey

**Seconded by:** Board Member Anne Conway

**Approved:** 5-0

## MINUTES

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>January 13, 2026</b>
<b>Type of Meeting:</b>	<b>Regular Meeting</b>
<b>Place of Meeting:</b>	<b>Lindell Elementary School Auditorium</b>
<b>Members Present:</b>	<b>Board President Alexis Pace Board Vice President Nora Bellsey Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D. Board Member Sam Pinto Board Member Anne Conway</b>
<b>Others Present:</b>	<b>Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel &amp; Administration Mr. Tom Volz, Esq. Volz and Vigliotta Members of the Public</b>

### **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 7:05 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Board President Pace welcomed attendees. The meeting was then turned over to the Superintendent.

### **II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher**

#### **Superintendent's Report**

- Student Showcase: High School Music**

Students from the High School Strings performed several songs for the Board of Ed and those in attendance.

- Budget Proposal: Transportation and Technology**

Mr. Devito presented a summary of the preliminary budget, including compensation, equipment, vendor services, materials debt service, employee benefits and fund transfers. Existing staff salaries are expected to increase by 2%.

Due to a bus driver shortage, routes have been consolidated, leading to a 2% cost savings in district transportation and a 30% reduction in contract transportation. The budget plans for 43 bus driver slots (38 routes and 5 spares).

A significant shift of \$440,000 from transportation savings is proposed to upgrade the high school TV and media studio, which was originally created 15 years ago. The budget also includes funding for new and replacement instructional software, new Chromebooks for 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grades, desktop computer upgrades, and smartboard upgrades.

There is a projected 5% increase in technology costs due to tariffs, high demand for electronic parts and the evolving AI technology driving prices up. There's also concern about supply chain delays, with Chromebook prices projected to increase by 6-8% and PC prices by 10% soon. The district plans to order equipment early and may consider budget transfers to secure Chromebooks from the current year's funding to hedge against delays.

The budget calendar was reviewed, noting that the budget adoption is scheduled for April 14th and the budget vote and trustee election for May 19th.

**III. Board President Pace called for Board of Education Comments**

**BOE Comments**

Board members praised the High School String students for their performance and thanked them for coming.

Board members thanked Mr. DeVito for his presentation.

The Board asked about the disposal of dead chrome books. Mr. Harvey explained that retired Chromebooks and other electronics are disposed of through an e-waste process, which involves data cleaning and regulated disposal by specialized companies. The Board also asked about the price and lifespan of a Chromebook. Mr. Harvey said they are over \$500 now and have a projected lifespan of 3-5 years within the school system.

**Student Organization Announcements**

**IV. Student Organization Announcements**

- The Student Representative provided updates on upcoming events, including Class Olympics (with a plan to livestream the event), the second annual blood drive on February 6th (students only), and discussions for PS I Love You Day on February 10th.

**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 November 2025**

- No action necessary

**Acceptance of the Treasurers Report for November 2025**

**VII. Approval of Minutes for Executive Session and Regular Meetings of December 9, 2025.**

Board President Pace called for a motion.

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

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

**VIII. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

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

Board President Pace called for a motion.

Presentations of the Superintendent  
Approval of: Personnel Matters: Certificated

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

**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: Gregory Cody  
Assign./Loc: Social Studies Teacher /LBMS  
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

Name: David Lobenstein  
Assign./Loc: Music Teacher /LBMS  
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

Name: Grace Parisi  
Assign./Loc: Elementary 6th/LBMS  
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

Name: Patricia Barrett  
Assign./Loc: Library Media Specialist/LBHS  
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

Name: Lynn Volosevich  
Assign./Loc: PE Heath Teacher/LBHS  
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

**(b) Resignation**

Name: Maximillian Grant  
Assign./Loc. Part Time Teaching Assistant/West School  
Effective Dates: December 12, 2025

**(c) Leave of Absence**

Name: Kara Yates  
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lido  
Effective Dates: January 30, 2026- May 12, 2026, on or about  
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

Name: Kerri Sinatra  
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teacher/LBHS  
Effective Dates: February 23, 2026 – March 20, 2026  
Reason: FMLA/Family Illness

Name: Seraphina D'Anna  
Assign./Loc. School Psychologist/LBMS  
Effective Dates: February 23, 2026 – April 30, 2026  
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

**I. CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

**(d) Amended Leave of Absence**

Name: Lauren Muscarella  
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lindell School  
Effective Dates: May 24, 2025 – June 30, 2026, on or about  
Original Effective Dates: May 24, 2025 – January 5, 2026, on or about  
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

Name: Meredith Grant  
Assign./Loc. Teaching Assistant/West School  
Effective Dates: November 13, 2025 – June 30, 2026, on or about  
Original Effective Dates: November 13, 2025 – February 2, 2026, on or about  
Reason: Family Illness

**(e) Rescissions**

**Interscholastic Coaches for the Spring 2025/2026**

Sport	Position	Coach	Stipend
Gymnastics	7/8 Coach	Jessica Baker	\$5,262
Boys Track	Varsity Asst	Anthony Dalli	\$6,388 <b>Appoint Jaden Garelle</b>

**Elementary Clubs for January 13, 2026 – March 26, 2026**  
**Rate of pay \$61.93 per hour-per class-10 weeks**

Ray, Rachel/Loughrey, Cassin	Fitness Club	Tuesday	Lindell
Dempsey, Danielle	Lido 5th Grade Committee	Thursday	Lido

**Advisors for LBHS Co-Curricular Activities, 2025/2026 School Year**

HS Club Activity	Advisor	2025-26
American Sign Language Club	Leigh Yazak	\$1,703 (Rescind semester 2 1/26/26 \$851.50)
Environmental Club (HOPE)	Leigh Yazak	\$1,703 (Rescind semester 2 1/26/26 \$851.50) <b>Appoint Andrew Rossi \$851.50</b>

(f) Amended Appointment: Mentors 2025/2026 School Year Stipend: \$1200 each

Amanda Bernstein	30% of Stipend
Danielle Goggin	70% of Stipend

**I. CERTIFIED PERSONNEL**

(g) Appointment: Per Diem Substitute Teacher is recommended for approval for the 2025/2026 school year at the rate of \$150 per day

NAME	CERTIFICATION
Maximillian Grant	Childhood Education 1-6, Pending

(h) Appointment: Per Diem Teacher Assistant for the 2025/2026 School Year at the rate of \$17.00 per hour.

Name
Maximillian Grant
Aileen Monahan

(i) The following Per Diem Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval for the 2025/2026 school year at the higher rate of pay, \$250.76 per day

NAME	CERTIFICATION
Jessica Schweers	Teaching Assistant, Level 1
Brigid Whelan	Childhood Education (Gr 1-6), Initial

(j) Appointment: Regular Substitute Teacher

Name: Mary Radin  
Assign./Loc.: Regular Substitute Teacher/Lindell  
Certification: Initial Birth – Grade 2  
Childhood Education (Gr 1-6), Initial  
Early Childhood Education (B-2), Initial  
Students w Disabilities (All Grades),Initial  
Effective Dates: September 1, 2025 – June 26, 2026  
Grade/Step: MA/Step 1  
Salary Classification: \$74,542 per annum (pro-rated)  
Reason: To fill a leave – previously served as a Permanent Substitute

**(k) Appointment: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant**

Name: Fallon Haggerty  
Assign./Loc: Probationary Full Time Teaching Assistant/LBMS  
Certification: Teaching Assistant-Level I  
Probation Start: January 14, 2026  
Probation End: January 13, 2030  
Tenure Date: January 14, 2030  
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant  
Grade/Step: Grade IV/Step 2  
Salary Classification: \$28,003 per annum (pro-rated)  
Reason: To fill a vacancy  
Comment: Takes a leave from Part Time Teacher Aide position

**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

(l) **Approval of Applications for Participation in Group A Study Programs-Winter 2025-The following staff members have applied for funding for coursework as indicated under the appropriate provision of their contract. Recommend approval of the tuition/fees.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Megan Cullinan	\$1,195.00
Anthony Cabasino	\$ 678.00
Richard Pellegrini	\$ 580.00
Melanie Dibernardo	\$1,750.00
William Papetti	\$1,750.00

(m) **Approval of Applications for Participation in Group B Study Programs-Winter 2025-The following staff members have applied for funding for coursework as indicated under the appropriate provision of their contract. Recommend approval of the tuition/fees.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Rachel Lonergan	\$662.00
Shelly Cepeda	\$390.00

(n) **Appointment: 2025-2026 Curriculum Writer-Rate of Pay \$44.25 per hour**

Course/Goal	# hrs total	Teachers
Regents Biology	20	Karen Bloom
Regents Biology	20	Robyn Tornabene
Regents Earth and Space	20	Cherie Mannarino
Regents Earth and Space	20	Maggie Todaro
Grade 6 Science	10	Elizabeth Chimienti

(o) **Resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves an extension of the probationary period for Monica Martin to October 16, 2027.

(p) **Be it resolved**, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby approves an amendment to the contract for Michael DeVito Esq. as Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations, dated January 13, 2026.

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

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

Approval of Personnel Matters:  
Non-Certificated

**I. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(a) Resignation for the purpose of Retirement**

Name:	Lucille Crespo
Assign./Loc:	Bus Aide 30 hrs./Transportation
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Edwin Algarin
Assign./Loc:	Bus Driver 40 hrs./Transportation
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Anthony Pugh
Assign./Loc:	Driver/Transportation
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Donald Kramer
Assign./Loc.	Director-Facilities and Transportation/Buildings & Grounds
Effective Date:	June 26, 2026

**(b) Resignation**

Name:	Angelica Mora Lopez
Assign./Loc.	Bus Aide/Transportation
Effective Date:	December 4, 2025

**(c) Leave of Absence**

Name:	Tyesha Carr
Assign./Loc:	Food Service Worker/LBMS
Effective Dates:	September 15, 2025 – June 30, 2026, on or about
Reason:	Medical Leave
Name:	Stephen Salerno
Assign./Loc:	Part Time Teacher Aide/LBMS
Effective Dates:	January 6, 2026- – June 30, 2026, on or about
Reason:	Personal
Name:	Kenrick McPhoy
Assign./Loc:	Safety Inspector/Transportation
Effective Dates:	January 12, 2026- – April 10, 2026, on or about
Reason:	FMLA/Family Illness

**II. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(d) Rescissions:**

Transportation Bus Aides extra work as Food Service (up to 20 hours per week)

Name
Angelica Mora Lopez

Part Time Bus Aides (18.75 hours per week)

Name: Martha Londono  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation  
Effective Date: December 10, 2025, on or about  
Salary Classification: \$18.20 per hour Grade I/Step 1  
Reason: To fill a vacancy

**(e) Appointment: Per Diem Teacher Aide for School Year 2025-2026 Rate of Pay: \$17.00 per hour**

Name	Location	Position
Kaitlin Buonocore	Lido	Teacher Aide

**(f) Appointment: Part Time Building Aide 19 hours per week for School Year 2025/2026 (or earlier at the district's discretion)**

Name	Step	Rate	Location
Stephen Buckley	1	\$18.20	LBHS

**(g) The following Per Diem Substitutes are recommended for approval for the the 2025-2026 school year.**

Patrick Ryan - Cleaner  
Nathan Sukonik - Cleaner

**(h) Appointment: The following Per Diem Substitute is recommended for approval for the 2025/2026 school year. \$25.67 per hour**

Name Position  
Grace Buonocore-Mitchell Clerical

## I. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

### (i) Appointment: Probationary Full Time Night Cleaners

Name: James Cooper  
Assign./Loc. Probationary Night Cleaner/LBHS  
Effective Date: January 14, 2026  
Probationary End Date: January 13, 2030  
Salary Classification: \$42,519 per annum – (pro-rated)  
Step: Grade I/Step 3  
Reason: To meet a district need

Name: Brian Von Braunsberg  
Assign./Loc. Probationary Night Cleaner/LBMS  
Effective Date: January 14, 2026  
Probationary End Date: January 13, 2030  
Salary Classification: \$42,519 per annum – (pro-rated)  
Step: Grade I/Step 3  
Reason: To fill a vacancy

### (j) Completion of Probationary Appointments

The staff members listed below have completed their probationary appointments and have received a satisfactory evaluation and are hereby recommended for permanent appointment.

Name: Giancarlo Tutino  
Assign./Loc.: Cleaner/LBMS  
Effective Date: February 8, 2026

Name: Colleen Butler  
Assign./Loc.: Senior Data Specialist/LBHS  
Effective Date: February 11, 2026

### (k) 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 December 23, 2025.

3. First Reading of Policy # 5681 School Safety Plans

No Action Necessary

First Reading of Policy #5681 School Safety

4. Third Reading of Revised Policy # 7550 Dignity for All Students Act

No Action Necessary

Third Reading of Revised Policy  
#7550 Dignity for All Students Act

5. Third Reading of Revised Code of Conduct

No Action Necessary

Third Reading of Revised Code of  
Conduct

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of District-Wide School Safety Plan 2025-2026

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

Adoption of District-Wide School Safety  
Plan 2025-2026

6. ADOPTION OF DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOL SAEFTY PLAN

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby adopts the updated District-wide Safety Plan 2025-2026.

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote items 7 through 12

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

7. APPROVAL OF MUNICIPAL COOPERATION RESOLUTION

Approval of Municipal  
Cooperation Resolution

**WHEREAS**, New York General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-o (Section 119-o) empowers municipal corporations [defined in Article 5-G, Section 119-n to include school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, counties, cities, towns and villages, and districts] to enter into, amend, cancel, and terminate agreements for the performance among themselves (or one for the other) of their respective functions, powers, and duties on a cooperative or contract basis;

**WHEREAS** the Long Beach School District wishes to invest portions of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations and/or districts pursuant to the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023;

**WHEREAS** the Long Beach School District wishes to satisfy the safety and liquidity needs of their funds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** as follows: that Michael I. DeVito, Assistant Superintendent, Finance and Operations of Long Beach School District is hereby authorized to participate in the NYCLASS program under the terms of the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023.

**8. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT – ZYCON INDUSTRIES**

**Approval of Agreement – Zycron Industries**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations to enter into an agreement for the period of July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 with Zycron Industries to provide Medicaid management services at a rate equal to 16% MMIS/DOH share, STAC services at a rate of \$12,900 per quarter, 1:1 staff training at a rate of \$3,750 per quarter, and annual Medicaid cost reporting at \$2,950.

**9. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION**

**Acceptance of Donation**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts a donation of \$1,000 to the Long Beach Varsity Cheer Team from Sportset Cheer RVC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education accepts a donation of \$5,000 to the Long Beach High School Robotics Club from Mr. Nat Alcamo.

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

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

**11. PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES**

**Payment of Legal Bills**

**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 \$5,083.33 to Volz & Vigliotta for the monthly retainer for general counsel legal services for the period of February 1, 2026, through February 28, 2026; \$3,666.67 for the monthly retainer for labor counsel legal services for the period February 1, 2026, through February 28,

2026 and \$7,688.00 for the General Counsel Services and Expenses for the period of November 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025.

**10. 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 Island Swimming LTD	LIAC Practice	Long Beach High School Pool	Monday – Friday Feb. 2, 2026 - Feb. 13, 2026 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Long Beach Lacrosse Club	Indoor Sessions	Long Beach Middle School Gym	Tuesday and Thursday Jan. 6, 2026 – Feb. 26, 2026 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Football Club, Inc.	Soccer Training	Long Beach Middle School Gym	Wednesdays Jan. 14, 2026 – March 4, 2026 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Lindell Elementary PTA	Adult Wellness Night	Lindell Gym	Friday February 13, 2026 3:30 pm – 8:30 pm

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

**Board of Ed – Additional Comments**

- The Board thanked the Director of Transportation and the Director of Technology for coming to the meeting.
- The Board thanked Sportset Cheer and Mr. Nat Alcamo for the donations.

**X. Questions and Comments from the Public**

- None

**Questions & Comments from the Public**

**Announcements**

**X. Announcements**

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Happy New Year
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – Happy New Year
3. LBSEA- none
4. Parent/Teacher Association – Happy New Year

**XI. Adjournment**

**Adjournment**

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn at 7:36 PM.

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

**Minutes submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Susannah Familetti, District Clerk  
January 13, 2026