

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 27, 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 5:15 pm)

Board Member Anne Conway

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations (arrived 5:05 pm)

Mr. Tom Volz, Attorney (arrived 5:30 pm)

Absent: Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration

Board President Pace called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:03 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session

Motion by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey

Seconded by: Board Member Anne Conway

Approved: 5-0

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:50 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Vice President Nora Bellsey

Seconded by: Board Member Anne Conway

Approved: 5-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting:	January 27, 2026
Type of Meeting:	Regular Meeting
Place of Meeting:	Long Beach Middle School Auditorium
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 Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations Members of the Public
Absent:	Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration Mr. Tom Volz, Esq. Volz and Vigliotta

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: Middle School MYP**

The Middle School Principal, staff, and students presented an overview of the Middle Years Program (MYP) with a focus on service learning and community projects across grades six through eight. The presentation highlighted the IB Learner Profile, student recognition initiatives, and a gradual release model of service projects.

Sixth grade students participated in a grade-wide service project supporting Bobby and the Strays animal shelter. Students engaged in proposal writing, voting, and collective planning, resulting in the donation of over 90 items.

Seventh grade team-based projects focused on military and veterans, including Field of Honor, Memorial Day poppy projects, and the upcoming Hearts of Heroes initiative.

Eighth grade students presented research-based community projects, including an environmental study examining nitrate runoff and its potential impact on human health and ecosystems.

- **Budget Proposal: Central Support**

Mr. DeVito presented an overview of Central Support and Facilities budget projections for the 2026–2027 school year. The presentation included:

- Central administration functions and projected cost increases
- Insurance, cooperative services, and civil service expenses
- Operations and maintenance budget distinctions
- Staffing additions for custodial supervision and building security
- Energy cost projections and efficiency efforts
- Planned equipment replacements

III. Board President Pace called for Board of Education Comments

BOE Comments

Board members commended the students and staff for their presentations, interdisciplinary approach, and commitment to community service.

Board members thanked Mr. DeVito for his presentation.

Board members discussed energy costs, snow removal operations, and long-term planning considerations.

Student Organization Announcements

IV. Student Organization Announcements

- None

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

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

- One community member addressed the proposed Code of Conduct and encouraged the Board to reconsider adoption and seek additional community input.

VI. Approval of Minutes for Executive Session and Regular Meetings of January 13, 2026.

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 January 10, 2026.

VII. 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 Dr. Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Anne Conway
Approved: 5-0

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:	Arkadiy Simonovsky
Assign./Loc:	Math Teacher /LBHS
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Edith Guzman
Assign./Loc:	Elementary Teacher /Lindell
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Camila Gamboa
Assign./Loc:	Speech, Hearing & Handicapped Teacher /LBHS
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Cynthia Ball
Assign./Loc:	Full Time Teacher Assistant /LBHS
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Cynthia Lazovick
Assign./Loc:	AIS Reading Teacher/East
Effective Date:	June 30, 2026, close of day
Name:	Cristina Bryan
Assign./Loc:	Science Teacher/LBMS
Effective Date:	January 3, 2027, close of day

(b) Leave of Absence

Name:	Michelle Frank
Assign./Loc.	English Teacher/LBMS
Effective Dates:	February 13, 2026- March 30, 2026, on or about
Reason:	FMLA/Medical

Name: Jean Kushel
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lido
Effective Dates: January 21, 2026- February 4, 2026, on or about
Reason: FMLA/Family Illness

Name: Douglas MacConnell
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/East
Effective Dates: January 16, 2026- April 16, 2026, on or about
Reason: FMLA/Medical

I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(c) Rescissions

Interscholastic Coaches for the Spring 2025/2026

Spring Sport	Position	Coach	Stipend
Lacrosse Girls	7 th Grade	Hayley Kosiner	\$5,664 Appoint: Marisa D'Angelo

(d) Appointment: Interscholastic Coaches for the Spring 2025/2026

Spring Sport	Position	Coach	Stipend
Flag Football Coach	7 th /8 th Grade	Jaclyn Javakian	\$5,664
Softball Coach	7 th Grade	Thomas Morris	\$5,307

**(e) Appointment : The following Per Diem Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval
for the 2025/2026 school year at the rate of \$150 per day**

NAME	CERTIFICATION
Gianna Edwards	Childhood Education (Gr 1-6) Initial, Early Childhood Education (B-Gr 2), Initial
Charles Strecker	Music, Initial

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

Caitlyn Glynn	Dance Club	Tuesday	Lindell
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(g) BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby approves an increase in the per diem substitute rates (for the positions below).

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Teaching Assistant	\$17.00	\$19.00

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

I. NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignation for the Purposes of Retirement

Name: Charlene Manning
Assign./Loc: Secretary II /Lido-PPS
Effective Date: June 30, 2026, close of day

(b) Termination

Name: Linda Yakita
Assign./Loc: Lunch Aide/East
Effective Date: January 22, 2026, close of day

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

James Buckley - Cleaner

(d) BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby approves an increase in the per diem substitute rates (for the positions below).

<u>Position</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>New Rate</u>
Teacher Aide	\$17.00	\$18.00

3. Second Reading of Policy # 5681 School Safety Plans

No Action Necessary

Second Reading of Policy #5681 School

Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote items 4 through 10

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

Adoption of Revised Policy # 7550 Dignity For All Students Act

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

No Action Necessary

Adoption of Revised Code of Conduct

5. Adoption of Revised Code of Conduct

No Action Necessary

Approval of STEPS Teacher Evaluation
Plan (3012-e) For 2025-2026

6. APPROVAL OF STEPS TEACHER EVALUATION PLAN (3012-e) FOR 2025-2026

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby approves the Standards-based Educator Evaluation and Professional Support system ("STEPS Plan") developed in accordance with Education Law §3012-e dated January 23, 2026, and authorizes the Superintendent to file the plan with the State Education Department.

7. APPROVAL OF BID AWARDS – 2024/2025 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

A) GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

Approval of Bid Awards- 2024/2025 Capital
Improvement Projects

WHEREAS, the District placed a legal notice advertising a bid for General Construction in the official district papers on December 11, 2025, and provided bid documents to ACL Construction, Crossroads Construction, Irwin Contracting, Capital Renovation, Stalco Construction; and

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law, invited bids for General Construction which bids were opened publicly on January 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, ACL Construction was the lowest priced responsible bidder, see below, on the General Construction Bid:

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION BID ~ Opened 1/8/2026 @ 11:00 AM	
Contractor	Bid Amount
ACL Construction 10% -	\$127,000
Crossroads Construction 10% -	\$133,800
Irwin Contracting 10%	\$164,000
Capital Renovation bid bond 10%	\$178,600
Stalco Construction 10%	\$226,000

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby determines that ACL Construction was the lowest priced responsible bidder for General Construction and approves the award of the General Construction contract to ACL Construction and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute said agreement on its behalf.

B) ELECTRICAL RECONSTRUCTION

WHEREAS, the District placed a legal notice advertising a bid for Electrical Reconstruction in the official district papers on December 11, 2025, and provided bid documents to JVR Electric, Inc. Haugland Energy, Polaris Electric, Eldor Contracting and Crossroads Construction; and

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law, invited bids for General Construction which bids were opened publicly on January 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, JVR Electric, Inc. was the lowest priced responsible bidder, see below, on the Electrical Reconstruction Bid;

Electrical Reconstruction BID ~ Opened 1/8/2025 @ 11:00 AM	
Contractor	Bid Amount
JVR Electric 10%	\$424,999
Haugland Energy 10%	\$447,775
Polaris Electric 10%	\$473,337
Eldor Contracting 10%	\$499,000
Crossroads Construction 10%	\$617,500

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby determines that JVR Electric, Inc. was the lowest priced responsible bidder for Electrical Reconstruction and approves the award of the Electrical Reconstruction contract to JVR Electric, Inc. and authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute said agreement on its behalf.

Approval of Bid # 409-2026 Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental

8. AWARD OF BID #409-2026 GRADUATION OUTDOOR TENT AND SUPPLY RENTAL

WHEREAS, the District placed legal notice advertising a bid for Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental in the official district papers on December 11, 2025, and provided bid documents to Ace Party Rental and New York Tent; and

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Article 5-A of the General Municipal Law, invited bids on Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental which bids were opened publicly on January 15, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Ace Party and Tent Rental was the lowest priced responsible bidder on the Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental bid as follows:

GRADUATION OUTDOOR TENT AND SUPPLY RENTAL OPENED 01/15/2026	
VENDOR	BID
Ace Party and Tent Rental	\$28,721.00
New York Tent	\$29,250.00

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby determines that Ace Party and Tent Rental was the lowest priced responsible bidder on the Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental bid and approves the award of the Graduation Outdoor Tent and Supply Rental contract to

Ace Party and Tent Rental, and authorizes the District Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute said agreement on its behalf.

9. 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 March 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026; \$3,666.67 for the monthly retainer for labor counsel legal services for the period March 1, 2026, through March 31, 2026 and \$21,043.12 for the General Counsel Services and Expenses for the period of December 1, 2025 through December 31, 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 Beach Lacrosse Club Inc.	LBLC Indoor Sessions	Long Beach Middle School Gymnasium	Thursday March 5, 2026 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm March 12, 2026 7:00 – 8:00 pm
Flight Cheer / Bulldogs Cheer	Long Beach Bulldogs Competition Cheer	Long Beach Middle School Gymnasium	Thursday March 19, 2026 6:45 pm – 8:30 pm
Island Beach Girl Scouts	Girl Scout Spring Fling	Long Beach High School Cafeteria	Friday April 24, 2026 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Theater Guild	Auditions for Fall Musical	Lindell Elementary School Auditorium and First Floor Faculty Room# 142	Tuesday June 23, 2026 5:15 pm – 9:15 pm

Flight Cheer / Bulldogs Cheer	Long Beach Bulldogs Competition Cheer	East Elementary School Gymnasium	Thursdays Jan. 22, 2026 – Feb. 5, 2026 5:00 pm – 5:55 pm
Long Beach Lacrosse Club	Outdoor Turf practices	Long Beach Middle School Veteran's Field	Monday – Friday March 2, 2026 – July 3, 2026 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Lacrosse Club	Long Beach Lacrosse Club Indoor Sessions	Long Beach Middle School Gymnasium	Thursday March 5, 2026, and March 12, 2026 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Long Beach Theater Guild	Auditions for Oliver	Lindell Auditorium and Auditorium Lobby	Thursdays June 18, 2026 and June 25, 2026 5:00 pm – 9:15 pm
Long Beach Theater Guild	Auditions for Oliver	Lindell Auditorium and Faculty Room #142	Tuesday June 23, 2026 5:15pm – 9:15 pm

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

Board of Ed – Additional Comments

- Board members thanked transportation staff for safe operations during inclement weather and announced the upcoming Middle School musical, *Once Upon a Mattress*.

IX. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions & Comments from the Public

- A community member raised questions regarding athletic participation, restroom and locker room use, and compliance with federal and state regulations. Administration responded that district practices follow state law and that follow-up information would be provided as appropriate.

X. Announcements

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

Announcements

XI. Adjournment

Adjournment

Board President Pace called for a motion to adjourn at 7:51 PM.

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

Minutes submitted by: _____

Susannah Familetti, District Clerk
January 27, 2026