

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 24, 2019

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Administration Building Large Conference Room

Members Present: President Dennis Ryan
Vice President Maureen Vrona
Board Member Perry Bodnar
Board Member Sam Pinto arrived late
Board Member Tina Posterli

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Ayesha McArthur, Interim Asst. Supt. for C & I
Dr. Sabrina Brancaccio, Executive Director, PPS
Ms. Kim Ligouri, Elementary Special Education Coordinator
Ms. Maria Vasquez Wright, CPSE/CSE Chairperson
Ms. Serena Whitfield, LBHS Special Education Coordinator
Mr. Paul Russo, LBMS Special Education Coordinator

President Ryan called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:00 PM with special education staff to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session

Motion by: President Ryan
Seconded by: Vice President, Vrona
Approved: 4-0

President Ryan called for a motion to adjourn the joint executive session at 7:15 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Member Bodnar
Seconded by: Board Member Posterli
Approved: 5-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: January 24, 2019

Type of Meeting: Work Session

Place of Meeting: Lido Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room

Members Present: President Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.
Vice President Maureen Vrona, Esq.
Board Member Perry Bodnar, Jr.
Board Member Sam Pinto
Board Member Tina Posterli

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Michael I. DeVito, Asst. Supt. for Finance & Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Ayesha McArthur, Interim Asst. Supt. for C & I
Ms. Carole Butler, District Clerk

Pledge/Opening Remarks

I. Pledge of Allegiance/Call to Order/Opening Remarks

President Ryan opened the meeting at 7:32 PM, led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance and read a statement given to him after the last meeting from Sharon Popper expressing support for a mandate on the use of girls' lacrosse helmets.

Superintendent's Report

II. Report of the Superintendent of Schools

- Mr. DeVito explained the reasons for the designation of Long Beach Schools' fiscal stress report: certain criteria, deficit from Sandy, and misleading reserve fund information. The next report will be more positive.

Board of Education Comments

III. Board of Education Comments

- Board Member Bodnar asked about an update on the air conditioning and the policy regarding mental health (after input from SEL committee).
- Vice President Vrona expressed dissatisfaction with the midterm testing schedule at the HS and lost classroom instruction time.

IV. Presentation on Work Session Topic: 2019-20 Budget -Pupil Personnel Services

Michael DeVito and Sabrina Brancaccio

Highlights include: PPS Services Functions, Special Education, Staff Salary, BOCES Special Education, NYS Non-Public Schools, Out of District Public School, and Out of State Non-Public Schools tuition, Other Contractual Services, Attendance, Health, Psychological, Social Work and PPS Services Expenditures.

This presentation can be located on the district website and in the office of the District Clerk.

Questions from the Board of Education

- Board Member Pinto asked about the full time nurses replacing the agency substitute nurses (cost differential may not be much).
- Vice President Vrona thanked Mr. DeVito for his explanation of the multi-factional analysis of fiscal stress; asked about importance of FT TAs (continuity, coverage, maintaining staff and most are FT already); voiced concern about too many adults being in the classroom (instructional vs. aides gives more actual teaching time); questioned best use of funds (part time TAs are problematic; benefits are relationships, connections, more competitive salary and benefits needed to retain staff); asked about nurses (will help with trips, screenings, lunch relief, and other nursing functions).
- Board Member Posterli asked if there were enough Social Workers given the substance abuse problems (HS not drug/alcohol certified but REACH worker is).
- President Ryan thanked the presenters; asked if the new Social Worker could replace the current REACH counselor if certified since he prefers our own staff (yes); asked about the mindfulness teacher who is on leave; consultant has gotten wonderful reviews (imbedded in cost Special Ed teacher is still split among buildings. Mindfulness will continue and perhaps move into the MS); since the special education population has stabilized, will special education have no increase (cost factors include out of district students which have the most significant impact on budget. Only projecting one additional MS class); in the last two years classes were moved to Lido, is that done (yes); transportation increase (unknown yet), summer school (different accounts), issue of residency, TA caution, be attentive to programmatic aides in classroom already, supports nurses.
- Mrs. Vrona asked why the presentation was being made so early in the year since most CSE/CPSE meetings have not been held yet (convenience).

V. President Ryan called for Questions and Comments from the Public

None

Public Comment

VI. President Ryan called for Board of Education Comments Old/New

None

BOE Comments

VII. President Ryan called for Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – None
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. Long Beach Schools Employees' Association – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None
5. Student Organization - None

Announcements

VIII. President Ryan called for a motion to adjourn at 8:40 PM.

Motion by: Vice President Vrona
Seconded by: Board Member Bodnar
Approved: 5-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by:

Carole Butler, District Clerk
February 14, 2019