

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** October 27, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Music Room

**Members Present:** President Tina Posterli  
Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Joseph Lilly, Attorney, Frazer & Feldman  
Mr. Thomas Volz, Attorney (left at 6:19pm)

President Posterli called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:28 PM to discuss pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go  
Into  
Executive  
Session

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

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:55 PM.

Adjournment

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

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** October 29, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Music Room

**Members Present:** President Tina Posterli  
Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.  
Board Member Anne Conway

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction

**Absent:** Board Member Pinto

President Posterli called for a motion to go into executive session at 4:33 PM to discuss pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go  
Into  
Executive  
Session

**Motion by:** Board Member Conway

**Seconded by:** Board Member Vrona

**Approved:** 4-0

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 5:23 PM.

Adjournment

**Motion by:** Vice President Ryan

**Seconded by:** Board Member Conway

**Approved:** 4-0

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** November 4, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Music Room

**Members Present:** President Tina Posterli  
Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations

**Absent:** Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction

President Posterli called for a motion to go into executive session at 4:08 PM to discuss pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go  
Into  
Executive  
Session

**Motion by:** Board Member Vrona  
**Seconded by:** Board Member Conway  
**Approved:** 4-0

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 5:39 PM.

Adjournment

**Motion by:** Board Member Conway  
**Seconded by:** Board Member Vrona  
**Approved:** 4-0

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** October 27, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Auditorium

**Members Present:** President Tina Posterli  
Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Vrona, Esq.  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Joseph Lilly, Attorney, Frazer & Feldman  
Ms. Lori Dolan, District Clerk  
Members of the Public

Pledge/  
Opening Remarks

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

President Posterli called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Posterli welcomed everyone – acknowledged the Covid cases in the District – thanked all for efforts in keeping District going and urged all to be vigilant at home so students can continue our hybrid model.

**II. Superintendent’s Report – Dr. Gallagher**

Superintendent’s Report

- Dr. Gallagher stated that, before we begin this evening’s presentation, it was School Board Recognition Week was last week. So lucky to have such a committed, intelligent, wonderful School Board. Kim Ashmead of Central Council PTA presented gifts from each building PTA as a thank you to the Board (“I think you’re great - a little swag from each school”).
- Dr. Gallagher – expected to see a little downturn in achievements due to students missing so much school, and we did see that. Dr. Romanelli will present that data and plans to assist those students.

Presentation – Benchmark Testing Grades K-8  
Highlights include: NWEA Summaries and New 2020 Norms for Elementary Schools, iReady Assessment Data and Achievement Results in Mathematics and Reading at the Middle School, Plans for Additional Academic Support and the Virtual Tutoring Program at the Middle School

*Full PowerPoint presentation is available on the District Board of Education website and in the office of the District Clerk.*

### III. President Posterli called for Board of Education Discussion on Work Topic

BOE Discussion
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- Board Member Vrona expressed concern - looking at last year, do we know if we are improving? (At Elementary level, slightly behind in certain areas, and a little ahead in others based on achievement data) Does this say anything about WRAP? (still sustaining high level of achievement despite pandemic – Dr. Gallagher also added because of pandemic, had to propose “opposite” of WRAP – looking at growth data, more meaningful. Reading gains sustained, lost a little in Math). Board Member Vrona asked why we changed to iReady? (Assignments are differentiated according to student need. iReady used very widely. Virtual tutoring program being launched November 2. Parents have been notified).
- Board Member Conway thanked teachers and thank you Dr. Romanelli for presenting this data to see how we can help our students, and asked what are the strategies to help students that are below average? (For reading and for math, it varies, at some grade levels we have a push-in approach and some have pull-out support. We use all different tiered interventions for students depending on where they are scoring on that data, also added many digital instruction tools, some students are receiving interventions every day, depending on need). Do teachers have enough time in the day to provide everything to our students? (Not hearing that at Virtual School, and in-person, teachers have similar model as in past, great support staff in math and reading).
- Board Member Pinto – how early into the year were these assessments given (NWEA just finished about a week ago, finished mid-October). Are any students standing out as a very large change (Yes) Regarding Google Classroom, are all teachers using that? (Yes, that was the idea behind ClassLink as well). Are parents of remote students getting coaching (yes, Family Resources section of website).
- Vice President Ryan asked about NWEA – how long does it take to administer? (per topic, typical administration is about 35 minutes, so total is just over an hour). Is that sufficient time to measure performance (it is one measure, but not the only measure, does think it is a worthy assessment). Concern about time spent teaching to the test – does that occur with NWEA? (No – not a test you can study for). How would a child’s performance on reading or math correlate to a teacher’s assessment of the child’s grade?

**IV. President Posterli called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Work Session Topic Only**

Questions/Comments from Public –Work Session Topic Only

- A member of the public asked about remote students – were they included in the NWEA? (yes)

**V. President Posterli called for Board of Education New/Old Business, if any.**

BOE New/Old Business

- Board Member Vrona asked any change in vandalism at the Middle School as a result of having paper towel dispensers? (Mr. DeVito said he has not heard). Asked also where are we with cameras on the busses (Mr. DeVito and Dr. Gallagher both said have not heard, we have to wait for the County). For Mr. Lilley, do we need to amend Code of Conduct to include incidents that occur during remote learning? (There are some districts that have done that, but he feels Code of Conduct covers off-campus conduct, so that is sufficient, amendment not needed). Dr. Romanelli also working on digital learning etiquette and guidelines sheet that references the Code of Conduct - will be completed within next week or two. Also, regarding positive COVID cases, what have we learned? (Dr. Gallagher replied although 9 cases, none are connected, Dept. of Health commended us on our social distancing protocols and enforcing masks, which has allowed the district to remain open despite some positive cases). And what we are doing wrong? (Mr. DeVito replied that, on the busses, students need to spread out more, seeing clusters, need to remind students to spread out).
- Board Member Pinto asked about moving to different model, using partitions to allow for more students returning in-person and Dr. Gallagher replied partitions have limitations, not comfortable with reducing social distancing to 3 feet, students don't always stay behind partitions, closing those schools that have adopted that model more readily. Mr. Pinto asked if we could send out another message to parents stressing importance of social distancing, wearing masks, and hand-washing and Dr. Gallagher replied yes.
- Board Member Conway stated students are observed leaving school removing masks. Dr. Gallagher said Mr. Myers is sending a message out to students and parents. Mrs. Conway also asked about fixing tennis court screens at Middle School, and Mr. DeVito replied that, since the courts are closed, will look into removing the screens. Board Member Conway expressed disappointment in no in-person extra help. Dr. Gallagher said they will continue to look for ways to expand the extra help program.
- President Posterli asked what impact COVID has had on vaping, and Dr. Gallagher said she will check, wants to verify that she heard at high school vaping is down.

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

Questions and Comments from the Public

- A member of the public asked how the district is notified of positive COVID cases, and Dr. Gallagher replied that it is self-reported – staff or family member

calls us, we call the Health Department. In NYS, they don't have to take a PCR, a positive is a positive, with both PCR or Rapid Test. 30% false negative with Rapid Test. District hasn't heard of any cases contradicted.

**XI. Announcements**

**Announcements**

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – Keith Harvey stated that, in light of Board of Education Appreciation Week, he would like to thank all of the Board members – doing a great job.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. LBSEA – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – also thanked the Board for doing a great job.

**XII. Adjournment**

**Adjournment**

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

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

**Minutes submitted by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Dolan, District Clerk  
October 27, 2020