

MINUTES

- Date of Meeting:** January 22, 2013
- Type of Meeting:** Work Session
- Place of Meeting:** Long Beach Middle School Auditorium
- Members Present:** President Roy J. Lester, Esq.
Vice President Darlene Tangney
Board Member Patrick E. Gallagher
Board Member Dennis Ryan
Board Member Stewart Mininsky
- Members Absent:** None
- Others Present:** Mr. David Weiss, Superintendent
Mr. Michael DeVito, Chief Operating Officer
Mr. Steve Lahey, Director, Facilities
Mr. Nicholas Auletta, Summit Security
Mr. Tom Ritzenhaler, CS Arch
Dr. Michele Natali, MS Principal
Dr. Gaurav Passi, HS Principal
Ms. Carole Butler, District Clerk

I. Call to Order – President Lester

Call to Order

President Lester called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM, led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance, and explained that recent events had heightened concerns about the safety of students and what we do for our students.

II. Superintendent's Report – Mr. Weiss

Superintendent's
Report

The idea of safety is on the minds of administrators, staff, and teachers everyday; the school day starts with student safety and ends with student safety. Hurricane and current events reshaped our perceptions of safety; are our procedures and practices appropriate?

Superintendent's Report (continued)

Presentation – Student Safety - Michael DeVito

Highlights include: Overview, Physical Safety, On-Site Security Force, Infrastructure Improvements in School Preservation Plan, Emergency Plans, Collaboration with Law Enforcement, School Personnel, Social-Emotional Safety, HS Grade Analysis, HS Major Incidents, School Climate Survey Results, and Next Steps. Presentation can be located on-line and in the District Clerk's office.

Mr. Lahey discussed the on-site security, Mr. Auletta talked about Summit Security personnel and procedures, Dr. Natali spoke of the MS practices and philosophy, and Dr. Passi discussed policies and philosophy at the HS.

III. President Lester called for Board of Education Comments

**Board of Education
Comments**

- Board Member Gallagher asked if the students seemed concerned about their physical safety and suggested that security be added to the orientation programs. He also suggested that students learn more about Summit Security and the credentials of the security staff. Mr. Gallagher believes that students would be more respectful if they were aware of the qualifications of those hired and would like to make the community more aware of our security systems and staff.
- Vice President Tangney had questions regarding a chart on 9th grade team analysis of grades, the locking of doors, key fobs and their operation, and the new visitor management system with its timeline. She voiced concerns about the process of identifying potentially dangerous visitors; and whether or not we collaborated with Summit on security decisions. Ms. Tangney asked about door locks and shades for the windows at the HS, and the greeting of every student in the district by a staff member in the morning.
- Board Member Ryan expressed the necessity to protect the staff as well as the students. The Climate Survey results may be less accurate post-Hurricane Sandy

IV. President Lester called for Questions and Comments from the Public on Agenda Items Only.

**Questions and Comments
from the Public**

- Ari Pine – 159 Magnolia Blvd – asked about statistical evidence on the effectiveness of the program, the measurement of the program on a continuing basis, and whether students were learning actual strategies or merely using others to help them.

Mr. Weiss explained that the programs were new, but research studies indicate that social/emotional learning has a major effect on academic performance. Social Workers Agresta and Durnan talked about community involvement and the goal of having students intervene and that they were learning life skills and internalizing strategies. Dr. Natali explained that there were no bystanders – only “upstanders” – who go to a trusted adult; telling vs. tattling to help a friend, and if you see something, say something.

Announcements

V. President Lester called for Announcements.

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers’ Association – No comments
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – No comments
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – No comments
4. Parent/Teacher Association – Ms. Dalila Duffy, CCPTA Co-President, Ms. Gusler and Hope Prince thanked the Board for their hard work and presented gifts from all of the PTAs in honor of Board Recognition Week.
5. Student Organization – No Comments

VI. Vice President Tangney called for Board of Education – Additional New/Old Business, if any.

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

- Vice President Tangney thanked the PTA and thought that they should be honored as parents.
- Board Member Gallagher noted that the subcommittees of the 100 Year Anniversary Committee would be meeting on Wednesday and Thursday afternoon at 4 PM at the Historical Society and that everyone was welcome to join. He also went on to say that it is critical to change the school culture

and improve the climate for the students, making sure they feel safe and comfortable learning at school.

VII. Vice President Tangney called for a motion to adjourn at 8:39 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Board Member Gallagher
Seconded by: Board Member Mininsky
Approved: 4-0

Minutes submitted by:

Carole Butler, District Clerk
November 27, 2012