

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** January 28, 2020  
**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session  
**Place of Meeting:** Administration Building Conference Room  
**Members Present:** President Maureen Vrona, Esq.  
Vice President Tina Posterli  
Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D.  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway arrived late

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations  
Mr. Joseph Lilly, Atty., Frazer & Feldman, LLP  
Mr. Gerald Smith, Atty., Silverman & Asso arrived 5:40-6:15PM

President Vrona called for a motion to go into executive session at 4:43 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into Executive Session

**Motion by:** Board Member Pinto  
**Seconded by:** Vice President Posterli  
**Approved:** 4-0

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

Adjournment

**Motion by:** Board Member Conway  
**Seconded by:** Vice President Posterli  
**Approved:** 5-0

## MINUTES

**Date of Meeting:** January 28,2020

**Type of Meeting:** Work Session

**Place of Meeting:** Lido Elementary School Multipurpose Room B

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

**Members Absent:** None

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

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

President Vrona opened the meeting at 7:00 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice President Posterli mentioned that she and Board Member Conway attended the MLK event which had good representation of the community. Board Member Conway attended the social studies fair; projects were amazing; historical events; thanked the teachers.

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

- *Presentation –2020-2021 Budget Preparation – Debt Service, Benefits, Transportation and Facilities – Michael DeVito*

Highlights included: Debt Service Budget Allocation, Benefits, Transportation, and Facilities

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

**BOE Comments**

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

- Board Member Ryan thanked Mr. DeVito for the presentation. Asked about the balance owed from FEMA reimbursement (\$5 million received, 90% of cost - \$3 million from NYS – regarding reimbursement - loaned ourselves the money and will have to empty out fund balance if not reimbursed - \$40 million- \$33 million – balance from NYS and FEMA). Dr. Ryan inquired about ERS/TRS separate account option (District has a fund – ERS/TRS funds but TRS is not funded yet); asked if there was any way to predict rate (based on markets with 2 year lag); average cost for employees (\$30K contribution is \$26 – need to check).
- President Vrona noted that it had been seven (7) years (as projects finish, reimbursements come in; FEMA comes every two (2) weeks); Mrs. Vrona asked for a timeline; small leeway on ERS/TRS/benefits; nice job on transportation.
- Board Member Pinto mentioned debt service; bonded money; 2026; air conditioning would have least impact on taxpayer in preparation for 2026; fall-off \$4-5 million; other work/savings/dropping budget levels, off until 2026. What percentage of budget is debt service (8.6% of \$140 million); what is healthy (never been told; hit debt service limit); helps with rates (we have excellent AA2 rating- at the top- favorable rates, healthy fund balance).
- Vice President Posterli thanked Mr. DeVito on a great presentation; inquired about transportation hard costs – new buses, replacements (different line item – grants for buses, capital fund).
- Dr. Ryan noted that last year we were in financial stress (no longer; we are no designation now); susceptible in the past – PILOT funds were delayed.

**Questions/Comments from  
Public –Work Session Topic**

**IV. President Vrona called for Questions and Comments  
From the Public – Work Session Topic Only**

- Keith Harvey – CTA President – commented on serial bonds - %65 million/\$35 millin; 2/3 reduction on the books.

**V. Special Discussion on Pending Legislation – HPV Vaccine Mandate  
Public Comment**

- Katherine Socci- 5 Garden City Avenue, Pt. Lookout- concerned parent; wants to know the district's stance; 60 school districts against compulsory vaccine; 48 states resistant; 3 states have mandates with exemptions; NYS only state with no exceptions.
- Rebecca Dietrich – 554 East Harrison St – against mandatory vaccine; not airborne; request we send a letter.
- Dr. Jeremy Todd – 2 Vinton St – against mandatory vaccine; Gardasil taken off market for health concerns.
- Alexis Pace – 660 E. Olive St – District doctor, Richheimer who is giving his medical opinion is an allergist; has worked in the pharmaceutical industry for over 20 years; this is the only vaccine she will not give her children; very controversial and kids get sick; they can get vaccinated at older age.

President Vrona is still awaiting a decision.

**Board of Ed – Addt'l Comment**

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

- Board Member Conway requested a greenhouse update (district appreciates PTA gift; will be set up in better weather; transition to permanent structure at cost; SED approvals required; safety requirements; licensed contractors; heat, water, foundations \$150K or \$250K – capital project separate budget). Mrs. Conway expressed disappointment that greenhouse isn't up; it has been almost a year; community members offered to put it up; local professionals (insurance against it; need a waiver, regulations, scope of project; will put up in the spring where it can stay until fall; Hearing concerns about midterm week (will discuss with Dr. Gallagher to review procedures).
- President Vrona gave a shout out to Dr. Patrick Kiley-Rendon for keeping our computers safe; shout out to Ms. McMann, head of the Alumni Association which has 500 members already.
- Mrs. Vrona announced that she had misspoken at the last meeting about voting in executive session; no vote was taken.
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**VII. Announcements**

**Announcements**

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

**VIII. President Vrona called for a motion to adjourn at 7:58 PM.**

**Adjournment**

**Motion by:** Board Member Pinto  
**Seconded by:** Vice President Posterli  
**Approved:** 5-0

**Minutes submitted by:**

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Carole Butler, District Clerk  
February 11, 2020