

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 7, 2020

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Audio – Phone-In

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
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. for Personnel & Administration
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Joseph Lilly Atty., Frazer & Feldman, LLP

President Vrona called for a motion to go into executive session at 2:04 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into
Executive Session

Motion by: Board Member Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Approved: 5-0

President Vrona called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 2:58 PM.

Adjournment

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

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 7, 2020

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Place of Meeting: Audio Phone-In

Members Present: President Maureen Vrona, Esq.
Vice President Tina Posterli
Board Member Dennis Ryan, Ph.D. joined at 3:21 PM
Board Member Sam Pinto
Board Member Anne Conway

Members Absent: None

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

Pledge/
Opening Remarks

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

President Vrona opened the meeting at 3:04 PM, led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance and on behalf of the Board of Education, read a statement thanking all of the school district stakeholders for their support, dedication and engagement and wishing everyone a happy holiday. The full statement is posted on-line.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

- **Presentation – 2020-2021 Budget Preparation – Michael DeVito**

Highlights include: Technology, Athletics, Co-Curricula, Summer School, NIKE and Security.

This presentation can be located on the district website.

BOE Comments

III. President Vrona called for Board of Education Comments

- Board Member Conway thanked Mr. DeVito, asked if the elementary school computers were up-to-date (approval of emergency resolution on last agenda for replacement of terminals so none needed for next year; purchase order is already signed); food services (put in budget); state aid (net budget should continue with mid-year cuts; may have to use fund balance- may need adjustment, but right now we are ok).
- Vice President Posterli thanked Mr. DeVito, asked about summer school for next year (will use fund balance surplus from no summer school or smaller summer school this year).
- Board Member Pinto thanked Mr. DeVito; asked about food service update (cancelled \$13,000 fee for bid but could use consultant for improved food service suggestions).
- Board Member Ryan thanked Mr. DeVito, Superintendent Gallagher, food services, teachers, everyone; asked about summer school decision (may be able to open); course credit only (no Regents); security is flat – how often do we review their contract (use BOCES currently so not sure about next year with Summit); need to be mindful of NIKE cost per pupil, glad to see decrease, review program.
- President Vrona thanked Mr. DeVito; appreciate keeping tax rate low (1.81); asked about co-curricular stipend changes (Model Congress stipend still matches with work load; Marching Band restructuring, new, will consult with union). Mrs. Vrona requested comparable clubs be sent home; summer school clarification – no Regents requirement so everyone passes if they pass the course; only students who failed course need summer school so expenses decrease (yes); happy that Summit costs are flat; grant money for culinary arts, now eliminated, how are we repurposing (MS/HS sound and lights in auditoriums – Senator Kaminsky happy to sponsor; loves 2.1 real/1.1 increase; concerned state aid is incorporated but worried about compensatory special education services or other unknow expenses; are we using fund balance (best estimate \$200k buffer for next year – can amend budget if necessary).
- Dr. Ryan noted that last year transportation bumped district over budget, this year special education, \$200k may not be enough; mindful of burden of City of Long Beach financial problems.

IV. President Vrona called for Student Organization Announcements

None

SO Announcements

V. President Vrona called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Today's Agenda Only

None

Questions/Comments from Public –Tonight's Agenda Only

VI. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of PERSONNEL MATTERS: CERTIFICATED AS AMENDED - WALK-ON ITEM (C) AND (D)

Presentations of the Superintendent

Approval of:

1. **Personnel Matters: Certificated**
Page: 4

RESOLUTIONS

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the following personnel actions.

VI.1 CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement:

1. Name: Sue Nagel
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Assistant/LBMS
Effective Date: June 30, 2020 close of day
2. Name: Gary Ribis
Assign./Loc: Science Teacher/LBHS/NIKE
Effective Date: September 16, 2020

(b) **Appointment: Supervisor for the Extended School Year – July 6, 2020 – August 14, 2020 - rate of pay - \$10,000 stipend plus preparation rate as per contract**

Laurence Lopez

Walk-On

(c) **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the amended retirement date of Dr. Deborah Lovrich from June 30, 2020, close of day, to April 9, 2020 close of day.

(d) **BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools, Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, and Dr Deborah Lovrich dated April 7, 2020.

President Vrona called for a motion as amended.

Motion by: Vice President Posterli

Seconded by: Board Member Ryan

Approved: 5-0

VI.2 NON-CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL

(a) Resignations for the Purpose of Retirement

Name: John Mule
Assign./Loc: Head Custodian/West School
Effective Date: June 30, 2020 close of day

(b) Resignations

1. Name: Gabrielle Ambrosini
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Aide/Lido School
Effective Date: March 12, 2020 close of day
2. Name: Carolyn Sullivan
Assign./Loc: Part Time Building Aide/LBMS
Effective Date: May 7, 2020 close of day

(c) Leave of Absence

Name: Lorrene Dolan
Assign./Loc: Sec 1/Technology & Comprehensive Arts
Effective Dates: July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021
Reason: To take another position in the District

(d) Completion of Probationary Appointment

The staff members listed below have completed their probationary appointment and have received a satisfactory evaluation and are hereby recommended for permanent appointment.

1. Name: Cindy Zarate
Assign./Loc.: Bus Driver/Transportation Department
Effective Date: April 15, 2020
2. Name: Michael Sacks
Assign./Loc.: Custodian/Lido/Middle School Complex
Effective Date: May 9, 2020

(e) BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves the Employment Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and Lorrene Dolan dated March 13, 2020.

VI.3 ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CSE/CPSE

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of VI.2 and VI.3

**PERSONNEL MATTERS: NON-CERTIFICATED AND THE
ACCEPTANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF
THE CSE/CPSE.**

**Presentations of the
Superintendent**

Approval of:

- 2. Personnel Matters:
Non -Certificated
Page: 5**

President Vrona called for a motion on Items VI.2 And VI.3.

Motion by: Vice President Posterli
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Approved: 5-0; 4-0
Abstained: Board Member Ryan on VI.3.

**Approval of Personnel
Matters: Non-Certificated
Page 5 and Acceptance of
CSE/CPSE
Recommendations**

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

- Board Member Ryan reiterated that the budget is not set in stone; asked about IB, AP test fees (\$130k in budget), building aides, bus aides...
- Vice President Posterli commented that the Board of Education was advocating by reaching out to local officials. They will be drafting a letter to City Council regarding on-going medical needs now and in the future; collaborating for better data.
- President Vrona applauded Ms. Posterli for her efforts. Very supportive of South Oaks webinar; asked about tracking of students and families (self-reporting only). Asked if there was a plan for working papers (school nurses will post on website).
- Dr. Ryan also thanked Ms. Posterli and applauded the Board's initiative but warned not to overstep by doing the job of City Council. He thanked Mrs. Vrona for keeping the BOE afloat/in the loop. Any plans for seniors/graduation (working on it).
- Board Member Conway applauded Ms. Posterli for her advocacy for families, mental effects, concerned about after-effects. Thanked the community. LB Strong! Reminded people to complete their census forms.
- Board Member Pinto agrees with the letter and does not believe it is an overreach.
- Mrs. Vrona announced that the next BOE meeting on April 21 would review the revenue side of budget; believes May 12 may be the date for the adoption of the budget. Shout-out to Dr. Gallagher.

VIII. Questions and Comments from the Public

None

Questions and Comments from the Public

IX. Announcements

Announcements

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – President Harvey - stay safe, healthy, continuity of learning plan, teachers are grateful for support from administration and parents. Looking forward to getting back.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – President Epstein thanked Mr. Harvey and his staff and everyone for their support.
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – Dr. Brancaccio emailed memos, already posted on PTA pages, thanked many people for their contributions.

X. President Vrona called for a motion to adjourn at 4:18 PM.

Motion by: Board Member Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Pinto
Approved: 5-0

Adjournment

Minutes submitted by:

Carole Butler, District Clerk
May 12, 2020