

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** April 21, 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 2:09 PM to discuss district pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go Into  
Executive Session

**Motion by:** Board Member Conway

**Seconded by:** Board Member Pinto

**Approved:** 5-0

President Vrona called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 2:44 PM.

Adjournment

**Motion by:** Board Member Ryan

**Seconded by:** Board Member Conway

**Approved:** 5-0

## MINUTES

**Date of Meeting:** April 21, 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.  
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 3:02 PM, led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance and thanked staff and others for doing a wonderful job, working harder than ever.

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

Superintendent's Report

- **Presentation – 2020-2021 Budget Preparation – Total Proposed Budget and Current Revenue Projection**

Highlights include: Total proposed budget, proposed tax levy, and revenue projection.

This presentation can be located on the district website.

**BOE Comments**

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

- Board Member Conway asked about state aid cuts; is 3 months enough (yes – we can match 20% but 50% would be hard); let's hope for the best and prepare for the worst; do we have a plan to protect all student programs (no, we can cover \$5 million but not additional \$7 million).
- Board Member Ryan asked about specific budget codes related to: non-instructional (no more clerical cuts; already reorganized); MS/Lido separated by code (mandated reporting for equity and funding); retirement anticipation separation pay; utilities remain same (savings already included); technology reimbursement; enough cyber insurance (yes); fields (postponed); TA at HS; looking for savings without program cuts; changes to budget; running list (fund balance first, mid-year cuts); electric buses (expensive).
- Board Member Pinto asked about delayed deadline for tax payments (we have cash on hand for outstanding bills; ok with current funding (received more FEMA/stage monies \$750K).
- President Vrona happy about receiving \$750k and asked how much is still owed from Sandy; need to cut not add; supports 1.81% and wishes even lower; do not use undesignated funds for operating budget (savings from being closed); hard to calculate savings if we re-open (\$2 million so far); how do we make changes to this budget (tell MD); next week BOE members need to give their final input.
- Dr. Ryan asked about REACH (grant-funded but BOE can ask for unfunding).
- Dr. Gallagher was advised not to pass budget until Election Day is determined.
- Mrs. Vrona noted April 28 work session will be last with budget adoption anticipated on May 12. Asked about mid-year cuts; IP exclusivity; LIPA Pilot decreasing (no); appropriated balance/undesignated funds (same).

**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**

A Cedarhurst resident requested to speak but BOE voted no.

**Questions/Comments from Public –Tonight's Agenda Only**

**VI. PRESENTATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

**Presentations of the Superintendent**

**VI.1 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of BOCES Vote - NASSAU BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES VOTES**

**BOCES Vote**

**A. APPROVAL OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Nassau County ("Nassau BOCES") has proposed and presented its Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2020/21 school year (July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021); now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Nassau BOCES Proposed Administrative Operations Budget for the 2020/21 school year in the amount of twenty-two million, eight hundred ten thousand, eight hundred seventy-three dollars (\$22,810,873) be approved.

**President Vrona called for a motion.**

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

BOCES Trustee Vote
-----------------------

**B. ELECTION OF THREE CANDIDATES ON THE NASSAU  
BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES ("Nassau BOCES")**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District hereby votes for the following candidates to fill three vacancies on Nassau BOCES:

Deborah Coates  
Jean Fichtl  
Lawrence Greenstein  
Michael Hatten  
Douglas Pascarella  
Eric B. Schultz

The Board of Education voted for: Deborah Coates, Lawrence Greenstein, Eric B. Schultz

**President Vrona called for a motion.**

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

**Dr. Gallagher recommended in a combined vote Items VI.2 through VI.5.**

**VI.2 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF  
AGREEMENT – SYOSSET**

APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT - SYOSSET
------------------------------------

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the inter-municipal agreement between the Syosset School District and the Long Beach School District to have the Syosset School District provide Emergency Child Care services for the children of Long Beach's first responders and medical service providers.

**VI.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF  
STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT**

APPROVAL OF STIPULATION OF SETTLEMENT
--

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Long Beach Public Schools hereby approves the terms and conditions of the Stipulation of Settlement resolving a certain matter between the District and the parents of a youngster not classified by the District's CSE and identified by student number 280102; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to execute the Stipulation of Settlement as approved on the Board's behalf.

**VI.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF LETTER TO CITY OF LONG BEACH**

APPROVAL OF LETTER TO CITY OF LB

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve a letter addressed to the City of Long Beach City Manager and City Council members requesting the dissemination of pertinent health information on the impact of the Coronavirus on the Long Beach community.

**VI.5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES**

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS: LEGAL SERVICES

**A) FRAZER & FELDMAN, LLP**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$3,033 to Frazer & Feldman, LLP for the monthly retainer for legal services for the period of March 1 through March 31, 2020 and \$12,717,55 for extraordinary legal services for the period December 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

**B) THOMAS VOLZ**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$3,333.33 to Thomas Volz, PLLC for the month retainer for the period of March 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

**President Vrona called for a motion on Items VI.2 through VI.5**

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

BOE Additional New/Old Business

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

- Board Member Ryan voiced concerns about the state of the schools if we re-open (totally cleaned and ready); number of packages/sandwiches delivered (300 per day; lunch and breakfast for next day – thanks to Kyle Swan, staff, PTA).
- Board Member Conway asked about the elementary writing program (Dr. Raddice); SUPA writing class in HS in junior year (available); congratulated Dr. Gallagher on uplifting emails; any plans for seniors (meeting tomorrow); South Oaks webinar feedback (staff liked it); students/parents okay with workload (532 respondents -70%

yes – 15% too much/15% too little); upgrades for food service (no); new PE app is amazing.

- Board Member Pinto mentioned working papers (HS nurse office); thanked the community for voting him a School Superhero.
- President Vrona noted that graduation had not been canceled as of yet.

**Questions and Comments from the Public**

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

None

**Announcements**

**IX. Announcements**

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association – President Harvey - stay safe.
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. LBPS Group C Employees Association – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – CCPTA Co-Presidents Ackerman and McCarthy-slate of officers for CCPTA voted at virtual meeting on April 30 at 4 PM, thanked Dr. Gallagher and PTA members for deliveries; 125 meals are delivered by PTA; groceries for 40 families and increasing weekly.

**X. President Vrona called for a motion to adjourn at 4:49 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