

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** December 8, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** Long Beach Middle School Music Room

**Members Present:** 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 (via Zoom)  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
(via Zoom)  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Joseph Lilly, Attorney, Frazer & Feldman

**Absent:** President Tina Posterli

Vice President Ryan called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:30 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

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

Adjournment

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

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** December 14, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** Zoom Meeting

**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  
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations  
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration  
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction

**Absent:** Mr. Joseph Lilly, Attorney, Frazer & Feldman

President Posterli called for a motion to go into executive session at 4:34 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:** 5-0

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 5:20 PM.

Adjournment

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

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** December 8, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Auditorium

**Members Present:** Vice President Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Maureen Vrona  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway

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

**Absent:** President Tina Posterli

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

Vice President Ryan called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice President Ryan stated that Ms. Posterli sends her regrets for not being able to attend tonight's Board meeting. Dr. Ryan stated there had been re-opening meetings this week and each Board member attended each of the four meetings – Dr. Gallagher will be addressing it further in her comments.

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

Superintendent's Report
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Dr. Gallagher apologized that both she and Dr. Natali were attending the Board meeting remotely as they were not feeling well. She reiterated that the re-opening committee groups met and overwhelming sentiment is that people are happy with the precautions the district has taken thus far, and received some great suggestions for how things can be better, and will be publishing the results of the meetings and the survey. Dr. Gallagher thanked the teachers, administrators and community members who participated in the meetings – there were over 75 participants.

Dr. Lorraine Radice presented Literacy Pre-K – 12. Highlights included District Literacy Goals, NWEA Data Review, Elementary Writing, Remote Learners, AIS Reading and Writing Interventions, Secondary English, Secondary Reading and Literacy Development.

*Full PowerPoint presentation is available on the District Board of Education website.*

**III. Vice President Ryan called for Board of Education Comments**

**BOE Comments**

- Board Member Conway thanked Dr. Radice for her presentation, stressed the importance of non-fiction reading in the younger grades; she also said it was great that adding more structured reading at the secondary schools and asked how much actual pen/pencil writing the students are getting and Dr. Radice replied that the students do have the opportunity to submit hand-written assignments, they do “one-pagers”, novels are sent home so students can read books with pages, etc., so there is a balance.
- Board Member Vrona thanked Dr. Radice as well, and asked if book clubs were voluntary (yes), asked if cursive writing is taught (yes, Wilson Cursive Writing taught in grade 3).
- Mr. Pinto asked about the synergy with other disciplines and Dr. Radice replied they are working with incorporating non-fiction reading (social studies), and science literacy. Is there a way we can show how increasing literacy is improving testing in other disciplines and Dr. Romanelli said he would include that in his report.
- Dr. Ryan asked about writing – is there an effort to incorporate more writing in social studies and science and Dr. Radice replied that it is already being done in science where students write their observations and findings, and, regarding social studies, writing assignments are related to the social studies curriculum. Dr. Ryan asked if students are taking books out of the libraries, and Dr. Radice replied yes. He also asked about the state of the district libraries and Dr. Radice replied that she is working with Dr. Romanelli to increase the material available. Dr. Ryan asked about the diversity of the literature, are students reading “the classics”, and Dr. Radice replied yes, there is a good balance between contemporary literature and the classics.

**IV. Vice President Ryan called for Student Organization Announcements**

None

**SO Announcements**

**V. Vice President Ryan called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Today’s Agenda Only**

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

- A member of the public asked if the district does any evaluations on teachers’ grammar, and if we take donations of books and Dr. Radice replied that the teachers are provided with professional learning sessions, they are very well supported and we were taking book donations before COVID.
- A member of the public asked about grammar at the Middle School and cursive writing (her son only received one week of cursive writing) and Dr. Radice stated that the “No Red Ink” supplemental support is being offered at grade 8 in addition to the

supports the students should be getting in the classroom. Dr. Radice also replied that they just started adding the cursive writing program back at the elementary level, so her son probably didn't receive it. Mrs. Vrona and Dr. Gallagher stated that there was an online program incorporated at the Middle School level (self-directed).

- VI. Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Minutes for Executive Session and Regular Meeting of November 10, 2020 and Executive Sessions of November 19, 2020 and November 20, 2020.

Vice President Ryan called for a motion.  
Motion by: Board Member Pinto  
Seconded by: Board Member Vrona  
Approved: 4-0

Approval of Minutes

- VII. Dr. Gallagher called for the Presentation of the Treasurer's Report for October 2020  
No action required.

Treasurer's Report for  
October 2020

- VIII.1 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Personnel Matters: Certificated

Vice President Ryan called for a motion.  
Motion by: Board Member Vrona  
Seconded by: Board Member Conway

Approval of:  
Personnel Matters: Certificated

**Discussion:** Mrs. Vrona welcomed Debby Kerimian to her new position. Mrs. Conway stated that extra help should be offered at the elementary level and Dr. Romanelli stated he shares her concern and it will be addressed in the report Dr. Gallagher is sending home on December 15.

Approved: 4-0

- VIII.2 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Personnel Matters as Amended: Non-Certificated

Vice President Ryan called for a motion.  
Motion by: Board Member Vrona  
Seconded by: Board Member Conway  
Approved: 4-0

Approval of Personnel  
Matters: Non-Certificated

#### RESOLUTIONS

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

- I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL  
(a) Resignation

Name: Jessica Cintron Cappelli  
Assign./Loc: Permanent Substitute Teacher/LBHS

Effective Date: November 13, 2020 close of day

**(b) Rescissions**

Name: Patricia Fallon-Co Advisor for Math Team  
Effective Date: November 25, 2020

Name: Marino Bragino-Co Advisor for Jazz Band  
Effective Date: October 25, 2020-Return Date

**(c) Leaves of Absence**

Name: Randi Simon  
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teacher/Virtual  
Effective Dates: February 2, 2021-May 11, 2021  
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

Name: Dana Monti  
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lido School  
Effective Dates: November 17, 2020-January 15, 2021 (on or about)  
Reason: Medical/FMLA

Name: Hillary Baltrusaitis  
Assign./Loc. Part Time Teacher Assistant/LBHS  
Effective Dates: November 24, 2020-June 30, 2021  
Reason: Personal

Name: Kylee Nicholls  
Assign./Loc. Elementary Teacher/Lido School  
Effective Dates: May 18, 2021-June 30, 2021  
Reason: Maternity

**(d) Amended Leaves of Absence**

Name: Tara Wesselhoft  
Assign./Loc. Physical Education Teacher/LBMS  
Effective Dates: September 1, 2020-June 30, 2021  
Original Dates: September 1, 2020-January 4, 2021  
Reason: Maternity

Name: Kaitlyn Moorhead  
Assign./Loc. Special Education Teacher/LBHS  
Effective Dates: September 1, 2020-April 15, 2021  
Original Dates: September 1, 2020-January 29, 2021  
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

**(e) Appointment: Probationary Assistant Business Manager**

Name: Debby Kerimian  
 Assign./Loc: Probationary Assistant Business Manager/Business Office  
 Certification: Professional School District Business Leader  
 Effective Date: December 14, 2020  
 End Date: December 13, 2024  
 Tenure Date: December 14, 2024  
 Tenure Area: Assistant Business Manager  
 Salary Classification: \$138,000 per annum/pro-rated  
 Reason: To replace Joyce Hanechak

**(f) Appointment: Regular Substitute Physical Education Teacher**

Name: Rocco Tenebruso  
 Assign./Loc: Regular Substitute Physical Education Teacher/LBMS  
 Certification: Initial Physical Education  
 Salary Classification: MA/Step 3 (\$74,811 per annum)  
 Effective Dates: January 22, 2021-June 30, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion)  
 Tenure Area: Physical Education  
 Reason: To replace Tara Wesselhoft

**(g) Appointment: Permanent Substitute Teacher**

Name: Christopher McGorty  
 Assign./Loc.: Permanent Substitute Teacher/LBHS  
 Certification: Social Studies 7-12- COVID 19 Emergency  
 Students with Disabilities 7-12-Generalist-COVID 19  
 Emergency  
 Effective Dates: December 9, 2020-June 25, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion)  
 Rate of Pay: \$227.12 (no medical insurance coverage)  
 Reason: Annual appointment

**(h) Appointment: Part Time Drivers Education Instructor**

Name: Daniel Lerner  
 Assign./Loc: Part Time Drivers Education Instructor/Virtual  
 Certification: NYS DOMV-Drivers Education Instructor Certification  
 Effective Dates: To be determined  
 Salary Classification: \$76.76 per hour  
 Reason: Annual-reappointment/afterschool program

**(i) Appointment Part Time Teacher Assistants 17.5 hours per week Start Date through June 25, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion).  
Rate according to contract-subject to negotiations.**

Name	Step	Rate	Location	Start date	Reason
Elizabeth D'Anna	4	20.12	Lido	12/9/2020	IEP

**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(j) Appointment: Teachers for After School Tutoring Program 2020-2021 School Year-School Improvement Plan. Rate of Pay \$76.76 per hour-maximum 40 hours each**

<b>Teacher Name</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Julia Kolanovic	Algebra 1
Jennifer Papetti	Geometry
Michele D'Andrea	Algebra 2
K. Bloom/A. Glassberg	Living Environment
Meghan Grahlfis	Living Environment
L. Wolfin/J. Hall	Chemistry
Rachel Yousha Spitz	Physics
Calie Yousha	Earth Science
Maria Hartmann	English
Alison Caracciolo	Reading Support
Robin Gonzalez	Global History
Jonathan Bloom	US History
Gina Scafidi	World Language Level 3-Italian
Arlys Digena	World Language Level 3-French
Aime Rivero	World Language Level 3-Spanish

**(k) Appointment: Teacher Mentor for the 2020/2021 school year-Stipend: \$1,200**

Stephanie Zimmerman



**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(l) The following Per Diem Substitute Teachers are recommended for approval for the 2020-2021 school year**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CERTIFICATION AREA</b>
Cheryl Carroll	Permanent Pre K-6 Permanent ESL Permanent Spanish 7-12
Jerry Redondo	Childhood Education 1-6-Emergency COVID 19
Frances Garcia	Initial Physical Education (pending)
Barbara Collins	Nurse

**(m) Recommendation for Appointment on Tenure** the staff member listed below is eligible for appointment on tenure in the area and on the date indicated. She has been found to be competent, efficient, and satisfactory in her total professional performance.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Tenure Area</b>	<b>Date</b>
Marisol Burgos	Teacher Assistant	1/3/2021

**II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(a) Resignation for the Purpose of Retirement**

Name: Jose Garcia  
Assign./Loc: Bus Driver/Transportation Department  
Effective Date: December 10, 2020 close of day

**(b) Resignation**

Name: Angela Capone Pignataro  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation Department  
Effective Date: November 16, 2020 close of day

**(c) Discontinuance**

Name: Rena Barsh Rudolph  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Aide/LBMS  
Effective Date: November 19, 2020 close of day

**(d) Leave of Absence**

Name: Annemarie Whelan  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Aide/Lindell School  
Effective Dates: January 1, 2021-March 12, 2021 (on or about)  
Reason: Maternity

**(e) Amended Leave of Absence**

Name: Jill Rehnback  
Assign./Loc.: Data Specialist/LBMS  
Effective Dates: September 10, 2020-June 30, 2021  
Original Dates: September 10, 2020-January 29, 2021  
Reason: Medical

**(f) Appointment: Part Time School Bus Drivers (30 hours)**

Name: Henry Patino  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Driver-30 hours/Transportation  
Effective Date: December 14, 2020  
Probationary End Date: December 13, 2024  
Salary Classification: \$25,827 per annum-subject to negotiations  
Grade/Step: Grade II/Step 1  
Reason: To replace Nora Torres

Name: David Berke  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Driver-30 hours/Transportation  
Effective Date: December 14, 2020  
Probationary End Date: December 13, 2024  
Salary Classification: \$25,827 per annum-subject to negotiations  
Grade/Step: Grade II/Step 1  
Reason: To replace Susan Reminick

Name: Barbara Simon  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Driver-30 hours/Transportation  
Effective Date: December 14, 2020  
Probationary End Date: December 13, 2024  
Salary Classification: \$25,827 per annum-subject to negotiations  
Grade/Step: Grade II/Step 1  
Reason: To replace Danielle Preza

**(g) Completion of Probationary Appointment**

The staff member listed below has completed her probationary appointment and has received a satisfactory evaluation and is hereby recommended for permanent appointment.

Name: Ellen Stewart  
Assign./Loc.: Payroll Clerk/Business Office  
Effective Date: January 1, 2021

**(h) The following Per Diem Substitute is recommended for approval for the 2020-2021 school year.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
James Peppe	Cleaner

**VIII.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ADOPTION OF POLICY #6570 REMOTE WORKING**

Adoption – Policy #6570  
Remote Working

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education waives the second reading of Policy #6570 Remote Working, as attached, and moves its adoption.

Vice President Ryan called for a motion.

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

**VIII.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the FIRST READING OF POLICY #5676 PRIVACY AND SECURITY FOR STUDENT DATA AND TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL DATA**

First Reading – Policy  
#5676 Privacy & Security  
for Student Data & Teacher  
& Principal Data

No action required.

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Items 5-11 together.

Vice President Ryan called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Pinto  
Seconded by: Vice President Ryan

**Discussion:** Mrs. Vrona asked about the Item #8 – Budget Transfer, and Mr. DeVito explained that a couple of students receive related services at a location they also attend school, so monies were actually put into the tuition code, needed to be moved to related services code.

Approved: 4-0

**VIII.5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH DR. MONICA GEORGE-FIELDS OF REACH, LLC EDUCATIONAL SOLUTIONS**

Approval of Agreement  
– Reach, LLC  
Educational Solutions

**WHEREAS**, the Long Beach City School District (“District”) desires to enter into an agreement with Dr. Monica George-Fields of REACH, LLC Educational Solutions to provide assistance in the creation of the SCEP (School Comprehensive Education Plan) in collaboration with teachers, administrators, students and families for the 2020-2021 school year;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the agreement with Dr. Monica George-Fields of REACH, LLC Educational Solutions in the amount of \$51,960.00 (grant funded) for assistance in creation of the SCEP for the 2020-2021 school year;

Acceptance of Audit  
Report and Corrective  
Action Plan

**VIII.6 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ACCEPTANCE OF AUDIT REPORT AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Long Beach City School District, based on the recommendation of the District's Audit Committee, accepts the Audit Report and Management Letter for the year ended June 30, 2020 as presented by the District's independent external auditor, Jill Sanders, approves the Corrective Action Plan and authorizes and directs the Administration to implement the Corrective Action Plan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education hereby directs the District Clerk to file a certified copy of this resolution and the District's Corrective Action Plan with the Commissioner of Education and the Office of the State Comptroller.

**VIII.7 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF DEDUCT CHANGE ORDER #1 WITH IRWIN CONTRACTING, INC.**

Approval of Deduct  
Change Order – Irwin  
Contracting

**WHEREAS**, the Long Beach City School District ("District") has engaged Irwin Contracting, Inc. for cafeteria security wall work at Long Beach High School pursuant to a contract dated March 10, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's architect recommends modification to the existing contract to furnish and install fire rated, shooter attack certified glass in existing doorways in the amount of \$14,959.00 and install framing and sheetrock where the connected aluminum framed window sections had voids, in lieu of ceramic tile, in the amount of \$4,365.00 as well as an unused allowance of \$20,000.00, for a credit in the amount of \$676.00; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts Deduct Change Order #1 to the contract with Irwin Contracting, Inc. for the decrease in cost of \$676.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute Deduct Change Order #1 to the contract with Irwin Contracting, Inc. on its behalf.

**VIII.8 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF BUDGET TRANSFER**

Approval of Budget  
Transfer

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves a transfer in the amount of \$ 310,000.00 to the Special Education Related Services code from the Special Education Tuition for Non- Public Schools code to cover the cost of Special Education Related Services for the 2020-21 school year.

**VIII.9 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ACCEPTANCE OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PRE-SCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Acceptance of  
Recommendations from  
CPSE and CSE

**VIII.10 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS**

Payment of Legal Bills  
 – Frazer & Feldman &  
 Thomas Volz

**A) THOMAS M. VOLZ, PLLC**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$713.00 to Thomas M. Volz, PLLC for legal services for the period of October 6 through October 20, 2020.

**VIII.11 Dr. Gallagher recommends the APPROVAL OF USE OF SCHOOLS APPLICATION**

Use of Schools  
 Application

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the use of schools as attached, not to conflict with District events. However, please note that events may have to be modified and/or rescheduled based on building schedule.

**APPLICATIONS FOR USE OF SCHOOLS**

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Facility Requested</u>	<u>Date Requested</u>
QC SCUBA	SCUBA Training	Long Beach High School Pool	November 12, 2020 Thursday 10:00am – 2:00pm

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

Board of Ed Additional  
 New/Old Business

- Sam Pinto stated that the Food Services Survey is still on website if parents would like to provide input.
- Dr. Ryan asked if there was any follow-up regarding the possibility of using the Inter-Municipality Agreement we have with the City of Long Beach to aid in any future transportation issues due to COVID and Mr. DeVito replied that they are in discussion with the City through their Corporation Counsel and they are going to expedite that portion of the Agreement pertaining to Transportation services if needed and hopes to have something in place soon.
- Ms. Conway thanked Dr. Gallagher for her communication and updates with district families and staff and asked if it would be possible to extend this to the test of the Long Beach community and Dr. Gallagher replied that she would be happy to do that.
- Mrs. Vrona thanked Denise Ford for her efforts regarding school bus cameras, and said they now have a vendor. Ms. Vrona also stated that the Drama presentation was great and was honored to be invited to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class News Hour and that was also great. Mrs. Vrona asked Dr. Gallagher, with

regard to Yellow Zone and Orange Zone testing, does it look like we would be able to stay open if we were designated an Orange Zone based on the new testing guidelines, and Dr. Gallagher replied yes, from a testing perspective but perhaps not from a staffing perspective.

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

**Questions and Comments from the Public**

- A member of the public stated that she was part of the Re-opening Task Force and not all students who are fully remote have been reached out to by school personnel. No one called her children the entire first quarter, and feels they need more of a connection on the part of the school. Dr. Ryan thanked her and knows that this issue was raised at the re-opening meeting yesterday, and Dr. Romanelli has stated that he would make sure that did not happen again.

**XI. Announcements**

**Announcements**

1. Long Beach Classroom Teachers' Association - None
2. Administrative, Supervisory and PPS Group – None
3. LBSEA – None
4. Parent/Teacher Association – None

**XII. Adjournment**

**Adjournment**

**Vice President Ryan called for a motion to adjourn at 8:19 PM.**

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

**Minutes submitted by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Dolan, District Clerk  
December 8, 2020