

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 7, 2021

Type of Meeting: Executive Session

Place of Meeting: Long Beach Administration Building

Members Present: President Tina Posterli
Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan
Board Member Maureen Vrona, Esq.
Board Member Anne Conway

Absent: Board Member Sam Pinto

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance & Operations
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 4:02 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

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 4:37 PM.

Adjournment

Motion by: Vice President Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Approved: 4-0

MINUTES

Date of Meeting: April 7, 2021

Type of Meeting: Work Session

Place of Meeting: Audio – Phone In

Members Present: Vice President Dr. Dennis Ryan
Board Member Vrona, Esq.
Board Member Anne Conway

Absent: President Tina Posterli
Board Member Sam Pinto

Others Present: Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Michele Natali, Asst. Supt. For Personnel & Administration
Mr. Michael DeVito, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Dr. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction
Lori Dolan, District Clerk
Members of the Public

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

Pledge/ Opening Remarks

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

President Posterli called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice President welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for calling in.

II. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Gallagher

Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Gallagher turned the meeting over to Mr. DeVito to answer questions from the Board regarding the 2021-2022 proposed budget.
- Board Member Conway asked about unused leave and Mr. DeVito replied that in administration contracts a provision to allow "sell back" unused vacation.

- Board Member Conway asked about clericals; Mr. DeVito stated that many have moved from one department to another, depending on need. As people retire, they look at ways to combine or consolidate rolls.
- Board Member Conway asked about Curriculum Development/BOCES and Mr. DeVito replied that is software that came up due for remote learning due to COVID, liked it, and will continue next year.
- Board Member Conway asked about the Mindfulness Program – any way it could be more cost effective; Dr. Gallagher stated that it's temporary, teachers will be trained, delay due to Covid, takes time, will reduce over five years.
- Board Member Conway asked about increasing diversity of staff; Dr. Gallagher that is a priority, hiring TA's from the community while they are working on completing their credentials.
- Vice President Ryan asked about a department being overstaffed; Mr. DeVito said they are not looking to reduce staff in that department at this time.
- Dr. Ryan asked about custodial expense at NIKE and Mr. DeVito replied that is for cleaning.
- Dr. Ryan asked about cost savings in electricity due to Honeywell and solar panel installations, and Mr. DeVito said we are already seeing a reduction in cost.
- Dr. Ryan asked about a reduction of \$100,000 in groundskeeping next year; Mr. DeVito replied that this year their was one time expense of \$107,000 for Landtek for field skimming that will not be needed next year.
- Dr. Ryan asked about the MYP Services Contractual code staying the same – is more of this going to be virtual; Dr. Gallagher replied yes, and will realize a cost savings in travel.
- Dr. Ryan asked about Pre-K enrollment; Mr. DeVito stated they are hoping for an increase.
- Dr. Ryan asked about an increase in K-3 teachers at East. Dr. Gallagher replied there is going to be a reduction at East of one Kindergarten class. That staff is not necessarily from East.
- Dr. Ryan asked how many Deans at the Middle School; Mr. DeVito replied 1.6 – he is also .4 Special Ed Resource Room, High School has 2 full time Deans.
- Dr. Ryan asked about an increase – Environmental BOCES – Mr. DeVito stated that both current year 6th graders and next year's 6th graders will go to Frost Valley, since the current grade was unable to go this year due to Covid.
- Dr. Ryan asked about Special Ed Tutoring; Dr. Gallagher said she thinks that is related to home schooling – students home for medical reasons.
- Dr. Ryan asked about the Middle School Library – 2 years ago cut services at the High School – will Middle School follow? Mr. DeVito said he can look into it, but may have more need at the Middle School, there is a lot of collaborative work done at the library.
- Dr. Ryan asked about the Elementary Social Worker; Mr. DeVito replied that is covered through a grant.
- Board Member Vrona said she had no questions, happy keeping budget below 1%.

III. Vice President Ryan called for Questions and Comments from the Public – Items on Work Session Topic Only

Questions/Comments from Public –Work Session Topic Only

- None

IV. Vice President Ryan called for Board of Education New/Old Business, if any.

BOE New/Old Business

- None

VII. Questions and Comments from the Public

Questions and Comments from the Public

- None

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 7:56 PM.

Motion by: Vice President Ryan
Seconded by: Board Member Conway
Approved: 4-0

Minutes submitted by: _____

Lori Dolan, District Clerk
April 7, 2021