

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** October 13, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Executive Session

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Music Room

**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. Paul Romanelli, Asst. Supt. For Curriculum & Instruction  
Mr. Joseph Lilly, Attorney, Frazer & Feldman

President Posterli called for a motion to go into executive session at 5:00 PM to discuss pending legal and personnel matters.

Motion to Go  
Into  
Executive  
Session

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

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:51 PM.

Adjournment

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

**MINUTES**

**Date of Meeting:** October 13, 2020

**Type of Meeting:** Regular Meeting

**Place of Meeting:** LBMS Auditorium

**Members Present:** President Tina Posterli  
Vice President Dennis Ryan  
Board Member Sam Pinto  
Board Member Anne Conway

**Members Absent:** Board Member Maureen Vrona

**Others Present:** Dr. Jennifer Gallagher, Superintendent of Schools  
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

Pledge/  
Opening Remarks

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

President Posterli called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the community in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Posterli welcomed everyone – kudos to the District – no Covid cases, and all doing really well. President Posterli thanked the Athletic Director, Mr. Epstein for the workout program, which has over 300 student participants.

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

Superintendent's Report

Mr. DeVito stated in early March the State released school reopening guidance which required every school district to develop a plan to reopen schools, adhering to specific health and safety regulations. The cost involved in these additional precautions is an unfunded mandate that required emergency expenditures outside of our approved budget. Mr. DeVito stated there were 23.1 teachers added to our staff for Virtual Elementary, In-Person Elementary to eliminate split staff throughout elementary schools, and to offset substitute coverage, for a total cost of approximately \$2,300,000. There were 43 additional auxiliary staff hired district-wide to cover classrooms, hallways, lunch, nurse's offices, and monitor bathrooms, for a total cost of approximately \$1,260,000. He added that this cost would be reduced during any time period that remote instruction would be in place. Supplies and material, ie, masks, gloves, PPE, hand sanitizers, additional chromebooks, etc. were a total cost of approximately \$733,320. These costs

will be offset by FEMA reimbursement of \$130,218, CARES Act Grants of \$404,180, and Smart School Bond Act \$29,600, resulting in an actual district cost of \$169,322. Total Covid related costs to the district are \$3,729,655 if we run our programs as planned from now until the end of the year, with an ending Unassigned Fund Balance of approximately \$9,270,345.

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

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

**BOE Comments**

- Dr. Ryan commented that this is another validation as to why school districts do need a fund balance, to deal with emergencies such as Covid, and thanked Mr. DeVito on behalf of the taxpayers for the work that he does. Concerning staff that has been hired, Dr. Ryan asked if these are all emergency hires, after Covid will we go back to our baseline and Mr. DeVito replied yes. Dr. Ryan also are there places in any of the schools to reap savings due to reduced student population, closing NIKE and no Continuing Education program, and Mr. DeVito replied that we are already looking to see opportunities to reduce.
- Mrs. Vrona asked with respect to the teaching staff that were hired, what are teachers that sued to be split doing? Dr. Gallagher replied that they are used to cover additional staffing requirements due to Covid. Dr. Romanelli added that some also accompany all virtual (co-teachers) and virtual specials (art, music, etc.) Mrs. Vrona also asked, with regard to supplies and materials, is it true that our State Aid might be reduced by monies received from the CARES Act, and Mr. DeVito replied no. Mrs. Vrona asked why the Operating Surplus for last year is still an estimate (auditors still need to complete Financial Statements). Mrs. Vrona asked how much are we still owed from Sandy, and Mr. DeVito said we have been reimbursed approximately 90%. Mrs. Vrona expressed concern over having a fund balance great than 4% (auditors notate financial statements regarding owed FEMA money).
- Mrs. Conway asked if the State will be able to hold our fund balance against us when deciding on Aid, and Mr. DeVito replied that we have a healthy but not excessive fund balance. Mrs. Conway asked for confirmation that new hires ensured all programs were maintained and that students are getting essentially the same education as they would pre-Covid and Mr. DeVito replied yes.
- Ms. Posterli asked if purchase of additional furniture and textbooks was to accommodate the virtual model (yes).

**IV. President Posterli called for Student Organization Announcements**

None

**SO Announcements**

**V. President Posterli 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 what the cost savings would be should the district revert to all virtual and Mr. DeVito replied it would be too difficult to predict, because it would depend on what point in the year that might be, etc.

**VI. Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Minutes for Executive Session of September 16, 2020 and Executive Session and Regular Meeting of September 22, 2020.**

President Posterli called for a motion.  
Motion by: Board Member Pinto  
Seconded by: Vice President Ryan  
Approved: 5-0

Approval of Minutes

**VII.1 Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Personnel Matters as Amended: Certificated**

President Posterli called for a motion.  
Motion by: Vice President Ryan  
Seconded by: Board Member Conway  
Approved: 5-0

Approval of:  
Personnel Matters: Certificated

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

President Posterli called for a motion.  
Motion by: Board Member Vrona  
Seconded by: Board Member Pinto  
Approved: 5-0

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 for the Purpose of Retirement**

Name: Elaine Mango  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Assistant/LBMS  
Effective Dates: December 30, 2020

**(b) Resignation**

Name: Joyce Petrosino  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Assistant/LBMS  
Effective Dates: October 23, 2020 close of day

**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(c) Amended Leave of Absence**

Name: Andrea Hinke  
Assign./Loc: Special Education Teacher/LBMS  
Effective Date: September 7, 2020-December 2, 2020  
Original Dates: September 7, 2020-October 22, 2020 (on or about)  
Reason: FMLA/Maternity

**(d) Leaves of Absence**

Name: Natasha Drost  
Assign./Loc: Reading Teacher/Lindell School  
Effective Dates: October 28, 2020-December 22, 2020 (on or about)  
Reason: Maternity/FMLA

Name: Patricia Baron  
Assign./Loc: Guidance Counselor/LBHS  
Effective Dates: October 19, 2020-December 11, 2020 (on or about)  
Reason: FMLA/Medical

Name: Flor West  
Assign./Loc: ENL Teacher/LBHS  
Effective Dates: September 29, 2020-November 13, 2020 (on or about)  
Reason: FMLA/Medical

Name: Lakesha Wilson  
Assign./Loc: Part Time Teacher Assistant/LBHS  
Effective Dates: October 9, 2020-November 6, 2020

**(e) Appointment: Regular Substitute Special Education Teacher**

Name: Samantha Paul  
Assign./Loc: Regular Substitute Special Education Teacher/LBHS  
Certification: Students with Disabilities 7-12 Emergency COVID 19  
Mathematics 7-12 Emergency COVID 19  
Salary Classification: BA/Step 1 (\$63,627 per annum) prorated  
Effective Date: September 23, 2020-January 29, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion)  
Tenure Area: Education of Children with Handicapping Conditions-  
General Special Education  
Reason: To replace Megan Cullinan  
Comment: Rescind short term leave position

**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(f) Appointment: Part Time Music Teacher (.6)**

Name: Alexander Della Ratta  
 Assign./Loc: Part Time Music Teacher (.6)/East School (.5)/Virtual (.1)  
 Certification: Initial Music  
 Salary Classification: .6 of BA/Step 2 (\$39,497 per annum) prorated  
 Effective Dates: October 14, 2020-June 30, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion)  
 Reason: COVID  
 Comment: was .5

**(g) Appointment: Odyssey of the Mind–Rate of Pay: \$57.77 per hour-for the 2020-2021 School Year-maximum 80 hours each**

Justin Sulsky  
Douglas MacConnell

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

Leslie Ling Denise Collins  
 Elizabeth O'Brien Alison Katulka

**(i) Appointment: Advisors for LBHS Co-Curricular Activities 2020-2021 School Year**

Club	Advisor	Stipend
Art Club	Marlon Lainez <i>rescind J. Harvey</i>	1589
National Art Honor Society	J. Harvey/E. Fox <i>rescind S. Presberg</i>	3176 split
Comptroller	Jim Fiola	5558 <i>amended stipend</i>
Robotics Assistant Coach	Daniel Lerner	9529

**(j) The following Short Term Substitute is recommended for approval from October 16, 2020-December 11, 2020. Rate of pay is \$224.87 per day**

**NAME CERTIFICATION AREA**  
 Geoffrey Noss Initial Guidance Counselor

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

**NAME CERTIFICATION AREA**  
 Jaclyn DeVivio Childhood Education 1-6 (pending)  
 Students with Disabilities 1-6 (pending)  
 Barbara Lewy Permanent N-6  
 Joie Candido Initial Visual Arts  
 Katherine Cunningham Initial Biology (in process)

- (l) **Approval of Applications for Participation in Study Programs-Fall 2020-The following Group A staff members have applied for funding for coursework as indicated under the appropriate provision of their contract. Recommend approval of the tuition/fees.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Dayna Obidienzo	890	Ashley Garry	112
Matthew Jones	1,750	Nilka McDonnell	270
Elizabeth O'Brien	1,750	Shannon Ambury	449
Kristen Ford	112	Justin Sulsky	1,750

- (m) **Approval of Applications for Participation in Study Programs-Fall 2020-The following Group B staff members have applied for funding for coursework as indicated under the appropriate provision of their contract. Recommend approval of the tuition/fees.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Peter Russo	1,395
Matthew Morand	850
Gizelle Conroy	405
Evelyn Daza	850

- (n) **Approval of Applications for Participation in Study Programs for the 2019-2020 school year. The following staff members have applied for funding for coursework as indicated under the appropriate provision of their contract. Recommend approval of the tuition/fees.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Conor Manning	2,520
Matthew Morand	1,792
Evelyn Daza	5,688

**I. CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

- (o) **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE ASPPG**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated September 24, 2020.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated September 24, 2020.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Administrative, Supervisory and Pupil Personnel Group, dated September 24, 2020.

**(p) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT: LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE LONG BEACH CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement between the negotiating representatives of the Long Beach Public Schools and the Long Beach Classroom Teachers Association, dated October 7, 2020.

**II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(a) Resignations**

Name: Charles Spada  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Building Aide/Lido School  
Effective Date: September 29, 2020 close of day

Name: Jennifer Colon  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Bus Aide/Transportation Department  
Effective Date: October 6, 2020 close of day

**(b) Amended Leaves of Absence**

Name: Rashawn Weed  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Teacher Aide/LBMS  
Effective Dates: September 1, 2020-November 13, 2020  
Original Dates: September 1, 2020-October 9, 2020  
Reason: Medical

**II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

**(b) Amended Leaves of Absence (cont'd)**

Name: Daphney Desamours  
Assign./Loc.: Part Time Food Service Worker/Lindell School  
Effective Dates: September 1, 2020-June 30, 2021  
Original Dates: December 3, 2020-June 30, 2021  
Reason: Child Care

**(c) Appointment: Occupational Therapist**

Name: Kristen Hurley  
Assign./Loc.: Occupational Therapist/Districtwide  
License: NYS Occupational Therapist  
Effective Dates: October 19, 2020-June 30, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion)  
Salary Classification: \$62,506 per annum-prorated  
Reason: To replace Jennifer Buonocore  
Comment: Accept terms and conditions of employment



**II. NON CERTIFICATED PERSONNEL**

(d) **Appointment Part Time Aides 17.5 hours per week Start Date through June 25, 2021 (or earlier at the district's discretion). Rate according to contract.**

Name	Building	Step	Hourly Rate*subject to negotiations	Reason	Start Date
Andrea Yerovi	Lido School	1	16.67	COVID	10/02/20
Cody Werner	Lido School	1	16.67	COVID	10/08/20
Sarah Wondsel	West School	1	16.67	COVID	10/14/20
Cheyenne Johnson	West School	1	16.67	COVID	10/19/20
Hayden Henry	West School	1	16.67	COVID	10/19/20
Traci Taylor	West School	1	16.67	COVID	10/19/20
Kipling Johnson	Lindell School	1	16.67	COVID	10/21/20

(e) **Appointment: Part Time Food Service Workers (17.5 hours per week)**

Name: Maryellen Rizzo  
 Assign./Loc.: Part Time Food Service Worker/LBHS  
 Effective Date: October 14, 2020  
 Salary Classification: \$14.00 per hour-subject to negotiations  
 Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1  
 Reason: To replace Tyesha Carr

Name: Eileen Ayers  
 Assign./Loc.: Part Time Food Service Worker/LBMS  
 Effective Date: October 14, 2020  
 Salary Classification: \$14.00 per hour-subject to negotiations  
 Grade/Step: Grade I/Step 1  
 Reason: To replace Daphney Desamours

(f) **The following Per Diem Substitutes are recommended for approval for the 2020-2021 school year.**

Name	Position
Nina Hadeff	Nurse
Jeffrey Connolly	Cleaner
Devante Patten	Cleaner

(g) **MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENTS: LONG BEACH PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE LONG BEACH SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education of the Long Beach Public Schools hereby approves an agreement reached by the School District and the Long Beach School Employees Association dated, September 24, 2020.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education of the Long Beach Public Schools hereby approves an agreement reached by the School District and the Long Beach School Employees Association dated, October 2, 2020.

**VIII.3 Dr. Gallagher recommended the FIRST READING OF POLICY #3520 EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES**

**VIII.4 Dr. Gallagher recommended the FIRST READING OF POLICY #6570 REMOTE WORKING**

Dr. Gallagher recommended the approval of Items 5-9 together.

President Posterli called for a motion.

Motion by: Board Member Vrona

Seconded by: Board Member Conway

**Discussion:** Board Member Vrona asked, regarding the calendar, what changed? Dr. Gallagher stated that Snow Days were removed, all closures will go to virtual. Mr. Pinto asked, regarding the Change Order, what is the District doing with the extra monies. Mr. DeVito replied that it merely reduces the final payment, that there is a retainage built into the proposal.

**Abstention:** 1 (Dr. Ryan)

**Approved:** 4-0

**VIII.5 Dr. Gallagher recommended the ADOPTION OF A REVISED DISTRICT CALENDAR**

Adoption of Revised  
District Calendar

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education approves the revised 2020-2021 School Calendar.

**VIII.6 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 classified by the District's CSE and identified by student number 880005; 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.

**VIII.7 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF DEDUCT CHANGE ORDER #1 WITH ARROW STEEL WINDOW CORPORATION CONTRACT #1- WINDOW REPLACEMENT**

Approval of Deduct Change Order w/ Arrow Steel Window Corp.

**WHEREAS**, the Long Beach City School District ("District") has engaged Arrow Steel Window Corporation for window replacement work at West Elementary School pursuant to a contract dated May 9, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's architect recommends modification to the existing contract to furnish and install window shades in the amount of \$14,590.00 as well as an unused allowance of \$21,000.00, for a credit in the amount of \$6,410.00; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby accepts Window Replacement Deduct Change Order #1 to the contract with Arrow Steel Window Corporation for the decrease in cost of \$6,410.00; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education authorizes the Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations to execute Window Replacement Deduct Change Order #1 to the contract with Arrow Steel Window Corporation on its behalf.

**VIII.8 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.9 Dr. Gallagher recommended the APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF LEGAL BILLS**

Payment of Legal Bills – Frazer & Feldman & Thomas Volz

**A) FRAZER & FELDMAN**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education authorizes expenditures in the amount of \$3,033.00 to Frazer & Feldman for the monthly retainer for legal services for the period of October 1 through October 31, 2020.

**B) 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 \$3,333.33 to Thomas M. Volz, PLLC for the monthly retainer for legal services for the period of October 1 through October 31, 2020.

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

**Board of Ed Additional  
New/Old Business**

- Mrs. Conway asked about the bulkhead project – how long and will it effect traffic? Mr. DeVito replied that we don't have final timeline yet, and will work around the High School traffic. Also, Food Services, have we been looking at the menu at all? Mr. DeVito replied doing surveys to see what sort of meals would be helpful to families, doing some testing to tailor program to the needs of the students. Also, in case of remote, are providing students, especially younger students, with everything they will need, and Dr. Romanelli replied they have been sending materials to virtual students, Dr. Gallagher added that the district has also purchased additional chromebooks. Mrs. Conway also asked how students have been celebrating Hispanic Heritage month, and Dr. Romanelli replied Mrs. Scudiero has been working with Middle and High School teachers on this. Mrs. Conway also asked about the strength and conditioning program and Mr. Epstein replied they have had 150-180 students each day. Mrs. Conway also stated, regarding the Equity Committee, a plaque was donated and will be presented on November 7<sup>th</sup> – this is student led – thanks to Miguel Rodriguez, Mr. Brand and thanks to Dr. Gallagher for Equity Committee.
- Dr. Ryan asked about the Alumni website, that perhaps it could be more vibrant.
- Mr. Pinto asked about the energy projects. Mr. DeVito all complete.
- Mrs. Vrona thanked all staff, teachers administrators for how well it is working for our students and thanked Mr. Biesma and Mr. Webel for standing in for Mrs. Beard, and wished her well.

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

**Questions and Comments from the Public**

- A member of the public said it was their understanding that 10 general education students were given the option for 5 day in person instruction, and asked where it was stated that this was an option and expressed concern that some students had received information that others had not. Dr. Gallagher replied that 40 students were reviewed for full time in person option, and of those 40, 7 students were selected, and all of them are special needs or ENL students. No one was trying to withhold information, the email could have been more clear; we will continue to evaluate all students who fill out the form. There are no more seats available for additional students at this time. This person also asked about the Board responding to her email, and the Board President replied that she felt that the email from Dr. Gallagher was very thorough, but she does understand her concerns
- A member of the public asked if, now that 30 more students have gone remote, does that open up any more space for other students, and after Covid, will there still be an option for remote, and Dr. Gallagher replied that the district doesn't have the resources to continue that as an option, except where it was done prior, ie, medical reasons or suspensions. She also stated that 30 more students going remote doesn't necessarily translate to 30 seats opening up in school, due to differences in scheduling, etc.

- A member of the public echoed the concern of a previous resident regarding unclear communication with regard to the option for in-person instruction, and that it was her understanding that there was only the option for remote or hybrid instruction.
- A member of the public also expressed concern over unclear communication regarding in person instruction and asked if there were protocols in place for selecting the 7 students for in person instruction.

**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**

President Posterli called for a motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM.

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

Minutes submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Lori Dolan, District Clerk  
October 13, 2020