

LONG BEACH ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Long Beach Island, New Jersey
REGULAR MEETING
February 11, 2025
Ethel A. Jacobsen School Media Center
Executive (Closed) Session 5:30 PM – Regular (Public) Session 6:30 PM

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education of the Long Beach Island School District, Ocean County, met in the Media Center of the Ethel A. Jacobsen School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, New Jersey on February 11, 2025.

Board President, Colette Southwick, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and read the following statement:

"This is to advise those present at this meeting of the Board of Education of the Long Beach Island Consolidated School District, in the County of Ocean, that adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The notice has been posted in the Board of Education Office, Ethel A. Jacobsen School building and Long Beach Island Grade School building and on the district website. The notice was also mailed to *The Press of Atlantic City*, and *The Sandpaper*, and filed with the Municipal Clerks of Barnegat Light, Harvey Cedars, Surf City, Ship Bottom and Long Beach Township."

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL**
- | | | |
|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Dr. Chung | Mrs. Raber | Mrs. Southwick |
| Ms. Hagler | Mr. Schragger | |
| Mrs. Linkewich | Mr. Wright | |

ABSENT: Mrs. Hoffacker

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Peter Kopack, Superintendent
Mr. Frank Birney, Principal
Ms. Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Dennis McKeever, Esq.

4. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:** Dr. Kopack thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reported on the following: After-school Academy, PTA programs - Enrichment Club and assemblies, next PTA meeting is March 13th, STEAM program video teleconference between 6th grade students and scientists in Antarctica, and Kindness Club. February Grade Level Happenings are on the website.
5. **REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL:** Mr. Birney reported on the following: PreK is learning letters i and j and working on gross motor skills in gym, Kindergarten are working on reading groups and literacy centers and 100 day school projects, First Grade is working on 100 year old project and learning about families, Second grade learning about informational writing, PTA programs - Harlem Wizards, Brainwash assembly, Health Department Hygiene program, and "Souper Bowl" collection for St. Francis Food Bank.
6. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Southwick thanked everyone for attending the meeting.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** Members of the public commented, asked questions on the following topics:

- 2025-2026 School Calendar

8. **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Danielle Hagler, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING MEETINGS:

January 28, 2025: Regular (Public) Session

Minutes of the closed session meeting will be released to the public when the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(5): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain(2): Mrs. Linkewich, Mr. Schragger

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Building/Grounds/Transportation/Finance: Kelly Linkewich reported that the committee met today and discussed the following: underground storage tank and EJ addition.
- Curriculum: Stephanie Chung reported the committee will meet tomorrow.
- PTA Liaison: Danielle Hagler reported on the following: Enrichment Program and March 22nd Auction tickets are on sale,

11. **PERSONNEL**

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Danielle Hagler to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Substitute Personnel

Motion to approve the employment of substitute personnel for the 2024-2025 school year as listed below pending receipt of required paperwork and completion of required substitute orientation:

Lisa Carretta	Classroom Aide/Secretary
William Weikel	Teacher

B. Stipend Positions

Motion to approve stipend/XCOMP positions for the 2024/2025 school year with approved timesheets:

- **Student Assistant Interactive Leadership (SAIL) Advisor:** 20 hours @ \$50/hr.: Janelle Gosline
- **LBI Detention Supervisor Substitute (as needed):** \$50/hour: Karen Beetel

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

ADDENDUM ITEM:

Motion by Kelly Linkewich, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:

C. Leave of Absence

Motion to approve a leave of absence for employee #4500, beginning February 10, 2025 through March 31, 2025. Employee will use paid leave.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain(1): Mr. Schragger

12. **BUILDING/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION/FINANCE**

Motion by Kelly Linkewich, second by Danielle Hagler to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Financial Reports

1. Financial Reports of the Secretary to the Board of Education

Motion to approve financial reports for the month of January 2025.

- a. Report of the Secretary dated January 31, 2025
- b. Report of the Treasurer dated December 31, 2024

2. Statement of Cash Balances

Motion to accept the Statement of Cash Balances for the month of January 2025 which are reconciled with the Board Secretary's Reports by fund for that month.

3. SBA Certification

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (c) 4, I certify that as of January 2025 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (b).



Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator

3/19, 2025

B. Transfers

Motion to approve the January 2025 transfer report.

C. Bills List

Motion to approve the February 2025 Bills List, totaling \$320,791.82

D. Travel and Training

Motion to approve the following travel/training expenses.

Date	Name	Position	Workshop	Location	Cost
3/14/25 AM	Shelley Smith	Teacher (PTA Scholarship Committee representative)	SRSD Scholarship Donor Breakfast	Manahawkin	None

Date	Name	Position	Workshop	Location	Cost
2/18-19/25	Bianca Aniski	Nurse	National Leader Training - Garden-based Learning Program	Virtual	\$70 Registration
3/24, 3/25, 3/26	Mark Bish	Facilities Manager	NJSBGA Expo	Atlantic City	Mileage

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Items A, B, and D

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Item C

Ayes(6): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays(1): Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

13. ANNUAL APPROVALS/CONTRACTS

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Kelly Linkewich to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Semi Waiver

Motion to approve submission of a waiver to the County Office of Education for participation in SEMI for the 2025-2026 school year. The waiver is for 40 students or fewer and the current projection of eligible students in the Long Beach Island School District is 9. SEMI is a federal reimbursement program through Medicaid for special education students who receive Medicaid. A waiver will protect against noncompliance for QSAC.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

14. EDUCATIONAL

Motion by Kelly Linkewich, second by Danielle Hagler to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. (TABLED) 2025-2026 School Calendar

Motion to approve the 2025-2026 school calendar as presented.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Danielle Hagler, seconded by Kristy Raber to table the 2025-2026 school calendar motion for approval until the March meeting. All in favor.

15. **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Motion by Kristy Raber, second by Danielle Hagler to approve the following:

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

A. Request for Continued Enrollment

Motion to approve a request for continued enrollment for one student beginning February 1, 2025, through the end of the school year. Transportation will be provided by the parents.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

ADDENDUM ITEM:

B. Nominations and Election of Board Member

Motion to open the floor for nominations for the position of Board of Education Member representing Barnegat Light for the term which expires December 31, 2025.

NOMINATION(S) 1. Lee-Anne Oros

2. Thomas Costello

NOMINATED BY: Kelly Linkewich

Frederic Schragger

Second Kristy Raber

Second William Wright

**MOTION BY KRISTY RABER, SECOND BY KELLY LINKEWICH TO CLOSE THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS:
ALL IN FAVOR**

**MOTION BY KRISTY RABER, SECOND BY KELLY LINKEWICH TO VOTE FOR NOMINEE #1:
LEE-ANNE OROS:**

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(5): Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Southwick

Nays(2): Dr. Chung, Mr. Schragger

Abstain: 0

VOTE FOR NOMINEE #2: N/A

Dr. Chung commented that both candidates were excellent.

16. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Dates to Remember

February:	PTA Enrichment Program at EJ and LBI Schools
February 3-14:	Food drive at EJ and LBI Schools
February 13:	PTA Brainwash Assembly @ EJ and LBI and Family Night
February 14:	Early Dismissal
February 17:	School Closed - Presidents Day
March 4-6:	PTA Book Fair
March 7:	PTA Dance for EJ and LBI Families
March 12:	PTA Magic Science Assembly
March 18:	Board of Education meeting (Preliminary Budget Review), EJ School @ 6:30 p.m.

- B. Project Child Find Required annual Project Child Find information is posted on our website for children between the ages of 3-14 who may have an educational, physical, mental, or emotional disability and may be in need of special education services. Project CHILD FIND develops and distributes information to the public about early intervention services and special education programs throughout New Jersey.

17. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public commented, asked questions on the following topics:

- School Calendar

18. **Motion by Kelly Linkewich, second by Kristy Raber to approve the following:**

As per the recommendation of the Superintendent:

RESOLUTION: Resolved that the Board of Education will open its next scheduled meeting on March 18, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Media Center of the Ethel A. Jacobsen School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, NJ in Executive Session for matters of Attorney/Client Privilege, Negotiations, Student Issues, and Personnel and will suspend opening activities, including the Pledge of Allegiance and reading of Adequate Notice of Meeting, until the Board opens in Public Session at 6:30 p.m. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., as amended by P.L.2020, c.11, and Section 8, c. 34 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-18.11) the Board may conduct a public meeting remotely by electronic means during a state of emergency so long as reasonable public notice and provision for public input is made under the circumstances.

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes(7): Dr. Chung, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Linkewich, Mrs. Raber, Mr. Schragger, Mr. Wright,
Mrs. Southwick
Nays: 0
Abstain: 0

19. **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2 (If Needed): The Board did not return to Executive Session**

20. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:48 p.m., a motion was made by Kelly Linkewich, second by William Wright to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kathy Sheplin
Assistant to the Board Secretary