

LONG BEACH ISLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 5, 2026
Long Beach Island Elementary School Gymnasium
Executive (Closed) Session 5:45 PM – Regular (Public) Session 6:00 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Education of the Long Beach Island School District, Ocean County, met in the gymnasium of the Long Beach Island Elementary School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, New Jersey on May 5, 2026. Board President, Mrs. Southwick, called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT: Adequate and electronic notice of this meeting was provided in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. The notice has been posted in the Long Beach Island Elementary 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**

Present: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick

Absent: Dr. Chung, Mrs. Linkewich, Mr. Wright

Also Present: Dr. Peter Kopack, Superintendent
Meghan Lee, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

4. **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT:** Mrs. Southwick thanked our teachers.

5. **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:** Dr. Kopack reported on Teacher Appreciation.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:** None

7. **BOARD CORRESPONDENCE:** A request was received for continued choice enrollment.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

April 28, 2026: Regular and Closed Session

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

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick

Nays: None

Abstain: None

9. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- PTA Liaison: Ms. Hagler mentioned the date of the next meeting and discussed Teacher Appreciation.

10. **PERSONNEL**

A. Health Benefits Waiver

Motion to approve a health benefits waiver for full-time employees that can provide documentation that they are insured by another provider. Payment may not be more than 25% of the amount

saved by the employer because of the waiver or \$5,000, whichever is less. (In accordance with P.L. 2007, C.92 and P.L. 2010, C.2)

B. Stipend Positions

Motion to approve stipend/XCOMP positions for the 2025/2026 school year with approved timesheets.

- **Art Night:** 1 Teacher, 1 night, up to 4 hours @ \$55/hr - Liz Messec

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: None
Abstain: None

11. **BUDGET**

A. Adoption of Budget 2026-2027

That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the budget be approved for the 2026-2027 School Year using the state aid figures.

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUES	TOTAL
2026-2027 Total Expenditures	\$14,894,701	\$68,446	\$14,963,147
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$7,116,468	\$68,446	\$7,184,914
Taxes to be Raised	\$7,778,233	-	\$7,778,233

B. Travel Expenditures

WHEREAS, the Long Beach Island Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.2 et seq. Requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.2, which includes attendance at regularly scheduled in-state county meetings, Department or Association sponsored events or in-state professional development activities for which the registration fee does not exceed \$150 per employee or board member, where prior Board approval shall not be required unless the annual threshold for a staff member exceeds \$1,500 in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 et seq. but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-7.3 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3 to a maximum expenditure of \$6,000 for all staff and board members.

C. Professional Services 2026-2027

WHEREAS, school district policy #6220/R6220 N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2(b) and N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-9.3(c) 14 provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such public relations and professional services for the 2026-2027 School Year at the sum of:

Professional Services:

Attorney(s)	\$ 50,000
Auditor	\$ 31,000
Architect*	\$ 0
OT/PT/Social Worker/LDT-C**	\$179,100
School Psychologist	\$ 20,500
School Physician	\$ 1,000

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the supporting documentation of this budget also contains an itemization of certain expenditures required under administrative regulations.

*Does not include projects funded through Capital Reserve

**Total amount before Federal Grants allocation

D. Capital Reserve Withdrawal

That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Long Beach Island Board of Education approves the Capital Reserve withdrawal for the 2026-2027 budget in the amount of \$6,000,000. The district intends to utilize these funds for:

Addition and Renovations at Long Beach Island Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-1000
Renovations at Long Beach Island Elementary School to the New Jersey Department of Education, DOE State Project #29-2760-020-21-2000

E. Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal

That upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Long Beach Island Board of Education approves the Maintenance Reserve withdrawal pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 14.2 (d) for the 2026-2027 budget in the amount of \$100,000. The district intends to utilize these funds for:

Required Building Maintenance

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: None
Abstain: None

12. BUILDING/GROUNDS/TRANSPORTATION/FINANCE

A. Financial Reports

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

Motion to approve financial reports for the month of April 2026.

- a. Report of the Secretary dated April 30, 2026

2. Statement of Cash Balances

Motion to accept the Statement of Cash Balances for the month of April 2026 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 April 2026 no budgetary line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 (b).


_____, 2026
Meghan Lee, School Business Administrator

B. Transfers

Motion to approve the April 2026 transfer report.

C. Travel and Training

Motion to approve the following travel/training expenses.

Date	Name	Position	Workshop	Location	Cost
June 2, 2026	Lynda Scholey	Administrative Assistant	Canva for Beginners	Stockton University	4 ETTC Credits

D. Use of Facilities

Motion to approve use of facilities as follows, pending receipt of certificate of insurance:

1. Southern Regional School District Summer Band, Strings, & Choral Camp, LBIES Classroom/Stage, July 1-July 29, 2026 (Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: None
Abstain: None

13. PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

A. Appointment of Auditor

WHEREAS, there exists a need for auditing service; and,

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Beach Island Board of Education that Holman Frenia Allison, P.C., Certified Public and Licensed Accounting firm for the State of New Jersey is hereby appointed to conduct auditing services from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, not to exceed \$33,100.

B. Appointment of Attorney

WHEREAS, there exists a need for legal service; and,

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Beach Island Board of Education that Chasan, Lamparello, Mallon & Cappuzzo, P.C., licensed legal firm for the State of New Jersey is hereby appointed to conduct legal services from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, at the hourly rate of \$175.

C. Appointment of Architect of Record

WHEREAS, there exists a need for architectural services; and,

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Long Beach Island Board of Education that Spiegle Architectural Group, Inc., Licensed Architectural firm for the State of New Jersey is hereby appointed as the Architect of Record from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, at the hourly rate of \$200.

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes:	Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

14. **EDUCATIONAL**

A. HIB Report

Motion to accept the Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying report as presented in Executive Session.

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Ms. Hagler

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes:	Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

15. **UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

A. Request for Continued Enrollment

Motion to approve a request for continued enrollment for two students beginning May 26, 2026, through the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Transportation will be provided by the parents.

Motion by Mrs. Raber, Seconded by Mrs. Hoffacker

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes: Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays: None
Abstain: None

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. School Board Election 2026

The following seats will be available in the fall: Danielle Hagler, Long Beach Township, Stephanie Chung, Ship Bottom, and Kelly Linkewich, Surf City. The deadline for filing petitions is Monday, July 27, 2026, at 4 p.m. at the Office of the County Clerk. The Annual School Election will be held on November 3, 2026.

B. Dates to Remember

May 8: BMX Assembly
LBI Garden Club program with Grade 3
May 12: Grade 4 field trip
May 13-14: NJSLA-A Testing - Grade 3
May 13: Kindergarten field trip
May 14: Grade 5 LBI field trip
PTA Meeting at the Terrace Tavern 6pm
May 18: SRMS Presentation to 6th Grade Students
May 19: Grade 2 field trip
May 20-21: NJSLA-A Science Testing - Grade 5
May 20: Spring Concert (Grades 3-6) 6pm
May 21: Grade 1 field trip
May 22: Early dismissal at 1pm
May 25: School Closed - Memorial Day
May 26: Grade 6 field trip
May 27: S.A.I.L. Family Trivia Night 6pm
May 28: Books vs. Badges Annual Kickball Game 4pm (Food donations accepted for St. Francis Food Pantry)
May 29: Field Day
June 4: Art Night
June 5: Field Day rain date
June 10: Grade 6 Bay Day
Blooming Into First Grade
June 11: Grade 6 Bay Day rain date
June 15: Early dismissal at 1pm
Grade 6 Graduation 6pm
June 16: Early dismissal at 1pm
Last day of school and report cards issued
Board of Education Meeting 6:30pm

17. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

- 18. RESOLUTION:** Resolved that the Board of Education will open its next scheduled meeting (Executive Session) on June 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium of the Long Beach Island Elementary School, 200 South Barnegat Avenue, Surf City, NJ 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.

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber

Upon a roll call vote, motion carried:

Ayes:	Dr. Costello, Mr. Fluehr, Mrs. Hoffacker, Mrs. Raber, Ms. Hagler, Mrs. Southwick
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None

19. **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2 (If Needed):** N/A

20. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 pm.

Motion by Mrs. Hoffacker, Seconded by Mrs. Raber. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Lee
Business Administrator/Board Secretary