

***Legislative Action Committee
2013-2014***

***February 11, 2014
7:00 p.m.
District Office***

Members in attendance: S. Brady, A. LaRosa, R. Maginniss, B. Burns, J. Dixon, L. LaPinta
Others in attendance: S. Gellar, K. O'Connor

1. Committee Objectives

The Legislative Action Committee (LAC) was formed to advocate on behalf of the residents of West Islip for the equitable distribution of state aid, relief from unfunded mandates, and relief from unfavorable legislation through letter writing campaigns, meetings with elected officials, and participation in multi-district advocacy groups like R.E.F.I.T. (Reform Educational Financing Inequities Today). A focus for the current school year is the repeal of the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA).

2. Action Plan

The committee discussed the governor's budget proposal, which does not provide the fair distribution of aid for West Islip schools. It is important that community members are informed and encourage legislators to advocate for the district.

Mr. Gellar has spoken with Senator Boyle and Assemblymen Andrew Raia and Joseph Saladino. Although the representatives understand the issues relevant to Long Island schools, they must be regularly encouraged to advocate for West Islip. The committee will work with West Islip stakeholders to facilitate letters, phone calls, emails and faxes that express the district's concerns. The West Islip Teachers' Association (WITA) will work to publicize these efforts, as well.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.