



school bulletin

ISSUED BI-WEEKLY SEPTEMBER THROUGH JUNE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

September 5, 2003

How I Spent My Summer Vacation

By Chris Steinhauser
Superintendent of Schools

This summer I was so fortunate. I got to teach summer school. I job shared with Resé Jacobs, teaching 20 active second graders at Muir Elementary School.

Vanitha Chandrasekhar was our brand new summer school principal. Resé called her and asked, "Guess who one of your teachers is going to be?" Then the first week of summer school Vanitha found out that Assistant Superintendent Karen DeVries was also going to be one of her teachers.

Being a summer school principal is tough enough. But having two district people on your campus every day is really hard. Vanitha was so gracious. She made drop-in visits, came to my classroom, gave me good positive feedback.

She treated us like everybody else. We did our best to implement a new program with online report cards, but Mr. Steinhauser messed up on 16 of them. The note said "Rejected." Vanitha asked Resé, "How do I tell the superintendent I rejected his report cards?"

But I had a great time teaching. It was because of Vanitha. She did what we want all administrators to do, which is support their teachers.

It was truly an outstanding experience. A fellow superintendent told me I was crazy to do it. But he missed the point. What I enjoyed so much was that these children in Room 47 at Muir reminded me how important our job is. They are the next leaders of our nation. We asked them what they wanted to be. They said President, doctor, firefighter. It's so important to this great nation and our democracy that we do our best to fulfill their dreams.

All I ask of you this year is to remember the kids in Room 47 and the other 97,000 we serve. Remember, someone took care of us. Someone helped us achieve our dreams. It's now our responsibility to help these kids achieve their dreams and the dreams of their parents. That's what teaching is all about.

We are a great school system. I thank all of you for everything you do for our students. Don't worry about the problems of the state. Let me worry about that. Have a great year.

One hundred years from now it will not matter what kind of car I drove, what kind of home I lived in, how much money I had in my bank account, nor what my clothes looked like; but the world may be a little better because I was important in the life of a child."

—Anonymous



LBUSD To Require PSAT for All 10th Graders

In a few weeks, an unprecedented 6,600 sophomores in the Long Beach Unified School District will take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT).

It's free. The first public school district on the west coast to require the test, Long Beach schools are providing the PSAT at no charge to parents to encourage higher student achievement and to help more students prepare for college. \$43,000 in federal Title V funds for innovative programs will help to pay for the test.

The PSAT will be administered to all LBUSD high school sophomores in October.

The results will help students discover where they're doing well and where they need to concentrate their efforts. High PSAT and SAT scores can help more students get into college and win scholarships. More than two-thirds of local high school graduates already continue their education beyond high school.

In recent years, only about 10 percent of local high school students have been taking the PSAT to prepare for the SAT, the gatekeeper test for admission to many colleges and universities. This year, for the first time, all local 10th graders will have this opportunity.

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Board Elects New Principals, Administrators

New school principals and changes in assignments for administrators at Long Beach Unified School District schools and offices were approved by the Board of Education during the summer.

Promoted to high school co-principal were Alejandro Flores, Wilson, was assistant principal, Lakewood; and Kelly Hurley, Jordan, was principal at Hughes. Promoted to elementary school principal were Doris Robinson, Bryant, who was vice principal at Grant; Kevin Maddox, new Webster principal, was a teacher at Robinson; Gonzalo Moraga, Stevenson, was vice principal at Signal Hill; Damita Myers-Miller, Lafayette, was administrative assistant, Elementary Office; Lisa Stephenson, McKinley, was program specialist, Elementary Office; and Matilde Zamora, Edison, was vice principal, Whittier. Frank Gutierrez, new Robinson principal, was assistant principal at Cabrillo.

Principals reassigned to new schools were Kim Baril, from Keller to International; Marjean Hughes, from MacArthur to Keller;

Pat Jernigan, from McKinley to MacArthur; Dennis Lyman, from special assignment, Facilities, to Fremont; Georgetta McNeal, from Lafayette to King-Edison; Monica Daley, from Newcomb to Hughes; Elizabeth Flynn, from Robinson to Newcomb; Scott Wilcox, from Edison to Franklin; and Greg Mendoza, from co-principal at Jordan to Educational Partnership High School. Lou De Lorca will move

from principal at Franklin to assistant principal, Cabrillo; Keith Hansen, from co-principal at Wilson to program administrator, ROP; Bob Hedges, from principal at Webster to program administrator, Literacy; and Sue Rivard, from principal at International to program administrator, Reading First.

Promoted to assistant principal was Victoria Avila, Hamilton/Longfellow, who was teacher on special assignment, PALMS (Program Assistance for Language Minority Students).

Assigned as assistant principals were Byron Briggs, Cabrillo, was assistant principal, Jordan; Blair Carty, Lakewood, was assistant principal, Millikan; Kathleen Cruz, Stanford, was assistant principal, Marshall; David Downing, Millikan, was vice principal, Sutter; Christi Granado, Roosevelt, was administrative assistant, Middle/K-8 Office; Diane Groh, Marshall, was assistant principal, Stanford; Victor Jarels, Poly, was program administrator, Jordan Freshman Academy; Daniel Jimenez,

(Continued next page)



Flores



Gutierrez



Hurley



Maddox



Moraga



Myers-Miller



Robinson



Stephenson

• New Principals

(Continued from front page)

Jordan, was assistant principal, Hamilton; Lewis Kerns, Jordan, was vice principal, Robinson; Diane Prince, Hamilton, was administrative assistant, Special Education, and assistant principal, Hamilton; and Eileen Young, Edison, was vice principal, Cubberley/Newcomb.

Promoted to vice principal were Nicole Howton, Grant, was teacher, Student Support Services; Lucy Salazar, Lafayette, was program facilitator, Lafayette; Shivaun Stanton, King-Edison, was administrative assistant, King-Edison; and Jeffrey Wood, Sutter, was teacher, Riley.

Vice principals reassigned to new schools were Deborah Anderson, from Harte to Barton; Jackie Barnett Jr., from Barton to Riley; Stacy Sanchez, from Riley to MacArthur; Laurence Tendis, from Webster and Longfellow to Monroe; and Virginia Williams, from MacArthur to Harte. Assigned to vice principal were Chi Mendelson, Signal Hill, was administrative assistant, Human Resource Services; and Matthew Murray, Whittier, was administrative assistant, Franklin.

Earning promotion to program specialist are Tiffany Brown, Garfield, was psychologist, Student Support Services; Cory Gregory, Stephens, was counselor, Cabrillo; Lori Kudron, Elementary Office, was teacher on special assignment, Curriculum; Sam Platis, Special Projects, was program facilitator, Barton; Vicki Roberts, School for Adults, was program facilitator, School for Adults; Sima Shahidi, Franklin, was counselor, Edison; Monica Thornton, Human Resource Services, was teacher on special assignment, Special Education; and Judith Dearing, Student Support Services, was nurse, Cabrillo. Assigned to program specialist were Joel Ward, ROP, was activities specialist, Lakewood; and Wayne Zimmerman, Adult Education, was program specialist, ROP.

Central office directors taking on new responsibilities are Carolyn Jensen, from Special Project Services to Special Project Services/Elementary Education; and Alexis Ruiz-Alessi, from PALMS to PALMS/K-8/Middle Schools.

Other promotions include Tish Miya administrative assistant, Elementary Office, was program specialist in that office; Timothy Brown, program administrator, Alternative Education/Community Day School, was administrative assistant, Attendance Services; Warren Booth, activities specialist, Lakewood, was teacher at Cabrillo; Megan Stanton-Anderson, administrative assistant, High School Office--Gear UP, was program specialist, High School Office--Gear UP; and Carol Pratt, administrative assistant, Special Project Services, was teacher on special assignment, Special Project Services.

James Suarez, new assistant director, Deputy Superintendent/Middle School/K-8 Office, was assistant director, Special Projects. Kathleen Elkins, new program administrator, Attendance Services/Special Education, was program administrator, Special Education. Earning promotion to administrative assistant are Andria Davidson, Special Education, was teacher on special assignment, Special Education; Michael Jules, Attendance Services, was counselor, Attendance Services; and Elliot Skolnick, Special Education, was teacher on special assignment, Special Education. Carol Kawakami, administrative assistant, Franklin, was vice principal, Edison.

Aquarium Rewards

School kids with good attendance will soon meet schools of fish face to face for free, thanks to the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific. Student admission to the aquarium is the reward for getting off to a good start in school this fall.

Each local student who attends the first week of school without missing a day will receive a pass good for a day at the popular educational attraction.

Each student who attends these first five school days will receive a free student admission coupon. Students must be accompanied by a regular paid adult admission, but that parent may bring up to six children for free.

• PSAT Jump

(Continued from front page)

The PSAT helps sophomores know where they stand while there is still time to improve. Students may discover they need to take more difficult math or writing courses in order to excel on the SAT.

One goal of giving all sophomores the PSAT is to motivate more students to take rigorous high school honors and Advanced Placement math and English courses. Over the past decade, completion of these tougher courses has become a more important factor in winning admission to top universities.

Students who take the more demanding courses usually score higher on the SAT.

With a growing flood of college applicants to four-year colleges and universities, higher scores on the SAT can be crucial. For many student athletes, the SAT is the gatekeeper test that determines eligibility for college sports. Top SAT scores can also help students attract major academic scholarships.

A combination of high SAT scores and good grades is required for admission to UC and other top colleges. If a student's GPA is lower, a higher SAT score is required.

Giving the PSAT to all 10th graders should encourage more students to do well in high school, seek college admission and continue their education beyond high school. For the first time, some students may view themselves as college material and see that a four-year degree is not an impossible dream.

Others who do not immediately pursue bachelors degrees will continue their education beyond high school. After taking the PSAT, more students should prepare to handle demanding college work and not need to take remedial college courses.

The Job Board

• Jordan High School is seeking a science coach to work with all disciplines of science and a geometry teacher for the International Baccalaureate program. For information, contact Rosalind Morgan or Kelly Hurley, co-principals, at ext. 2104 or 2102.

• Roosevelt Elementary School is seeking a teacher of differentiated curriculum for a Grade 2 EXCEL class. For information, contact Stefanie Holzman, principal, at ext. 5650.

• Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for elementary school office supervisor, elementary school office supervisor (multi-track/year-round), facilities use technician, Head Start health assistant, high school office supervisor, middle school office supervisor and school support secretary.

Retirement Event

Honoree	Date	Contact
John Green	September 19	Jenny Thomas ext. 8022

Dates to Remember

September	
7	Library Card Sign-Up Month
8	Grandparents' Day
8	International Literacy Day
9	Admission Day
9	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Getting to School the Safe Way," Grades 1-5, ed.tv 8
11	Anniversary of Terrorist Attack on World Trade Center
11	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Operation School Bus Safety: Be Cool, Follow the Rules," Grades K-2, ed.tv 8
12	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Beginning Responsibility: Learning to Follow Instructions," Grades 1-3, ed.tv 8
15-16	Mexican Independence Day
15-Oct. 15	Hispanic Heritage Month
16	International Day of Peace
16	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
17	Citizenship Day
17	Back to School Night--Elementary Schools
17	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00-- "Pocahontas," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
17-23	Constitution Week
18	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
19	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Beginning Responsibility: A Lunchroom Goes Bananas," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
23	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Staying Out of Trouble with Your Friends (Duffy's Story)," Grades 3-4, ed.tv 8
24	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00-- "Bully Dance," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
25	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Ask For It," Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
26	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Getting to School Safely is Your Job," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
27-28	Rosh Hashanah
30	Back to School Night--Middle Schools
30	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30-- "Columbus" (Columbus Day), Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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MARY STANTON, Vice President
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In Memoriam

Iva Wood

former Textbook Services office manager
July 10, 2003

Joan Ross
teacher, Tincher
July 11, 2003

Irene Crochet
former librarian
August 7, 2003

Marie Lewallen
former teacher
July 14, 2003

Robert Gibson
former teacher
August 23, 2003

Steven Byrns
locksmith
August 4, 2003

Nadine Shaw
teacher, Powell
August 23, 2003