



school bulletin

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

May 26, 2006

Stevenson Is Nation's Leading Elementary Community School

On any given evening, the campus of inner-city Stevenson Elementary School springs to life. The school serves as the hub of the community. Hundreds of children and volunteers come and go. Parents take computer and English classes, or they stroll across the street to the "little brown church" for folklorico lessons. Students brush up on their math, gather for the computer club, and play basketball and soccer.

For seven years, Stevenson has implemented a community school model, which brings together many partners to offer extra support to children and families before, during and after school. While several schools nationwide have implemented the same model, few have done it better than Stevenson, according to the Washington, D.C.-based Coalition for Community Schools. The national coalition has just named Stevenson as the top elementary community school in the United States. A middle school in Portland and a high school in Indianapolis also won. The three schools were selected from more than 300 community schools nationwide to receive the Community School National Award for Excellence.

"We're ecstatic. We're all very proud and (Continued on back page)

Middle Schools Earn Achievement Honors

Fifteen local middle and K-8 schools have earned awards from the Long Beach Unified School District for excellence in leadership and academic results. The district's Office of Middle and K-8 Schools recognized the winners at a recent Board of Education meeting.

The Pyramid Awards, recognizing the cooperative efforts of parents, school staff, the principal and students, went to schools that demonstrated significant gains on state tests and other measurements.

Ten of the schools were recognized for more than tripling their schoolwide growth target on the state Academic Performance Index, for meeting state and national achievement goals in English and Math, and for closing the achievement gap by meeting growth targets for all subgroups of children or by becoming a Title I Achieving School. Those schools are Bancroft, Robinson, Hoover, Hughes, Cubberley, Stanford, Tincher, Hudson, Newcomb and Hill.

Five other schools were recognized for demonstrating growth toward meeting multiple criteria, including state and national achievement goals for English and math performance. Those schools are Lindbergh, Rogers, Sutter, Monroe and Avalon.



SERVICE WITH A SMILE—Catering Supervisor Kevin Sheehan wins the Classified Employee of the Year Award. Above, he is congratulated by fellow award finalists, from left, bus driver Bryan Smith, Lindbergh instructional assistant Jorge Quezada and Poly student store operator Leslie Eve. Deputy Superintendent Karen DeVries, right, offers a pat on the back.



Chef Sheehan Wins Employee of Year Award

Nutrition Services catering supervisor Kevin Sheehan accepted the Classified Employee of the Year Award at the annual employee barbecue, where hundreds of colleagues cheered at the lunchtime announcement. Sheehan oversees the cafeteria, also known as the coffee bar, in the Administration Building.

"Wow. This is so cool," said Sheehan upon accepting the honor. The former Hi-Hill Outdoor School employee began his job at the central office three years ago. "I never imagined I'd be working here in the city, but I love my job. Thank you for naming me, and thank you to all the guys back at the coffee bar who are working so I could be here today."

Sheehan was one of 34 employees, including eight finalists, vying for this year's award. Colleagues who nominated Sheehan said he "always has an extremely enthusiastic attitude and makes it look like any request, late or not, is his pleasure to assist with. Along with his contagious smile, he serves up a positive attitude for everyone. He knows the importance of doing his job well. He is an exemplary employee, and the people who routinely work with him are proud to know him and have him on our team. He comes up with creative suggestions to make meetings a success. He has incredible creative energies and proves it daily in how he spices up the food in his kitchen, makes new and different food items for us and is always striving for a way to serve up something exciting, so when we walk away with one of his creations, it just might add a little sunshine to our day."

Co-workers said Sheehan makes an effort to know all employees by name, and that he "interacts with his immediate staff in a way which allows them to feel appreciated and honored to have him as their supervisor. He displays excellence in his personal performance at all times."

The seven other finalists announced at the Classified Employee Barbecue were Poly High School student store operator Leslie Eve, Cubberley K-8 School plant supervisor Samuel Hill, Emerson Charter School custodian Albert Marquez, Buffum Elementary School instructional aide Sherrie Opitz, Lindbergh Middle School instructional assistant Jorge Quezada, International Student Registration staff secretary Grace Reyes and bus driver Bryan Smith.

Nominees for the award are those who support the school district's educational mission by contributing significantly to the classroom support and/or the business (non-school) operations of the district. They also demonstrate a commitment to being a team player and a positive role model for others, and they strive for excellence in personal performance.

Proposed Law Would Allow More Tutoring

A proposed state law initiated by the Long Beach Unified School District would require underperforming students to participate in supplemental instruction such as tutoring and summer school. The bill passed the state Assembly and now heads to the Senate.

"We're pleased that the Assembly has supported our Board of Education's initiative to hold all students to high standards," said Chris Steinhauer, Superintendent of Schools for the school district. "We look forward to the Senate's approval of the bill."

The bill would require students to participate in additional instruction, or interventions, when they are not meeting standards in basic subjects. Required Saturday school, summer school and extra class periods would be options available to the school district.

The Job Board

• Webster Elementary School has a 50 percent facilitator/50 percent K-3 reading specialist opening. Five years of teaching experience is required. Send a letter of interest and resume to Principal Kevin Maddox by June 2.

• The Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development is accepting applications for the position of district Advanced Placement teacher coach. Applicants must have a minimum of three years of experience teaching AP classes. To apply, submit a letter of intent and resume to Chris Dominguez, OCIPD. To receive the job description, e-mail Wendy Hayes Ebright at whayes@lbusd.k12.ca.us.

• Evening High School is now hiring teachers for Fall 2006, with openings for those credentialed to teach high school English or social studies. This is an hourly assignment and classes meet two days a week, for 2.5 hours each session at Cabrillo, Jordan, Lakewood, Millikan, Poly and Wilson. Deadline to apply is June 9. For information, call Victoria Angle at 989-7872, ext. 296.

• Applications are being accepted for two full-time teaching positions at Sutter Academy for math coach and technology teacher. Send a letter of interest with resume to Teresa Osburn, principal, Sutter Academy.

• Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for assistant transportation director, instructional aide-speech and language communication, school safety supervisor and Workers' Compensation manager.

Help Desk Is Online

Employees can now go online to access the Information Services Help Desk.

Submit requests online by going to the district's website, www.lbusd.k12.ca.us, and selecting "Help Desk" from the alphabetical index. Click on "Online Help Desk Form" on that page.

Users can still contact the Help Desk at ext. 8411 or via GroupWise at "HelpDesk."

Since its inception less than five years ago, the Technology and Information Services Help Desk has serviced more than 100,000 requests for technology support.

Dates to Remember

June	
1	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry III," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
7	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Flag Day/Citizenship Day," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
11	Race Unity Day
12	Anne Frank's Birthday
12-18	National Little League Baseball Week
14	Flag Day
14	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Independence Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
15	Last Day of School, Students (Traditional)
16	Last Day of School, Teachers (Traditional)

In Memoriam

Tom Reince
teacher, Hill
May 12, 2006

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."

—Henry Brooks Adams

Summer Baldrige Training Offered

The Baldrige Office is offering its 2-day Quality Classroom Systems training this summer, June 19-20 and August 22-23, to teachers, coaches and specialists. Early registration is encouraged as enrollment is limited. For information, go to www.lbusd.k12.ca.us under the Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development link or in the Summer Professional Development Catalogue.

Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

Steven Arkus, food production equipment technician, Nutrition Services;

Valerie Bradford, senior ASB financial technician, Millikan;

Alicia Cabrera, intermediate office assistant, CDC;

Julia Chen, accounting technician, Accounting;

David Dines, carpenter, Maintenance;

Lourdes Duarte, Head Start instructional aide, Head Start;

Qione Holmes, locker room attendant, Millikan;

Elizabeth Kalert, Kids Club supervisor I, Keller;

Marivi Linares, Kids Club supervisor II, Emerson;

Oralia Lopez, elementary school office supervisor, Los Cerritos;

Michael Luper, heating, ventilation and AC supervisor, Maintenance;

Janice Medford, Human Resources technician, Personnel Commission;

Denise Petty-Trietsch, Human Resources technician, Personnel Commission;

Samuel Pham, accounting technician, Special Projects;

Patricia Sadler, Nutrition Services supervisor I, Chavez;

Martha Sowa, intermediate office assistant/school bilingual Spanish, Bancroft;

Silaua Taeliifi, Human Resources technician, Personnel Commission.

Retirement Events

Honoree	Date	Contact
Trudy Bagg	May 31	Marilyn Higby 498-3794
Susan Feinberg	July 27	Danita Denhart 428-4616

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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• Stevenson Honor

(Continued from front page)
excited," said Stevenson Principal Gonzalo Moraga. School staff and supporters will accept the award June 14 in Baltimore at the coalition's national conference.

"As educators, we cannot do our job alone," said Chris Steinhauer, Superintendent of Schools for the Long Beach Unified School District. "In Long Beach, we're so fortunate to have willing partners in our parents, volunteers, youth-serving groups, universities and colleges. This award belongs to them, just as much as it belongs to this remarkable school."

In naming Stevenson as the winner, the coalition cited the school's high level of parent and community trust and involvement. Community schools like Stevenson develop several partnerships with local organizations. A focus on academics and family leads to improved student learning, stronger families and healthier communities, according to the coalition. Such schools become centers of the community and are open all day, and often during evenings and on weekends.

At Stevenson, the lead agency for partnerships is the YMCA. At the school's popular parent center, the YMCA Community School, parents take three-month courses in a Community Leadership Institute, where they learn to advocate for the school and its students. Hundreds of parents have successfully advocated for a crossing guard, a traffic light at a nearby corner, and a bus shelter to protect children from the elements.

Key community partners include the Cal State Long Beach Department of Social Work, which uses research to help the school plan and evaluate programs.

The community approach at Stevenson has paid off with steady gains in student achievement. Since the year 2000, the school's Academic Performance Index has grown to 715, up 118 points. The school is well on its way to meeting the state target for all schools, 800 points. Stevenson ranks in the top 20 percent of schools statewide that have similar demographic and socioeconomic characteristics. In 2004, Stevenson won the California Distinguished School Award.

The Coalition for Community Schools is an alliance of national, state and local organizations in K-12 and higher education, youth development, community planning and development, family support, health and human services and philanthropy.

Because the after-school period from 2 to 6 p.m. is when unsupervised children are most likely to be the victims of violent crime, community schools fill a big need, providing a safe haven for children while helping to reduce crime and raise student achievement.

Requests Due

Certificated employees planning to resign, retire or request a leave of absence for the 2006-07 school year should submit the appropriate form to their site administrator as soon as possible.

Resignations and requests for full-year leaves of absence received after June 30 will not be approved unless the district is able to hire a suitable replacement.

For information, contact Bobbie Montes, program administrator, at ext. 8108 or bmontes@lbusd.k12.ca.us.