



school bulletin

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

February 23, 2007



TOUR DE LONG BEACH -- Long Beach Unified School District parent and professional cyclist Tony Cruz, who has teamed with Lance Armstrong and raced in the Tour de France, recently visited several local schools. He provided students an overview of professional bike racing and discussed the health benefits of cycling. The visits led up to the Amgen Tour of California, in which the world's top professional teams compete over an eight-day, 700-mile bike race. Long Beach will host the finish of the Amgen Tour this Sunday, February 25.

Facilities Planning

The Long Beach Unified School District is hosting a final series of community dialogues on school facilities planning beginning March 19. The meetings will be held in each of seven planning areas and will focus on school building improvement issues such as school renovation and new construction.

Community feedback from the dialogues will help the district develop its Facility Master Plan.

Childcare will be provided. Below are dates, times and locations for the meetings at local high schools. For more information, visit www.LBUSDFacilities.com or call 997-7585.

Location	Time	Date
Jordan, Large Gym	6-8 p.m.	March 19
Lakewood, Large Gym	6-8 p.m.	March 19
Millikan, Cafeteria	6-8 p.m.	March 21
Cabrillo, Large Gym	6-8 p.m.	March 21
Poly, Large Gym	6-8 p.m.	March 22
Wilson, Large Gym	6-8 p.m.	March 22
Avalon, Gym	4:30-6:30 p.m.	March 28

AVID College Readiness Effort Expanding

A nationally-recognized college preparedness system has expanded to a record 29 middle and high schools, serving thousands of students in the Long Beach Unified School District. Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) began in just two local schools a decade ago and has since become an integral part of the school district's efforts to prepare more students for college and beyond.

Through rigorous curriculum and intensive support, AVID makes it possible for more students to go to college, including students who may not previously have thought of themselves as college material.

The college preparatory system serves traditionally underrepresented and underserved students in nearly 2,600 schools in 40 states and 15 countries.

As part of the system, students are required to take an AP or Honors course. They also take an elective course in which they learn organizational and study skills, work on critical thinking, and receive academic help from peers and specially trained college tutors. The students participate in several college awareness activities including tours of various colleges. Students also receive help with college applications and financial aid.

Long Beach schools have implemented the system to help all students, not just higher

performing students, realize their college goals.

Since 1990, nearly 40,000 AVID students nationwide have graduated from high school and gone on to college. More than 94 percent of AVID students report enrolling in college, 77.1 percent in four-year institutions and 17.2 percent in community colleges. The national average for four-year college enrollment is 35 percent.

Among the AVID Class of 2006 in Long Beach, 90 percent met the A-G college entrance requirements for the University of California and California State University.

Long Beach's AVID effort is contributing to a significant increase in the number of students taking Advanced Placement courses, helping students to earn college credit while still in high school and potentially saving their parents thousands of dollars on college tuition.

Robinson Academy and Millikan High School were recently named AVID National Demonstration Schools by a visiting validation team. Millikan is one of only 85 high schools nationwide to earn this distinction. Currently there are 110 AVID National Demonstration Schools in the U.S.

Colin Powell Academy was named an AVID National Demonstration School last school year. Powell was the first K-8 school in the nation to be declared a Demonstration School.

Millikan Energy Team Collects More Honors

The Robert A. Millikan Student Energy Team, or RAMSET, won the Youth Activism Award presented recently by the California Teachers Association to students for meaningful community action.

Last year, the team also won the National Senior Level School of the Year Award in the National Energy Education Development (NEED) competition. Millikan earned first place among similar groups in more than 40 states.

The RAMSET project includes 40 students in

ninth and tenth grades who are advised by science teacher Woody Williams. With the help of a \$25,000 grant from BP, the students began obtaining equipment and training needed to teach lessons on energy transformation, energy conservation, wind energy, solar energy and fuel cells.

In teams of three to four, the students visit elementary schools, where they provide hands-on lessons on energy. The high school students have visited dozens of elementary classrooms.



ENERGETIC LEARNERS—Millikan High School's Erin Spandorf, Ryan Sontag, teacher Woody Williams, Blake Brewster and Claire Pelonis are part of an energy education team that has won national and state honors.

State Superintendent Visits Lee, Poly High

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell visited Lee Elementary School and Polytechnic High School this week to learn about the schools' successful practices.

Earlier this month, O'Connell mentioned Lee Elementary in his State of Education Address for making strong academic achievement gains and holding high expectations for character and behavior.

At Poly, O'Connell participated in a round-table discussion on closing achievement gaps. The discussion included teachers, students and administrators from Poly, Lee and Hill Classical Middle School.

Japan Goodwill Tour

The Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association is now accepting applications from teachers and high school students to travel to Japan for two weeks this summer as goodwill ambassadors from Long Beach. One teacher and two students will live with Japanese families in Yokkaichi, Long Beach's sister city located 300 miles south of Tokyo. All travel and lodging expenses are paid.

All LBUSD teachers and high school students in the ninth, tenth or eleventh grade who attend LBUSD schools and live in the immediate Long Beach area are eligible to apply.

For an application or more information contact Barbara Parks at parks@csulb.edu or 598-5115, or contact Mike Vaughn at Vaughnship1@juno.com or 592-9350. Deadline is Friday, March 16.

Dates to Remember

March	American Red Cross Month Music In Our Schools Month National Middle Level Education Month National Nutrition Month Women's History Month Youth Art Month
1	Korean Independence Movement Day 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
2	NEA's Read Across America
2	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Dr. Seuss — Cat in the Hat," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
3	Adoption of U.S. National Anthem
5-9	Newspaper In Education Week
5	Black American Day
6	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The American Parade: We the Women," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
7	Conservation, Bird and Arbor Day
7	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Helen Keller," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
8	International Women's Day
8	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Reading Rainbow: Once There Was a Tree," Grades 1-5, ed.tv 8
9	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "One Fine Day" and "Take the Power" (Women's History Month), Grades 3-12, ed.tv 8
11-17	Girl Scout Week
11-17	Smithsonian Week
13	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The Struggle for Women's Rights" (Susan B. Anthony's Birthday), Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
14	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Benjamin Franklin," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8
15	Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
15	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
16	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Indian Artists of the Southwest," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
20	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Ask for It" (Drug Education), Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
21	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 22 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry I," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
23	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
24	Science Fair
27	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Cesar Chavez," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
31	Cesar Chavez Day

City Library Hours

Six Long Beach public libraries began offering an additional day of service beginning February 3, and four more libraries plan to open for an additional day beginning in April.

In this latest phase of restoring hours, the following five libraries are open on a Tuesday-through-Saturday schedule: Alamitos Library, 1836 E. Third Street; Bret Harte Library, 1595 W. Willow Street; Brewitt Library, 4036 E. Anaheim Street; Burnett Library, 560 E. Hill Street; and Dana Library, 3680 Atlantic Avenue. A sixth library, North Library, 5571 Orange Avenue has expanded to six days of service and is open Monday through Saturday.

The first phase of the restoration of library hours began at the start of the fiscal year in October with the reopening of the Main Library on Sundays.

According to Eleanore Schmidt, Director of Library Services, the plan is to reopen four remaining neighborhood libraries (Bach, Bay Shore, Los Altos and Mark Twain) a fifth day in April 2007. At the same time, the El Dorado and Bret Harte libraries will be expanded to a six-day schedule, and the Monday hours at the Main Library will be restored.

"We are thrilled to share the news that by April 2007, after three years of reductions, library hours at all 12 sites will be back to the 2003 level," Schmidt said.

For more information, visit www.lbpl.org.

Teach in Yokkaichi

An information meeting for teachers interested in teaching in Long Beach's sister city, Yokkaichi, Japan for two years beginning in August, will be held Wednesday, February 28 at 4 p.m. in the Community Room of the LBUSD Administration Building, 1515 Hughes Way.

Applications will be available at the meeting along with representatives from the Long Beach Yokkaichi committee to answer questions. For information, call ext. 8025.

In Memoriam

Jim Melisass
former painter
January 26, 2006

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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DeMille Descendent Donates \$10,000

The granddaughter of famed movie director Cecil B. DeMille has donated \$10,000 to DeMille Middle School, which is named after the film legend.

Student Council sponsor Gerd Hihler contacted philanthropist Cecilia DeMille Presley with a request to participate in the school's 50th anniversary next year. Presley responded by donating the funds to increase cultural awareness, provide student scholarships and purchase a portable sound system.

The Job Board

- Millikan High School is looking for an AP world history teacher to join the QUEST program next school year. Contact Don Keller at ext. 4102 to express interest in interviewing for this position.

- Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for administrative secretary, intermediate office assistant and intermediate office assistant-schools.

Names in the News

Maggie Klein, LBUSD retired psychologist, has co-authored a new book, *Trauma Through the Eyes of a Child*, to help adults teach children how to unlock their innate resilience, release trauma and return to calm following a traumatic event. The book is available in major book stores.

Recently honored as Outstanding Volunteers In Public Schools for February are **Anne Crowley**, Henry; **Erin Eubank**, Avalon; **Vida Ferrel**, Burnett; **Janet Hilliard-Osborn**, Hughes; **Celso Licon**, King; **Ana McCollister**, Hill; **Barbara Millman**, Tucker; **Barbara Pakiz**, Cleveland; **Ana Ortiz**, Hamilton; and **Manuela Zaragoza**, Butler.

Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

Timothy Bell, locksmith supervisor,

Maintenance;

Sharon Berg, instructional aide-special,

Prisk;

Kay Boesch, senior accounting assistant, Accounting;

Monica Chambliss, Human Resources assistant, Human Resource Services;

Tara Cole, senior accounting assistant, Head Start;

Marilyn Doss, personnel analyst, Personnel Commission;

Delia Gonzalez, intermediate Nutrition Services worker, King;

Deogracias Lopez, elementary school office supervisor, Madison;

June Morris, instructional aide-special, Birney;

Theresa Muller, instructional aide-special, Los Cerritos;

Loretia Palmer, Nutrition Services supervisor I, International;

Tanisha Welch-Candler, senior office assistant/school, Cabrillo.