



school bulletin

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

October 31, 2008

Summer Enrichment Earns Golden Bell Award

The Long Beach Unified School District's Summer Enrichment Program has won the prestigious Golden Bell Award, the highest honor from the California School Boards Association. The award will be presented Dec. 6 in San Diego.

Summer Enrichment, developed in 2001 by the Long Beach School for Adults, serves first through eighth grade students.

"I am very excited for the outstanding SEP team to receive recognition for creating a program that sparks creativity and ignites passion for learning while increasing student achievement," said Vicki Roberts, program specialist. "We appreciate the families that have supported this program since 2001, the high school students who have collaborated through community service, and the Summer Recreation staff for being awesome partners. Thank you to Molina Healthcare, Inc. for providing scholarships that have made enrichment classes available to more students since 2004."

Each enrichment class in art, chess, computers, drama, fitness, history, math, music, science, sewing or Spanish provides a unique opportunity for the teacher and up to 20 children to explore a subject in-depth for three hours a day for three weeks. Up to 25 class titles are offered each summer.

Feedback from parents each year shows a high level of satisfaction with each class. Data show that children increase their factual knowledge and acquire a greater depth of understanding. Parents pay a fee, but dozens

of scholarships are available.

Classes are held at Tincher Preparatory School. Classes also have been held at Garfield Elementary School, an all-scholarship site, with funds coming from Molina Healthcare and the Long Beach Education Foundation.

The innovative program uses laptop and desktop computers, Smartboards, and digital video and camera equipment in computer, drama and history classes. The drama class for third through fifth grades puts on a musical production each 3-week session. They produce the audience program, build and paint props and backdrops, handle the sound and light system and film the production. Each child has a role in the drama. High school students earn community service hours, a graduation requirement, by working with the program.

Summer Enrichment is connected to LBUSD's mission to support the personal and intellectual success of every student, every day. The program promotes these goals by providing a fun yet challenging curriculum that incorporates reading, writing and interaction. For more information, visit www.lbschools.net and click on Summer Enrichment Program in the alphabetical index.

The Golden Bell Awards promote excellence in education by recognizing outstanding programs in school districts and county offices of education throughout California. To win the award, applicants must demonstrate that the

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GUEST SUPERINTENDENT — Eloy Ortiz Oakley, president of Long Beach City College, joins Superintendent Chris Steinhauser at the start of the annual Principal for a Day event. Oakley was Superintendent for the Day.

Poly, Wilson Writers Win National Honors

Nine seniors from Poly and Wilson high schools were recognized as some of America's best student writers recently by the National Council of Teachers of English.

The students were among 525 seniors to receive the NCTE's Achievement Awards in Writing.

Winners from Poly included Katherine Campbell, Chelsea Knights, Joseph Pausic, Alana Reese, Shaye Torres and Brigid Warnke. Winners from Wilson included Ross Cooper, Arnold Garduno and Lauren Israel.

The recipients were chosen from 1,789 students nominated in their junior year by their teachers.

The awards are based on students' samples of their own best prose or verse and on impromptu themes that are written under supervision. A team of English teachers chosen from throughout the students' home state judges the writing, looking especially for writing that demonstrates effective and imaginative use of language to inform and move an audience.

Hundreds of Students Attend Math Camp

More than a thousand parents and students attended the Seventh Grade Math Conference recently at Cal State Long Beach to prepare for success in high school and beyond.

The conference was organized by the Long Beach Unified School District as part of its recently announced Long Beach College Promise. The Promise, signed by LBUSD, CSULB and Long Beach City College, contains several measures to help make a college education more accessible to local students.

Students gathered at the CSULB Pyramid for a welcome, then participated in more than 20 sessions related to math curriculum, real world applications, counseling and technology. LBUSD teachers conducted the math sessions. Students also toured the campus.

The event was funded in part by a federal GEAR-UP college readiness grant and is part of the school district's Academic and Career Success Initiative, approved by the Board of Education earlier this year.

Guest Principals See Excellence Up Close

More than 200 guest principals from local business and community organizations caught a behind-the-scenes glimpse of local schools during a recent day of shadowing principals. Following a day at their school, the Principals for a Day gathered for a debriefing, where many described high quality education and signs of great progress in local schools.

Eloy Ortiz Oakley, president of Long Beach City College, served as Superintendent for a Day.

"There is so much work going on in those schools, it's amazing," said Oakley, who hosted the debriefing at LBCC's Liberal Arts Campus. "We must continue to support our school district in any way we can."

Also participating was F. King Alexander, president of Cal State Long Beach, as the day focused on the seamless education partnership that is being strengthened among the school district, LBCC and the university. Alexander said California schools are significantly underfunded compared to those in other states, yet "our teachers are doing a remarkable job."

Hundreds of business and education partnerships have begun through the annual

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• Golden Bell

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program has made a difference for students, and that it is exemplary, innovative and sustainable.

With the latest award, the Long Beach Unified School District has now won seven Golden Bells, including last year's award for the Safe and Civil Schools Initiative.

The nonprofit CSBA represents more than 1,000 school districts and county offices of education throughout California.

Credential Current?

All certificated employees are required to keep their credentials and permits current at all times. The State of California does not allow a single minute of service without possessing a valid credential or permit. If employees allow a credential or permit to expire, or if they do not provide the state with evidence of meeting renewal requirements, they cannot remain in paid status in any California public school district.

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing requires all clear, professional and professional clear credential holders to renew their credentials online. The online renewal process requires access to the internet and payment by VISA or MasterCard. The renewal web page is <https://teachercred.ctc.ca.gov/teachers/RenewableSearchProxy>. If you have questions about your credential, please contact a credential services specialist for assistance at ext. 8008.

Classified Training

Classified Staff Development has space available in the following courses scheduled for November and December: Goal Setting (Nov. 4); Conflict Management and Problem Solving (Nov. 6); Teams and Team Leadership (Nov. 18); CPR Certification (Nov. 20); Facilitating Effective Meetings (Dec. 4); and Managing Difficult Conversations (Dec. 9).

Full course descriptions and registration information can be found on the Personnel Commission's website, or call 435-5708. Courses are free to classified employees.

New Library For King

Starr King Elementary School recently unveiled its library makeover, one of 23 nationwide accomplished by Target Volunteers and The Heart of America Foundation.

The complete transformation of the library occurred this summer, bringing thousands of new books, technology, paint, lighting, wall art murals and reading corners to King.

At the opening celebration, every student also walked away with five new books to add to their own at-home reading collections.

In Memoriam

Mary Lou Weiss
former counselor
Oct. 14, 2008

New Communication Guidelines Available

A handy Desk Guide with phone system tips, e-mail and office etiquette, along with a booklet of meeting tips and tools are two of the newest products available for free download at www.lbschools.net. Go to Strategic Planning – Communication in the A-Z index and see the Products section.

The tools were produced by LBUSD's Strategic Plan Goal Team 5, whose aim is to improve communication throughout the district. The Desk Guide and Meeting Facilitation Booklet were created in direct response to surveys of employees regarding their communication needs.

College/Career Night

The 37th Annual Career/College Exploration Night will be held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5 at the Cal State Long Beach Walter Pyramid.

More than 140 career and college representatives will provide information to students and parents. For more information, call 997-8023.

Dates to Remember

November	
	American Indian Heritage Month
	Child Safety & Protection Month
	Standard Time
2	Election Day
4	First Quarter Ends
4	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "Molly's Pilgrim," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8
5	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – "Louis Pasteur," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
10-16	Youth Appreciation Week
11	Veterans Day
11	National Community Education Day
12	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – "William Bradford, The First Thanksgiving," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
13	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "Turkeys in the Wild," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
14	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "Thanksgiving," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
16-22	American Education Week
16-22	Geography Awareness Week
18	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "Pilgrims at Plymouth," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
19	Education Support Professionals Day
19	Geographic Information Systems Day
19	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – "Thanksgiving Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
20	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "Taking Care of Your School Building," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
21	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "McGruff on the Law: Bicycles and Pedestrians," Grades 2-5, ed.tv 8
25	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – "First Thanksgiving," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
27-28	Thanksgiving
30	Mark Twain's Birthday

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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• Principals for a Day

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Principal for a Day event, which is co-sponsored by the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, the Long Beach Unified School District and the Long Beach Education Foundation.

At last year's Principal for a Day, local business and community leaders pledged \$130,000 to fund tutoring for hundreds of local high school students who are struggling to become proficient in Algebra I. The pledges started with a \$40,000 challenge grant from philanthropists Mike and Arline Walter.

This year's debriefing featured testimonials from high school tutors who are assisting their peers while earning \$9 an hour, thanks to last year's donations.

"The kids really seem to like it, and for us as tutors it feels really good to help our peers and do what we can to help our school," Wilson student Jordan Shefrin said.

Other guest principals also were impressed: "The quality of education amazes me," said Kathy Berry, community relations director at Community Hospital of Long Beach. She visited Millikan High School. "It makes me want to go back to high school again. It's incredible what they're doing with those smaller learning communities."

"I was very impressed by the programs that they're able to offer at the high school," said Diane Dubois, a city council member in Lakewood. She toured Lakewood High School. "They've come a long way from four, five years ago. You have a lot of opportunities for kids – AP (Advanced Placement) and other opportunities."

"I was pleased to go into every single classroom at Burroughs (Elementary School)," said Pat Towner of Boy Scouts of America. "You could hear a pin drop. Those teachers were teaching, and the students were listening."

Chairing this year's event were Ryan Alsop, director of Government and Public Affairs for Long Beach Water, and Shaun Lumachi, president of Chamber Advocacy.

Name in the News

Judy Seal, executive director of the Long Beach Education Foundation, was named to the Long Beach City College Hall of Fame.

Leadership Positions

Certificated staff who are interested in being promoted to Assistant/Vice-Principal, Principal, or other Leadership Development positions, or who are interested in participating in the Aspiring Assistant Principals, or Principals Apprentice Program should go to www.lbschools.net and click on Leadership Development in the A-Z index. Requirements and materials for all programs are posted. The first scheduled workshop is Nov. 3 for Aspiring Assistant Principals at the Secondary level.

The Job Board

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for catering supervisor, Kids' Club supervisor I, Kids' Club supervisor II and Kids' Club supervisor III.