



school bulletin

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

June 5, 2009

Broad Scholars Earn \$250K for Improving

As reviewers toured Long Beach schools this week to determine whether LBUSD wins the national, \$1 million Broad Prize for Urban Education, 15 surprised students here received a combined \$250,000 in Broad Scholarships for improving their grades.

LBUSD won the scholarships as one of five finalists for the 2008 Broad (rhymes with road) Prize. The district is now competing for the 2009 top prize, to be bestowed this fall by The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation.

"Why does Long Beach keep outpacing other large districts across this country? There's a phenomenon going on here, and our research team is trying to understand it," Broad Foundation spokeswoman Erica Lepping said during a news conference this week at Cabrillo High School.

"In the United States, there are 15,000 school districts. There are only two that have been five-time finalists for the most improved school district in the nation – Boston and Long Beach.

(Continued on next page)



SCHOLARLY — Renaissance seniors Ines Arredondo, left, and Tanya Tran were two of the 15 LBUSD students awarded Broad Scholarships this week.

Senior Scholarships Exceed \$40 Million

Scholarships and other monetary awards earned by graduating seniors this year exceed \$40 million, far surpassing last year's record of \$32 million.

Students earned an all-time high of \$40.43 million, more than double the amount earned just two years ago.

Poly High School seniors earned more than \$9.12 million and received acceptances to 84 different colleges and universities, including all nine of the University of California freshman-admitting campuses, and Cornell, Dartmouth, Howard, MIT, Princeton, Stanford, the U.S. Naval Academy and Yale.

Wilson Classical High School seniors earned more than \$9 million and received 174 acceptances to all nine of the freshman-admitting UC campuses.

In all, Wilson students earned acceptance to 150 different colleges and universities in 37 states, including admission to Harvard, Yale, Emory, Rensselaer, George Washington, Stanford, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth and USC.

Students at the California Academy of Mathematics and Science earned \$7.44 million, including two Gates Millennium Scholarships valued at \$200,000 each and admission to Caltech, Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Johns Hopkins, Northwestern, Pomona College, Stanford, MIT, U.S. Air Force Academy, USC and Wellesley College.

Millikan High School students earned more than \$6.16 million, nearly double last year's figure, which had already been doubled from

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Certificated Employees Devoted 2,822 Years

A total of 107 teachers and other certificated employees are wrapping up their careers this year. Together they have amassed 2,822 years of service to the students of the Long Beach Unified School District:

42 years—Fitzgerald Jones, School for Adults;

40 years—Ninette Richardson, Special Projects; Kathleen Grubb, School for Adults; Kathleen Case, Bixby;

39 years—Le Anna Fox, Poly; Margaret

Christensen, Muir; Nancy Young, MacArthur; 38 years—Sandra Bohlen, Webster; Naomi Blackmore, Prisk; Sandra Lucas, Millikan; Shirley Kroll, Rogers; Merri Lyn Shickler, Poly; Cynthia Terry, Cabrillo; Linda Mae Williams, MacArthur;

37 years—Janis Barton, CDC; Cynthia Lotstein, Carver; Lilian Campbell, CDC; Donald Speir, Madison; Ronald Hanson, Burcham; Peter Blagaich, Poly; Harriet Boyer, Hoover;

36 years—Ford Laster, Dooley; Judy Fair, Tincher;

35 years—William Chavez, Millikan; Karen Stanley, Birney;

33 years—Michael Ashby, Twain;

32 years—Carmen Hedges, Willard; Thomas Clanton, Millikan;

31 years—Donna Tompkins, Birney; 30 years—Elissa Vigiotta, Monroe; Richard Evans, Hoover; Robert King, Burcham; Laurie Bilotta, Grant; Karen Williams, Signal Hill; Debra Bell, Gant; Patricia Essington, Lowell;

29 years—Ronnie Clare, Special Projects; Jennifer Cozens, McKinley;

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Jones

Retiring Classified Staff Served 1,400 Years

Retiring this year from schools, offices and key support services are 61 Long Beach Unified School District classified employees with a combined total of 1,400 years of service:

36 years—Curtis Gathe, Lakewood; 35 years—Gary Spear, Wilson; Theresa Daley, Superintendent's Office; 33 years—David Swenson, Millikan; 32 years—Lorraine Ortiz, MacArthur; 31 years—Gilbert Breitzman, Millikan; 30 years—Nancy Torres, Lakewood; Robert Singleton, Operations;

28 years—Fred Moore, Prisk; 27 years—Maria Flores, CDC; Rose Marie Montoya, CDC; Betty Exendine, Hi-Hill; James Duessent, Maintenance; Francine Pfeiffer, OCIPD;

26 years—Lauree King, Birney; Paul Bartoe, Operations;

25 years—William Loree, Operations;

24 years—Patrishia Fertig, Avalon; Claudette Adkins, Roosevelt;

23 years—Sylvia Wallace, Poly; Thelma

Fermin, Bancroft;

22 years—Gladys Topp, PALMS;

21 years—Gary Johnson, Bixby/Prisk; Jody Delgado, Rogers; Cynthia Wilson, Risk Management;

20 years—Linda

Ansnes, Library

Services; Bernardo

Bato, Madison;

19 years—James

Roe, Operations;

18 years—Terry

Reichardt, Alvarado;

17 years—Susan

Brock, MacArthur;

15 years—Marcie

Knipple, Operations;

Cynthia Haaland, Payroll;

12 years—Sylvia

Watson, HRS.

A total of 28 others with a combined 583 years of service requested that their names not be printed.



Gathe

Franklin Security Officer is Employee of Year

Franklin Classical Middle School's Campus Security Officer Robert "Robby" Jackson accepted the Classified Employee of the Year Award at this week's Board of Education meeting as colleagues cheered at the surprise announcement.

Jackson, who has worked at Franklin since 2002, said he was deeply touched by the honor.

"I was definitely overwhelmed," he said. "To me, it's not an individual award but a thank you to so many others who we work with."

Jackson is a former Franklin student. He also attended Jordan High School and served as the student member on the Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education.

"I went back to work at Franklin because I'm an Eagle Scout, and one of the first things you learn is to give back to those who gave you so much," Jackson said.



Jackson

In nominating him for the award, colleagues described him as well liked by both staff and students – a person who commands respect while still exhibiting great care and concern for children. Jackson greets each student personally every day, and every student knows his name. He serves as a role model, in part by wearing the school uniform daily.

Sixty-five nominees vied for the award. The nominees and seven finalists, including Jackson, were honored at a recent Ice Cream Social. The finalists also were honored at this week's board meeting.

The six other finalists were Keith Adkins, Multimedia Services; Alyce Coburn, Hill; Joanne Kageno, Elementary Office; Terry Reichardt, Alvarado; Cynthia Schiavo, Hoover; and James Sharrar, Hill.

• Certificated Retirees

(Continued from first page)

28 years—Bette Hillig, Lincoln;
27 years—Pamela Sich, Lincoln; Peggy Stivers, DeMille; Aletha Sicurello, Jefferson; Paul Williams, Lakewood;

26 years—Joan Prijatel, Special Projects; Karleen Nicholson, Burcham; Leslie Jensen, Renaissance;

25 years—Nancy Bissot, Hill; Kay Hansen, Burcham; Deborah Mucerino, Hoover; David Schlick, Lakewood; Diana Rankin, Music Office;

22 years—Susan Johnson-Lipman, The Willows; Jerry Stover, Special Projects; Susan Vestermark, Rogers;

19 years—Vinnie Shellman, CDC; Katharina Rozenstraten, Muir;

18 years—Nancy Billings, Muir; Gail Goodman, Riley;

17 years—Walter Donahue, The Willows; Harold Ardra, CDC; Kristina Kennann, Edison;

16 years—John Sumpter, Poly;

15 years—Charles Clark, School Safety;

14 years—Kathryn Kronick, Cleveland;

Gary Blair, Hill; Judy Dearing, Nursing Services;

13 years—Timothy Brown, Hamilton;

12 years—Michael Bos, Jordan; Margaret Chandler, Poly;

11 years—Marjorie Abbott-Temple, Bixby;

10 years—Muriel Luther, Tincher; Craig Sundquist, Rogers;

9 years—Terry Spencer, Marshall.

Thirty-three others who served 786 years asked that their names not be printed.

• Broad Finalist

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"Long Beach is truly one of the best urban districts in the country," Lepping said. "If you are a parent of school-age children in Long Beach, your children are receiving a stronger education than those in other school districts," she said.

Joining Broad officials at the news conference were Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, and leaders from Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College.

"I can't thank you enough for the performance you've achieved, and for how much you've done for this city," Mayor Foster told representatives of the school district. "This is like a lifetime achievement award, because you are instilling a lifetime of achievement in these young people."

Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser announced the names of the 15 scholarship winners, each of whom received between \$5,000 and \$20,000. The Broad Foundation has now given Long Beach students more than \$1 million in recent years.

Scholarship winners were Diana Rodriguez of Cabrillo; Bryan Chiem of Lakewood; Jaden Netwig of Millikan; Poly students Abelardo Gutierrez, Francia Bienvenue, Grady Vanhooser, Jennifer Chrin, Khantina Mann, Mindy Huynh and Steven Sar; Renaissance students Ines Arredondo and Tanya Tran; and Wilson students Allison Cook, Jessica Martin and Sayuri Blanquel.

Long Beach is a 2009 Broad Prize finalist because in 2008, its African-American, Latino and low-income students achieved higher average proficiency rates than their counterparts statewide in reading and math, and because the district continued to narrow achievement gaps that remain prevalent in many other school districts nationwide.

The winner of the 2009 Broad Prize will be announced on Sept. 16 by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

The Job Board

- Poly High School will have an opening next year in their CIC Magnet program to teach either AP English Language and Composition/Honors English 5/6 or English 3/4 (Accelerated). Those interested in either position should contact Shawn Ashley, principal, ASAP at slashley@lbschools.net.

- CAMS High School is interviewing for a history/social science position and an English teaching position. Contact Janice Filer, principal, at (310) 243-2025 if interested in interviewing for one of these positions.

- Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for ASB financial technician, campus security officer, instructional aide-special, instructional assistant-intensive behavioral treatment, pool attendant, substitute custodian and autism services supervisor.

Retirement Events

Honoree	Date	Contact
Terry Koepke	June 6	Pat Contradi (714) 514-7568
Alice Thompson	June 14	Tanya Sanderson 799-6465

• \$40M for College

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the prior year. Millikan students gained admission to Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, all UC and California State University schools, Howard, Spelman, Chapman, the University of Hawaii and other schools.

Five Millikan students earned President's Scholarships at Cal State Long Beach. Other students earned scholarships from the Teachers Association of Long Beach and the California Teachers Association.

Lakewood High School seniors earned nearly \$3.38 million, with acceptances to all nine freshman-admitting UC campuses, and Stanford, USC, University of Boston and other schools. Awards included a Gates Millennium Scholarship renewable to the doctorate level, and three President's Scholarships at Cal State Long Beach.

Jordan High School students earned \$1.8 million, including two Gates Millennium Scholarships and a full ride to UCLA.

Cabrillo High School students earned \$1.7 million, including a Broad Foundation Scholarship.

Renaissance High School for the Arts students earned \$1.41 million in scholarships, including two Broad Foundation scholarships.

Avalon High School students earned more than \$390,600, and Reid High School students earned \$18,600.

The number of Long Beach students applying for federal student aid has increased by 49 percent over last year, the result of a goal set by the Latino FAFSA Initiative in Long Beach. The initiative is a pilot program spearheaded by Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, and supported by the Long Beach Unified School District, community-based organizations and local colleges.

The increased completion rate of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as FAFSA, resulted from the initiative's focus on helping Latino and other youth and their families to fill out the FAFSA at established community centers, called "trusted centers."

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

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MOST INSPIRING — Nicholas Ramirez, Burnett Elementary School first grader, was one of more than 90 students honored recently at the school district's Most Inspiring Students Awards. He was recognized for his friendly and cheerful attitude. Here, he celebrates with his father, Manuel Rosales, and his mother, Linda Ramirez.



Debra Farnum Wins Nurse of the Year Award

The Long Beach School Nurses Association has awarded the 2009 School Nurse of the Year title to Debra Farnum, a nurse at Stevenson Elementary and Robinson Academy.

Farnum has been a nurse for more than 30 years. She earned her bachelor's degree in nursing in 1975 from Cal State Los Angeles and her master's in community mental health nursing from UCLA in 1979.

The 13-year LBUSD employee also worked with the Los Angeles Unified School District for a year and with the Tustin Unified School District for two years. During her career as a school nurse she has received numerous awards for her accomplishments and for her active involvement in the community.

She created and implemented an asthma

project for LBUSD in 1998. In 2004, Farnum earned a \$90,000 grant for the Nurses Against Asthma project.

Throughout her career, Farnum has been an active organizer, fundraiser and volunteer for many health-related organizations, including CSNO, LBSNA, Association of Asthma Educators, American Lung Association, Asthma and Allergy Association, Beta Phi Sigma Sorority, National School of Negro Women, and Bethune School.

Farnum's fund-raising activities have included fashion shows, a book drive, food drives, Easter parties, a Thanksgiving program, Christmas toy programs, Christmas parties, and many charitable walks.

Farnum's other honors and awards include: The Pearl Award in 2004, received from the Beta Phi Sigma Sorority; The Golden Apple Award in 2006, from TALB; a Long Beach Unsung Hero Award in 2007, from NAACP and the Mayor of Long Beach; a certificate of recognition from a member of Congress, and a certificate of recognition from a California senator.



Farnum

More Than 5,400 Grads to Accept Diplomas

Poised to receive their diplomas this month are more than 5,400 high school seniors in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Poly and Poly Academy of Achievers and Leaders have the largest combined graduating class with 1,075 seniors. Wilson will award 860 diplomas; Lakewood, 850; Millikan, 785; Cabrillo, 590; Jordan, 580; School for Adults, 226; EPHS, 151; CAMS, 142; Reid, 80; Renaissance, 75; and Avalon, 53.

Cabrillo holds its graduation on Tuesday, June 9. CAMS, Jordan, Poly/PAAL and Reid will award diplomas Wednesday, June 10. Avalon, Lakewood, Millikan, Renaissance and Wilson will conduct ceremonies on Thursday, June 11. EPHS and School for Adults conduct graduations on Friday, June 12.

Scheduled to present diplomas are:

Avalon—Assistant Superintendent Maggie Webster, 4:30 p.m., Avalon Casino Theater; **Cabrillo**—Board of Education Member Felton Williams, 6 p.m., Veterans Stadium; **CAMS**—

Board of Education President Jon Meyer, 6 p.m., Home Depot Center; **EPHS**—Board of Education Member David Barton, 1 p.m., Lakewood High School Auditorium; **Jordan**—

Board of Education Vice President Mary Stanton, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium; **Lakewood**—Superintendent Chris Steinhauser, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium; **School for Adults**—Board of Education Vice President Mary Stanton, 1 p.m., Millikan High School Auditorium; **Millikan**—Superintendent Chris Steinhauser, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium; **Poly/PAAL**—Board of Education Member Felton Williams, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium; **Reid**—Superintendent Chris Steinhauser, 11 a.m., Cabrillo High School Gymnasium; **Renaissance**—Board of Education Member Felton Williams, 6 p.m., Long Beach City College Liberal Arts Campus Auditorium; **Wilson**—Board of Education President Jon Meyer, 5:30 p.m., Stephens Field (Wilson Stadium).

Share Hair Sunday

Long Beach Unified School District Head Start and Salon Soma of Naples are joining forces to support the Locks of Love, an organization that provides free hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children suffering from long-term hair loss.

Locks of Love recently agreed to provide a free hairpiece to a child enrolled at Anaheim Head Start.

This Sunday, June 7, the salon will give a free haircut and mini-makeover to anyone donating 10 inches of hair to Locks of Love. Call Head Start at 427-0833 to schedule an appointment between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Names in the News

Two teachers were honored recently by the Southern District California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance: **Julia Hasselwander**, Avalon and Stephens, was named Adapted Physical Education Teacher of the Year; and **Stephanie Sasaki**, Jefferson, was named Middle School Teacher of the Year.

Personnel Commissioner **Vera Mulkey** was recently awarded the 2009 Humanitarian Award by the California Conference for Equality and Justice.

Winners of \$1,000 ALBEM Scholarships are **Efren Cazares**, Avalon; **Mark Alquizola**, Cabrillo; **Karina Corona**, CAMS; **Haydee Ramos**, EPHS; **Dianna Cazarez**, Jordan; **Jose Gomez**, Lakewood; **Ebony Jackson**, School for Adults; **Sarah Lopez**, Millikan; **Solene Kong**, Poly; **Trevon Wickliffe**, Reid; **Brian Porter**, Renaissance; and **Sayuri Blanquel**, Wilson. The \$1,000 Ernest McBride Scholarship was awarded to **Yesenia Gonzales**, Wilson.

Dates to Remember

June	
5	World Environment Day
10	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Independence Days," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
11	Last Day for Students — Traditional Calendar
12	Last Day for Teachers — Traditional Calendar
12	Anne Frank's Birthday
14	Flag Day
14-18	National History Day Contest
21	Fathers Day
27	Helen Keller's Birthday

"The finest economic stimulus we have is education."

— Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

In Memoriam

Lisa Stephenson
principal, Carver
May 22, 2009

Donnah Jacobson
former teacher
June 4, 2009

Your Determination, Dedication Pay Huge Dividends for Students

by **Chris Steinhauser**
Superintendent of Schools

Students and schools in the Long Beach Unified School District faced many serious challenges this year but amassed impressive new achievements, national honors and major awards.

State and national leaders must understand that excellent education like this contributes to economic recovery. Meanwhile we can take great pride in the fact that, with the strong support of parents and community partners, we're maintaining our firm commitment to students, no matter what. The result is that we continue to improve, and we continue to outpace other school districts. Consider just a few examples from this school year:



- For a record-tying fifth time, we are competing as one of five finalists for The Broad Prize for Urban Education. Our staying power



on the list of America's top urban school systems is a testament to your dedication, year in and year out.

- Voters approved Measure K school bonds by an overwhelming 71.34 percent yes vote, providing for \$1.2 billion, and the possibility of hundreds of millions of dollars of state matching funds, to upgrade classrooms and construct new school buildings.

- Our students earned more than \$40 million in scholarships, a massive amount that dwarfs the \$18 million earned just two years ago. These numbers are music to the ears of students and parents, especially during these challenging economic times.

- The California Academy of Mathematics and Science, and Hill Classical Middle School won 2009 California Distinguished School Awards.

- A report from the nationally renowned Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institute showed LBUSD has improved the most compared to other large, urban districts statewide. The study further showed the district's improvement ranking fourth nationwide.

- The number of business partners in our schools grew to a record 1,220.

- Wilson Classical High School was one of only 16 schools nationwide recognized in the College Board's fifth annual AP Report to the nation for increasing access to Advanced Placement among traditionally underserved students.

- Cabrillo High School joined an elite group of Advancement Via Individual Determination schools recently by becoming a National Demonstration Site. AVID is an in-school academic support program that prepares students for college eligibility and success.

- A report by the National Center for Educational Achievement highlighted effective math and science practices in the Long Beach Unified School District, including instructional methods at Hill Classical Middle School and International Elementary School.

- After achieving significant gains in student performance, Tincher Preparatory School became the first Long Beach school, and the first K-8 school in the state, to be named a "School to Watch" by the California Middle Grades Alliance.

- Local business owner and celebrity Jesse James recently donated and raised more than \$100,000 for the Long Beach Education Foundation.

- The number of Long Beach students applying for federal student aid increased by 49 percent over last year, the result of a goal set by the Latino FAFSA Initiative in Long Beach, a pilot program spearheaded by Federal Student Aid, an office of the U.S. Department of Education, and supported by the Long Beach Unified School District, community-based organizations, City of Long Beach and local colleges.

- Fifteen more teachers in the Long Beach Unified School District earned the highest professional distinction in teaching, National Board Certification. The newest certifications brought the total number of nationally certified teachers in the school district to a record high of 129.

- Our high school students improved their performance on California physical fitness tests and surpassed students throughout Los Angeles County and statewide.

- Our Volunteers in Public Schools celebrated 40 years, with the number of volunteers growing to a record 8,600.



- CAMS was selected as one of the top 100 high schools in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report*. Poly High School also made the prestigious national ranking as a Silver Medalist, placing among the top 604 schools in the country.

- Seven exemplary schools in the Long Beach Unified School District were recognized by the business community for their outstanding success in raising student achievement and closing achievement gaps among all groups of students.

Named as California Business for Education Excellence/Just for the Kids California Honor Roll Schools for 2008 were Keller, International, Fremont, Lowell and Naples elemen-

tary schools, Emerson Parkside Academy and the California Academy of Mathematics and Science.

- Our new Teleparent automatic calling system completed hundreds of thousands of household calls. Both the district and schools can use the system to notify parents.

- A report by UC Berkeley-based Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE) praised the Long Beach Unified School District for its effective, systematic efforts to boost student performance.

- The Chinese government's Education Ministry presented Mingqi Zhu, teacher of Chinese at Poly, with a worldwide award, the International Chinese Educators Curriculum Design Award, in Beijing.



Zhu

- Long Beach City College awarded 50 Rotary scholarships to launch an effort to eventually provide free first-semester tuition to all Long Beach-area high school students who don't qualify for sufficient financial aid.

The scholarships were part of our Long Beach College Promise, a joint effort by LBCC, LBUSD and Cal State Long Beach to make college degrees accessible to local students. The Long Beach College Promise is part of the Academic and Career Success For All Initiative approved by the Board of Education.

- The Long Beach Unified School District's Summer Enrichment Program won the prestigious Golden Bell Award, the highest honor from the California School Boards Association. Summer Enrichment, developed in 2001 by the Long Beach School for Adults, serves first through eighth grade students.

- Nine seniors from Poly and Wilson high schools were recognized as some of America's best student writers by the National Council of Teachers of English. The students were among 525 seniors to receive the NCTE's Achievement Awards in Writing.

- A cover story on "L.A.'s Best High Schools" in *Los Angeles* magazine included Poly and CAMS. The magazine noted that CAMS enables students to take the equivalent of five years of science as well as courses in logic, university-level calculus, digital electronics and computer design. Poly was praised for its "national reputation for producing scholars, artists and athletes."

- An extensive cover story in *The Learning System*, a National Staff Development Council newsletter, detailed LBUSD's successful professional development programs for teachers.

Thank you to each of you who has contributed to these and many other successes. Your work speaks for itself, and you continue to serve as an inspiration to educators throughout the nation and the world.

Have a wonderful summer!