



school bulletin

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

April 6, 2012

State Names 3 More Distinguished Schools

Three schools here earned the California Distinguished School Award recently for academic excellence. Emerson, Kettering and Roosevelt schools were among 387 honorees announced statewide.

"Congratulations to everyone at Emerson, Kettering and Roosevelt schools for this high honor," said Christopher J. Steinhauser, superintendent of schools for the Long Beach Unified School District. "Each of these schools is a repeat winner of this award. To earn these accolades during such lean times is a significant accomplishment, and we're proud that we now have 39 California Distinguished Schools throughout all geographic areas of our school district."

The awards honor schools that have demonstrated educational excellence for all students and progress in narrowing achievement gaps. Winners must meet a variety of criteria including top performance on national and state

accountability measures.

Elementary and secondary schools (middle and high schools) are recognized in alternate years. This year focused on elementary schools.

"The schools we are recognizing demonstrate the incredible commitment of California's teachers, administrators, and school employees to provide a world-class education to every student, in spite of the financial hardships facing our state and our schools," said California Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson. "Their dedication is inspiring, and I applaud and admire their passion and persistence."



SUPERHEROIC—Millikan High School and Cal State Long Beach graduate Dylan Seal provides entertainment at the superhero-themed Most Inspiring Students Awards, where Alvarado Elementary School student Keely-Chae Sapiga was one of the honorees. A student from each LBUSD school was honored for their persistence and improvement. The keynote speaker was Damon Dunn, who overcame a tough childhood to play football at Stanford University and in the NFL before building a successful real estate business. See more photos at lbschools.net.

Longfellow Up for National Green Ribbon

Longfellow Elementary School is one of four California finalists for the new national Green Ribbon Award, which recognizes schools for reducing environmental impact on their communities, promoting healthy school environments, and offering high-quality environmental education.

Through Longfellow's lunchtime and classroom recycling programs and other efforts, the school has diverted more than 100,000 pounds of trash from landfills over the past two years. The high rate of waste diversion was accomplished with the help of the City of Long Beach's Environmental Services Bureau.

In addition to recycling, Longfellow Green Team volunteers deliver unused cold foods and milk to Food Finders, a local food bank distrib-

utor, on a daily basis. Students participate in a Walk to School Wednesday program. Volunteers hold a monthly Uniform Swap, and the school has a new Junior Green Team of fourth and fifth graders.

On top of its daily green activities, Longfellow, along with all Long Beach Unified School District schools, recently earned Energy Star Certification due to concerted efforts at the district level to conserve energy and save money. This, along with the district's participation in SHAPE California, a nutrition education program, and the district's Styrofoam recycling program, are ways in which all LBUSD schools are working toward healthier school environments.

(Continued on next page)

Cabrillo Dance Team Captures State Title

The Dance Team at Cabrillo High School won the Grand Master State Championship Trophy recently at Knott's Berry Farm. The award is the top honor for the overall winner.

The Cabrillo team took first place in eight categories, second place in one category, third in another, and state titles in two separate categories resulting in the overall championship. The championship is run by Sharp International, the world's largest dance competition and camp circuit.

The Cabrillo team's overall grade point average is 3.5, and team members have contributed more than 500 hours of community service during the school year. Cabrillo's dance director is Keisha Clark-Booth.

GREEN TEAM—LBUSD Superintendent Chris Steinhauser and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, back row, congratulate Longfellow Green Team volunteers Kristi von der Linden, Megan Kerr, Heather Morrison and Longfellow Principal Laurie Murrin.



Summer Enrichment

The California Golden Bell award-winning Summer Enrichment Program, now in its twelfth year, will be held at Gant Elementary School. Children entering first through eighth grades are eligible to attend the fee-based program held in sessions from June 25 to July 12 and from July 16 to August 2.

Classes in music, art, science, cooking and other topics are taught by credentialed Long Beach Unified School District staff Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost for each three-week session is \$260 or less (early and sibling discounts are available). Recreation supervision is included at no additional charge. Recreation hours are 8 to 9 a.m. and noon to 4 p.m., Monday to Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays from June 29 to July 27.

The program is managed by LBUSD's School for Adults. Learn more and find registration forms at lbschools.net under Summer Enrichment Program in the A-Z index, or contact Vicki Roberts at 595-8893, ext. 224.

Employee of the Year

Do you know an outstanding classified employee who deserves recognition? If so, consider nominating this person for the annual Classified Employee of the Year Award by Friday, April 20.

Any full-time or part-time permanent classified employee at a school district department, school or office is eligible for this honor. Only district classified or certificated employees may nominate a classified employee. Self-nominations will not be considered.

The winner and finalists will be recognized on Friday, May 18 during the annual Classified Employee Recognition event at the Teacher Resource Center. The winner also will be recognized at a school board meeting.

Obtain nomination forms at lbschools.net under Employee of the Year in the A-Z index.

Names in the News

Technology Curriculum Leader **Vanitha Chandrasekhar** was selected by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson to serve on a 48-member Education Technology Task Force to recommend how to bring 21st Century tools into California's classrooms to improve teaching and learning.

California Academy of Mathematics and Science student **Kendall Melvin** received an early admission \$240,000 scholarship to Amherst College (\$60,000 a year, guaranteed for four years). The college was ranked 10 times by U.S. News and World Report as the first overall among 266 liberal arts colleges. The student, who suffers from a chronic and painful skin condition, also earned his school's Most Inspiring Student Award.

Henry K-8 School student **Marisol Uy** took first place in the California Association for Bilingual Education's essay contest.

Retirement Event

Honoree	Date	Contact
Sam Hill	June 7	Sheila Flaherty ext. 4610

Special Needs Fair Coming to Millikan

A "High School and Beyond" event with information on how students with special needs can become more independent as they transition from high school is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 27 in Millikan High School's small gym.

The event is offered by the Long Beach Unified School District's Special Education Office. More than 30 agencies will provide students, parents and educators with vital information concerning programs and services available to students with special needs.

For more information, contact Joe Gawel at 951-7733 or jgawel@lbschools.net, or Veronica Hurt at 423-1471, ext. 2443.

Alternative Induction

The Long Beach Unified School District's Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment Office is offering an Alternative Induction Pathway cohort to begin in fall 2012. The program is designed for multiple- and single-subject general education preliminary credential holders who do not anticipate having a contracted teaching position for 2012-13.

LBUSD RIF (Reduction in Force) teachers, LBUSD substitutes, or CSULB graduates holding preliminary multiple-subject or single-subject credentials without a current teaching assignment are encouraged to apply.

Applications are available at lbschools.net under Beginning Teacher Support in the A-Z index. Click on Alternative Induction Pathway. Applications are due Friday, June 8. Contact Lori Grace at 997-8000, ext. 2901 or lgrace@lbschools.net for more information.

Harlem at Hoover

The Hoover Middle School PTA presents the Harlem Wizards Basketball Team at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 22 at the Lakewood High School gym. The trick basketball team will take on the Hoover All-Star team of students, teachers, alumni and parents in a game filled with slam dunks and alley-oops. Tickets are \$8 and \$10 at harlemwizards.com or at Hoover. Proceeds benefit the school.

Russ Widman, 23-year veteran Hoover physical education teacher, is looking forward to playing in the game.

"I love making a fool of myself in front of my co-workers and students," he said. "I only ask that you laugh with me, not at me!"

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

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• Green Ribbon

(Continued from first page)

Longfellow teachers promote health and wellness through an expanded outdoor physical education program, and by taking students on various fieldtrips that promote outdoor learning and environmental awareness.

The school also has a science lab and a courtyard garden/outdoor science lab featuring California native plants, fruit trees, raised vegetable beds and an area for composting.

"This recognition would not have been possible without the dedication of our wonderful Green Team parent volunteers, teachers, staff, and most especially, our students, who have embraced all the small daily changes that contribute both to a significant decrease in Longfellow's impact on the environment and to a healthy school environment," Longfellow Principal Laurie Murrin said.

The U.S. Department of Education is expected to announce the national winners on Earth Day, April 22.

The other California nominees are Environmental Charter High School in Lawndale, The Athenian School in Danville, and Grand View Elementary School in Manhattan Beach. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced the finalists recently at the Lawndale school. More than 50 schools applied statewide.

"We are extremely proud of our schools," Torlakson said, "and are hopeful that all nominees will be awarded so they will be able to serve as models to emulate around the nation."

Learn more at cde.ca.gov/ls/fa/st/greenribbonprog.asp.

Teachers of the Year

The Los Angeles County Office of Education is sponsoring the 2012-13 L.A. County Teachers of the Year Program. Fully credentialed teachers from pre-kindergarten through grade 12 are eligible to compete. This includes library media teachers who collaboratively teach with classroom teachers, and adult school teachers who are providing instruction in the same curriculum as those who teach in the elementary or secondary grades. Instructors who have some administrative responsibilities are also eligible to apply, but only if teaching is their primary responsibility.

An information meeting is planned for 3 p.m. Wednesday, May 23 at the L.A. County Office of Education, 9800 Imperial Hwy., Downey.

For information and applications, contact Elisa Hagen in the Professional Development Center at ehagen@lbschools.net or at ext. 2900.

CPR, First Aid Class

Two CPR/First Aid certification classes for classified employees will be offered by the Personnel Commission on Tuesday, May 22. Classes will run from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Teacher Resource Center's ABC Room.

This classified staff development event is subject to manager/supervisor approval for release time, and participants must be permanent classified employees. Submit registration by Friday, May 4.

Call 435-5708 or visit the commission's website for a registration form.