



school bulletin

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

November 14, 2014

National Meeting Spotlights LBUSD

Detailed videos on the Long Beach Unified School District's successful practices debuted at the ACT college entrance exam annual employee meeting held recently in Iowa. Educators from throughout the nation attended, as did most of the ACT's 1,500 employees.

View the video segments at lbschools.net under the "National Meeting Spotlights LBUSD" headline. Topics in the videos include diversity, testing, safety, community, leadership, and college and career readiness.

At the national meeting, former LBUSD Superintendent Carl A. Cohn, who chairs the ACT Board, provided commentary in between the various two-minute video segments about the school district. Cohn, who is also a member of the California State Board of Education, prepared the video segments by visiting LBUSD's Millikan, Nelson and Burbank schools, where he interviewed students, teachers and administrators, including current Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser.

School Choice Fairs Attract Thousands

More than 6,200 people attended the annual High School Choice Fair held recently at Cabrillo High School, an increase of more than 2,100 people over the previous year.

In addition to the districtwide fair, the Long Beach Unified School District offered four regional fairs, attracting a total of 2,225 students. That total represents an increase of more than 1,000 over last year's regional fairs. At the fairs, parents learn about high school programs and the application process.

Learn more under High School Choice in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

State of Education

More than 200 guest principals shadowed Long Beach Unified School District principals Thursday morning during the annual Principal for a Day event, the largest single-day involvement of business and community leaders in local schools. Afterward, LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser, Cal State Long Beach President Jane Conoley, Long Beach City College Vice President Greg Peterson and Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia joined the Principals for a Day, who reported their experiences at a "State of Education" luncheon at the Center Theater in Long Beach.

The Principal for a Day event allows business and community leaders to spend the morning at local schools. More than 1,000 business partnerships with schools have begun as a

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NATIONAL EFFORT – School Board Vice President Felton Williams is working with the Council of the Great City Schools and the White House on an initiative to improve the achievement of students of color. Williams met the President during the initiative's launch at the White House.



Long Beach to Welcome Nation's Educators

Long Beach will host the next annual fall conference of the Council of the Great City Schools, the nation's primary coalition of urban school systems. The conference, expected to draw more than a thousand education leaders from throughout the U.S., is scheduled for Oct. 7 to 11, 2015 and will shine a national spotlight on local schools.

The Long Beach Unified School District is a long-time member of the Council and has been working in recent months with the Council and the White House on a concerted effort to improve the academic and social outcomes of boys and young men of color, who as a whole tend to lag behind their peers academically.

LBUSD was among 60 big-city public school districts from across the country to announce the education effort with President Barack Obama at the White House in July. The

announcement included a pledge by the 60 school districts to implement a variety of strategies to support students of color from early childhood to graduation.

Representing LBUSD at the White House in July was Board of Education Vice President Felton Williams, who is secretary-treasurer of the Council of the Great City Schools. Williams also is working with a local committee to plan a Students of Color Town Hall Meeting in LBUSD on Feb. 28.

The July pledge supports a White House Initiative called My Brother's Keeper, a challenge issued in September by President Obama. The President challenged communities to implement coherent strategies for improving life outcomes of all young people regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born.

P.E. Scores Rise, Surpass County, State

Students in the Long Beach Unified School District have significantly improved their physical fitness exam scores, surpassing their counterparts in Los Angeles County and the State of California in all of the grade levels tested, according to the latest data from the California Department of Education.

More than 1.3 million fifth, seventh, and ninth graders statewide took the exams during the 2013-14 school year. Students take a series of six separate tests that measure aerobic capacity, body composition, abdominal strength, trunk extensor strength, upper body strength and flexibility.

The percentage of LBUSD students meeting six out of six of the Healthy Fitness Zone requirements is higher than the percentages at both the state and county in each of the grade levels.

Meeting five of the state exam's six Healthy

Fitness Zone requirements is considered to be a passing score. By state law, high school students who meet this standard qualify for exemption from physical education classes in their junior and senior years (though many of these students still opt to take P.E. electives such as yoga, dance, basketball, soccer and weight training). Using the five-of-six yardstick, LBUSD's scores again surpassed state and county scores at all grade levels.

Each grade level here saw improvement over the prior year. Ninth grade physical fitness scores increased 4.3 percentage points over the prior year and are now up 9.3 percentage points in just two years. LBUSD's seventh graders also saw a second consecutive year of gains and improved by 3.6 percentage points over the prior year. Fifth graders here scored 1.6 percentage points higher than last year.

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HEALTHCARE – School nurses raised \$1,340 for the nonprofit Children's Clinic at the annual Beach Walk, a 5K event supporting health services for children and their families.



• P.E. Scores Show Significant Gains

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LBUSD's curriculum staff includes a physical education curriculum leader who has helped teachers to focus more intently in recent years on offering students as many of the allowed alternatives as possible for students to demonstrate their fitness on the exams. For instance, the aerobic capacity portion of the exam can be assessed with a one-mile run, a "pacer test" involving a series of increasingly quick 20-meter runs, and a walk test that takes into account one-mile time, heart rate and weight.

LBUSD's competitive performance comes despite the school district's more challenging demographics. According to 2013-14 data, about 68 percent of students here qualified for

free and reduced price meals, a measure of poverty, while the statewide figure was about 59 percent.

Go to <http://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/> for full test results.

Board Meeting Dec. 9

The Board of Education has changed the date of an upcoming board meeting. The meeting originally scheduled for Monday, Dec. 15 has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 9. The meeting will be held in the Long Beach Unified School District Administration Building, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach.

• State of Education

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result of the event.

This year's event also marked the 20th anniversary of Seamless Education, the nationally recognized partnership that includes LBUSD, LBCC and CSULB. The partnership was the impetus for the Long Beach College Promise, which helps more students to prepare for and succeed in college. This year the partnership expanded to include the City of Long Beach.

Among this year's participants was Steve Goodling, president and CEO of the Long Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau. He spent the morning at Cleveland Elementary School before sharing his observations with the audience at the State of Education event.

"I wish I could go back to school. It was wonderful," Goodling said. "It was also wonderful to see children have the opportunity to be creative. In my job, one of the key elements is to be creative. I also loved when one of the students talked about how working collaboratively as a team is so important."

Kindergarten Fests

Kindergarten Festivals for incoming 2015-16 kindergartners and their families include parent workshops, free school supplies and dental screenings. Following is the schedule of the Saturday festivals, which are planned for 9 a.m. to noon (registration starts at 8:45 a.m.):

- Dec. 6 at Dooley Elementary School, 5075 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach;
- Jan. 10 at International Elementary School, 700 Locust Ave., Long Beach;
- Feb. 21 at Burcham Elementary School, 5610 Monlaco Road, Long Beach;
- March 14 at Roosevelt Elementary School, 1400 E. 20th St., Long Beach.

For more information, call 435-4080, ext. 19.

Commission Moving

The Personnel Commission is moving to the former Monroe School site at 4400 Ladoga Ave., Lakewood, 90713. Offices will be closed Monday, Nov. 24 and reopen Tuesday, Nov. 25. Telephone numbers will remain the same.

In Memoriam

Frances Culton
former CDC coordinating teacher
Oct. 30, 2014

State Physical Fitness Exam

% of Students Passing
2013-14*

Grade	LBUSD	L.A. County	State
5	51.2	47.2	49.9
7	58.2	52.5	56.5
9	66.3	58.1	61.6

* The state considers meeting five of six Healthy Fitness Zones to be a passing score.

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment continues through Nov. 30 and is the opportunity each year for employees to change current benefits and add or remove dependents from benefit plans. It's also the time when employees can enroll in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA). These accounts allow employees to pay for certain expenses using pretax contributions.

Learn more under Health Insurance in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Band Spectacular

The 30th Annual Long Beach Unified School District High School Band Spectacular is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18 at the Cabrillo High School Stadium, 2001 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach.

Marching bands and dance, drill and tall flag teams from local high schools will present their field shows.

Tickets are \$5 and available at the door.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

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Dates to Remember

December	
1	Start of Montgomery Bus Boycott
1	World AIDS Day
2	Special Education Day
2	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Respecting Others," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
3	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Christmas," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
4	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Hanukkah/Passover," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
5	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Food For Fun," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
7	Pearl Harbor Day
9	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Kwanzaa," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
10	Emily Dickinson's Birthday
10	Human Rights Day
10	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "New Year's Day," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
11	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "A Christmas Carol," Grades 4-9, ed.tv 8
12	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "December Holidays," Grades 1-5, ed.tv 8
15	Bill of Rights Day
16	Boston Tea Party Anniversary
16-24	Hanukkah
16	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Celebrate," Grades K-8, ed.tv 8
17	Anniversary of Wright Brothers' Flight
17	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 18 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry: Writing Poetry," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
19	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Ebenezer," Grades 4-6, ed.tv 8
21	First Day of Winter
22-Jan. 2	Winter Recess
24-25	Christmas Holidays
25	Clara Barton's Birthday
26-Jan. 1	Kwanzaa