



April 22, 2016

Laborer Named Top U.S. Migrant Parent

When the school year ends, Cabrillo High School parent Daniel Luna and his family will pack up once again and head where the work is – in the fields near Fresno or Bakersfield to pick grapes, tomatoes, almonds or pistachios. The workday begins at 5 a.m. and soon turns sweltering under the blazing sun.

The reward is \$8 an hour and continued qualification for the Migrant Education Program offered by the Long Beach Unified School District. The federally funded program provides migrant students and parents supplemental instruction and numerous support ser-



Luna

vices, including physical exams, dental screenings, after-school tutoring and Saturday classes held during the school year at Bobbie Smith Elementary School.

Luna, originally from Mexico City, said he deeply appreciates the help that he receives from the program, so he volunteers to help other parents. He joined the Migrant Education Parent Advisory Committee. He was instrumental in planning a highly successful "From Fashion to College" fundraiser, a student fashion show that raised enough money for students to receive 24 scholarships of \$500, a sum that can determine whether or not a migrant student buys college textbooks.

Migrant Education staff praised Luna's kind spirit, selflessness, leadership and sense of humor as they nominated him for a Los Angeles County migrant education parent award. His nomination progressed to the state
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Alvarado, Naples Earn State Gold Ribbon

Alvarado and Naples elementary schools have earned the California Gold Ribbon Award. State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson named the schools this month among a list of 772 statewide to earn the honor.

"These schools shine as bright beacons for others, putting forth an exemplary effort to ensure that every student is ready for 21st century college and careers," Torlakson said.

The Gold Ribbon Award was created to honor schools in place of the California Distinguished School Award, which is on hiatus while California creates new assessment systems. Nearly 6,000 elementary schools were eligible to apply this year.

Schools applied for the award based on a model program or practice their school has

adopted that includes standards-based activities that can be replicated by others. The award recognized middle and high schools last year.

The awards recognize schools that have made progress implementing the academic content and performance standards adopted by the state. These include English, math and science standards.

The newest Gold Ribbon Schools as well as the 2016 Exemplary Program recipients, Title I Academic Achieving Schools, 2016 Green Ribbon Schools, 2016 Civic Learning Award Schools, and the National Blue Ribbon Schools from 2015, will be honored in May and June during regional ceremonies held in Santa Clara, Anaheim, Los Angeles, Visalia and Sacramento.

Cabrillo Pioneers Civics Effort, Mock Trial

Excellence in civics learning has earned Cabrillo High School an official "Democracy School" designation from the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Bechtel Foundation.

The school's civics team will accept a banner and plaque on Saturday, April 30 at the Reagan Presidential Library as part of the California Civic Learning Statewide Showcase. Students, educators and community members are invited to see how schools are implementing civic learning and preparing students for civic life.

The 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. event will include student presentations that feature the California Democracy School Civic Learning Initiative directed by LACOE. Cabrillo earned its new designation after implementing the program this year and showcasing it during a recent visit

by a California Democracy School accreditation team.

Cabrillo is the only Long Beach school to earn the designation and one of the first to earn it statewide.

Go to <http://lacoec.k12oms.org/1537-111314> to register for the Reagan Library event.

In another first for the high school, the Cabrillo Academy of Law and Justice, or CAL-J, hosted the first Long Beach High School Intramural Mock Trial Competition this month. The contest included teams from Cabrillo, Poly and Millikan high schools as well as the California Academy of Mathematics and Science. Judging was provided by legal professionals, with a final session in Cabrillo's recently dedicated courtroom. The event was sponsored by Keesal, Young and Logan, and by Tredway, Lumsdaine and Doyle LLP.

U.S. News Ranking Includes 6 Schools

The 2016 ranking of America's best high schools released by U.S. News and World Report includes six schools here, tying last year's all-time high for the Long Beach Unified School District.

The California Academy of Mathematics and Science earned a gold medal, while five other schools here earned silver.

The ranking includes data on more than 21,000 public high schools. Schools earned gold, silver or bronze medals based on state assessments, graduation rates and how well they prepare students for college.

Fewer than 2.5 percent of high schools earned gold medals, and only the top 10 percent won silver. Local schools' rankings are:

- CAMS (gold) – state ranking of 10; national ranking of 100
- Wilson (silver) – state ranking of 215; national ranking of 1,228
- Avalon (silver) – state ranking of 235; national ranking of 1,337
- Millikan (silver) – state ranking of 273; national ranking of 1,509
- Renaissance (silver) – state ranking of 323; national ranking of 1,723
- Poly (silver) – state ranking of 328; national ranking of 1,747

Learn more at usnews.com.

Board Incumbents Win Decisive Vote

Board of Education President Felton Williams and Vice President Jon Meyer kept their board seats last week, each beating opponents by wide margins.

Unofficial election results showed Williams, who represents District 2, defeating his sole opponent, Jessica Vargas-Alvarez, by more than 36 percentage points. President Williams earned 3,154 votes, or 68.31 percent, with Vargas-Alvarez receiving 31.69 percent.

Vice President Meyer, who represents District 4, defeated sole opponent Rosi A. Pedersen by more than 22 percentage points. Meyer earned 5,529 votes, or 61.16 percent, while Pedersen received 38.84 percent.

Retro Pay This Week

Retroactive pay for California School Employees Association members will be issued sooner than originally estimated. CSEA members will receive their checks this Friday, April 22 for a 5 percent salary increase retroactive to July 1. Starting with the next monthly check on April 29, these employees will begin receiving the increased rate.

• Parent Honored

(Continued from first page)

level of competition, where he was selected as the only one in California to advance to the national level. Then he won again.

He is the only parent in America who will receive the 2016 Parent Award from the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education. His eyes welled with tears when he learned of the national honor.

"I was surprised and in shock. I never expected this," Luna said. "It is so emotional because this program saved my marriage."

Luna and his wife earned their GED high school equivalency certification through the Migrant Education Program in 2014. After long days at work, the husband and wife studied for the GED, a process that brought them closer together. That's when Luna decided to give back by volunteering.

"I was saying thank you for helping my kid, giving me a chance to get my GED and saving my marriage," Luna said. "This is for the future of the kids. The Saturday classes really make a difference. My son gets home and does his homework. He knows what he has to do. He is very responsible. It's a big break because it's hard for us as parents to help him."

Long Beach's Migrant Education Program began in 1994 and serves children and young adults whose parents or relatives work in jobs related to fishing, forestry, nurseries, livestock and agriculture. The aim is to prevent the discontinuity in education that can occur when a family relocates repeatedly due to seasonal work. Such families also are at a disadvantage because most live in extreme poverty, and some students must work with their families.

"Los niños deben estar en los libros, no en los campos," Luna said. "Children belong in the books, not in the fields."

Luna will receive his award during the National Migrant Education Conference this Sunday, April 24 in San Diego, where more tears of joy are likely.

"I want to say thank you to this country," Luna said. "This country allows you the opportunity if you work hard. God bless this country. This is really a land of opportunity."

Transfer Requests

Human Resource Services is accepting transfer requests from teachers who wish to change school sites for the 2016-17 school year. Refer to the Teachers Association of Long Beach agreement, Article VIII for guidelines.

Applications are now available and are due May 1. The application can be completed and submitted online via the myLBUSD portal at lbschools.net (go to Employees > myLBUSD). Log in with your Novell username and password. From the applications menu, select My Employee Information, then Certificated Transfers.

Request for Transfer forms are also available at schools and the TALB office, and they can be downloaded and printed from the lbschools.net public website (select Human Resource Services in the A-Z index, then For Current Employees). Computers also are available for use in the HRS lobby.

Teachers may submit requests for transfer whether or not that position appears as a vacancy. Transfer requests are valid through the end of the first seven student days of the following traditional school year. Questions? Call ext. 8658.

Employee of Year Nominations Due

LBUSD employees who know outstanding colleagues deserving recognition may submit nominations for the annual Classified Employee of the Year Award by Friday, May 6.

Instructions, award criteria and nomination forms are available under "Employee of the Year (Classified)" in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

The award is presented at the annual Classified Employee Celebration. This year's celebration is scheduled for May 26 at the Teacher Resource Center. The winner and finalists also are recognized at a Board of Education meeting.

Dates to Remember

May	Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
	National Physical Fitness and Sports Month
1	Law Day
1	Loyalty Day
1-7	Teacher Appreciation Week
1-7	National Physical Education and Sports Week
1-7	Be Kind to Animals Week
3	National Teacher Day
3	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "You Can Refuse," Grades 5-8, ed.tv 8
4	National Bike to School Day
4	Horace Mann's Birthday
4	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 5 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 10 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 11 - 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 12 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 13 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry II," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
5	Cinco de Mayo
5	Anniversary of First American Man in Space
6	School Lunch Hero Day
6	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 26 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "High School Graduation—A Day You Will Never Forget," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
8	Mothers Day
8	VE Day
9-15	National Children's Book Week
11	National School Nurse Day
15-21	National Educational Bosses Week
17	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 24 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 27 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 31 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Adventures in Poetry III," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
18	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 20 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Memorial Day/Veterans' Day," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
19	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Total War," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
20-21	Lindbergh Flight Anniversary
21	Armed Forces Day
22	Harvey Milk Day
23-27	Public Schools Week
24	Open House — Middle Schools
25	Open House — High Schools
25	Ralph Waldo Emerson's Birthday
25	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Flag Day/Citizenship Day," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
26	Open House — Elementary Schools
30	Memorial Day
31	World No Tobacco Day

SCHOOL BULLETIN

Official publication of the Long Beach Unified School District issued bi-weekly during the school year from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California 90810. (562) 997-8000. www.lbschools.net

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Summer Enrichment

The award-winning Summer Enrichment Program will be held at Gant Elementary School. Children entering first through eighth grades are eligible to attend this fee-based program held in three-week sessions from June 27 to July 14 and from July 18 to Aug. 4.

Classes in science, music, art, cooking, Spanish and more are taught by credentialed staff and are held Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost for each three-week session is \$290 or less (early and sibling discounts available).

Recreation supervision is included at no additional charge for those enrolled in the program. Recreation hours are from 8 to 9 a.m. and from noon to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays from July 8 to July 29.

Learn more and find printable registration forms under Summer Enrichment in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Children's Day Event

The 22nd annual Children's Day and Earth Day Celebration and Parade is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 30 at Recreation Park, 5000 E. 7th St., Long Beach. The event includes multicultural shows, children's choirs and other performances and fun activities. Learn more at childrensdayusa.org.

Student Art Exhibit

The Long Beach Unified School District High School Art Exhibition at the Long Beach Museum of Art continues through May 29.

This year's theme is "Where do we belong?" High school students were asked to create original works about displacement issues. Students produced 46 pieces addressing a wide variety of social and political issues related to the theme.

Learn more at lbma.org.

Names in the News

The National Science Teachers Association awarded Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science teacher **Michael Perez** the Maitland P. Simmons Memorial Award for New Teachers. The award provides up to 25 teachers with funds to attend NSTA's National Conference on Science Education.

The Teachers Association of Long Beach honored teachers **Brenda Gutierrez** and **Sarah Schol** with the organization's new Educators Breaking Boundaries Award. The honor included recognition in a private ceremony at Dodger Stadium in conjunction with Major League Baseball's commemoration of Jackie Robinson Day. Gutierrez is a single parent and a kinesiology teacher at Beach High School. Schol is an English teacher at Poly High School and overcame childhood poverty and a home with family members who struggled with addiction.

Kimberly Johnson, head counselor with the Office of Equity, Access/College and Career Readiness, has earned a Woman of Distinction Award from the Office of Assembly Member Patrick O'Donnell. She was nominated for going above and beyond in her work to improve the community.