



# school bulletin

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

December 15, 2017



**ANTARCTIC ADVENTURE AWAITS –** Jordan High School teacher Kelly Meade departs Saturday for Antarctica as part of a prestigious National Geographic fellowship. She will develop expertise to bring back to classrooms and colleagues. **Story on next page.**

## Alvarado is National Title I Award Winner

Alvarado Elementary School has been named a National Title I Distinguished School for its successful educational programs and the progress of its students.

“Each state may only name two schools as National Title I Distinguished Schools per year, so this is an especially prestigious honor,” stated the award notification from the National Title I Association.

Title I provides federal financial assistance to schools with high numbers of students from low-income families to help make certain all children meet challenging academic standards.

“Congratulations to our students, staff and parents for this great honor,” said Alvarado Principal Lucy Salazar. “This award holds special meaning because it recognizes efforts to make sure all students succeed regardless of their challenges. We’re so proud and grateful to be considered a national model of excellence.”

The National Title I Association has been selecting examples of superior Title I school programs for national recognition through the National Title I Distinguished Schools program since 1996. These schools demonstrate a wide array of strengths, including team approaches to teaching and learning, focused professional development opportunities for staff, individualized programs for student success and strong partnerships between the school, parents and the community.

Winning schools are selected for exceptional student performance and closing achievement gaps.

Award winners will be honored during the Feb. 8 to 11 National Title I Conference in Philadelphia.

Alvarado and 29 other schools in the Long Beach Unified School District have earned national Title I honors in previous years.

## LBUSD Named National ‘District of the Year’

The Long Beach Unified School District has earned the District of the Year award from the national business news publisher Industry Dive and its publication, Education Dive. The honor is part of the 2017 Dive Awards recognizing education’s “top disruptors and innovators.”

“These administrators, schools, trends and breakthroughs are transforming the industry and shaping the future,” last week’s award announcement stated.

Washington D.C.-based Industry Dive serves more than five million executives with 13 industry-specific news publications: BioPharma Dive, CIO Dive, Construction Dive, Education Dive, Food Dive, Healthcare Dive, HR Dive, Marketing Dive, Retail Dive, Smart Cities Dive, Supply Chain Dive, Waste Dive, and Utility Dive.

Through mobile-optimized websites, email newsletters, mobile apps and more, Industry Dive provides business leaders with a convenient way to stay up-to-date on the most relevant industry news, trends, events, jobs, press

releases and market research impacting their jobs.

Education Dive solicited suggestions for award nominees from its readers. Winners were chosen by the editors of Education Dive based on resonance and industry impact. The criteria for the award include “a district that has been leading in a specific buzz area, setting an example of how to do things in the context of 21st Century learning.”

Education Dive Editor Linda Jacobson visited LBUSD central offices and Cabrillo High School as part of the award selection process.

“Strong school districts have clear plans for where they want to go and how they plan to get there, and they don’t chase after the latest initiative just because it might carry with it some additional funding,” Jacobson said. “The LBUSD has demonstrated these principles.”

Jacobson highlighted the Cabrillo Academy of Law and Justice as one of dozens of career pathways that have helped LBUSD high

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## Officials Dedicate Brand New Browning High

The Board of Education and other dignitaries joined students and staff to inaugurate the new Richard D. Browning High School recently during ceremonies on the \$71 million Long Beach campus. Following the ceremony, members of the public toured the campus, with students leading the way

Among those who joined the festivities were Kent Browning and his sister, Karen, the two younger children of the late Richard D. Browning, who was a businessman, civic leader and strong supporter of local schools.

Also present were members of the Long Beach and Signal Hill city councils.

Representatives of State Senators Janet Nguyen and Patrick O’Donnell, and a represen-

tative of State Assembly member Ricardo Lara presented proclamations commemorating the opening of the new high school, the first in LBUSD to offer an academic path to hospitality, culinary arts and tourism careers, which are among the fastest growing occupations.

“The curriculum and job training offered at Browning High takes full advantage of its location near a major commercial port and tourist area,” Browning Principal Felicia Anderson said. “By providing internships, on-the-job training, and classroom support in partnership with business and industry leaders, we are preparing future top chefs, restaurant and hotel managers, and leaders in every corner of the

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**RIBBON CUTTING –** School board and city officials join students, staff and Browning family members at Browning High School’s dedication. Students led tours of the school, which opened this fall and is LBUSD’s third small high school to be dedicated in four years. View more photos at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).



## Board Member Earns City Council Praise

Board of Education member Felton Williams was recognized at this week's Long Beach City Council meeting for receiving the national Urban Educator of the Year Award in October from the Council of the Great City Schools.

The City Council received a report about the national honor, known as the Green-Garner Award. Sponsored by the Washington, D.C.-based Council, Aramark K-12 Education and Scholastic, Inc., the top prize is presented each year in memory of Richard R. Green, the first African American chancellor of the New York City school system, and businessman Edward Garner, who served on the Denver school board.

Eleven school board members from big-city school districts competed for the nation's highest honor in urban education leadership, recognizing in alternating years an outstanding superintendent and school board member from 69 of the largest urban public-school systems in the country.

This week's City Council item was initiated by the offices of Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez and Councilman Dee Andrews.

## • Browning Dedicated

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hospitality and tourism industry."

Browning is the third small high school to be opened in LBUSD in four years with funds from Measure K, the \$1.2 billion school board initiative approved by voters in 2008.

Designed to serve up to 800 students in grades 9 to 12, the school opened last fall with its first class of ninth graders. Each year, another new class of students will be added. Students are selected from applicants across the school district and nearby communities.

Built with input from business leaders and faculty from Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach, the school is equipped with the latest computer and Internet technology, as well as a state-of-the-art commercial kitchen.

Other features include an all-weather track and field, two-story classroom buildings, labs, a gymnasium and a multi-purpose room surrounding a central open courtyard. A covered amphitheater and dining patio provide common areas for student gatherings.

## School Board's Next Meeting is Jan. 17

The Board of Education's Dec. 21 meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will take place 5 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17 in the LBUSD Administration Building at 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach.

### In Memoriam

**Janet McKenzie**  
former teacher  
Oct. 1, 2017

## Teacher Departs for Antarctic Adventure

Jordan High School teacher Kelly Meade heads to Antarctica on Dec. 16 as one of this year's Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellows. The 2017 fellows, a group of 35 educators from the United States and Canada, will embark on global expeditions onboard the Lindblad expedition ships – National Geographic Explorer, National Geographic Endeavour II and National Geographic Sea Lion – for hands-on field experience and professional development.

"A dream has finally become reality!" Meade said. She is director of the California Partnership Academy, Aspirations in Medical Services (AIMS) at Jordan, where she teaches medical chemistry, lab earth science, and epidemiology and public health courses. She also supports the school as a Chromebook and iPad coordinator. The AIMS pathway provides a combination of rigorous academics and career-focused technical education.

Meade is a world traveler. She has worked with the Peace Corps in Uganda, and she has volunteered in South Africa and the United Kingdom to promote music education. In her spare time, she enjoys climbing mountains,

snowboarding and paddleboarding. View her website at [sites.google.com/view/KellyMeade](http://sites.google.com/view/KellyMeade).

The fellows will join 10- to 17-day expeditions to locations including the Canadian High Arctic, Antarctica, Southeast Alaska, Arctic Svalbard, Iceland, Greenland and Galápagos Islands. Accompanied by Lindblad-National Geographic expedition experts, ranging from undersea specialists to National Geographic photographers, the fellows will experience landscapes, cultures and wildlife unique to their regions of exploration. The excursions will give the fellows expertise to bring back to their classrooms and professional communities.

"The National Geographic Society aims to further global understanding and support educators like the Grosvenor Teacher Fellows," said Gary E. Knell, president and CEO of the National Geographic Society. "I look forward to seeing how the fellows will share this unique opportunity with their local communities to enhance geographic knowledge and global awareness."

This year marks the 11th year of the fellowships, which honor former National Geographic Society Chairman Gilbert M. Grosvenor.

## • District of Year Award Spotlights Successes

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schools to increase graduation rates in recent years. She described the school district's focus on "equity and access," including its nationally recognized Long Beach College Promise initiative and highly successful efforts to enroll more students in Advanced Placement college preparatory courses.

Jacobson's article notes that LBUSD this year began giving every student, starting in eighth grade, a personalized College Readiness Guide, which was a response to parents asking for all this information in one place.

Jacobson also noted the district's long-standing efforts to build systems of support, such as instructional leadership teams at each school and at the district level.

"These teams carefully lead schools through the implementation of major initiatives, such as the districtwide Chromebook rollout or challenges such as how to incorporate specific career and technical knowledge into classes of students from several industry pathways."

"Thank you to Education Dive for recognizing the innovation and hard work of everyone in our school communities," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser said. "We continue to find new ways to close achievement gaps for our students. Being rec-

ognized for these efforts on a national stage gives our people a much appreciated boost of moral support."

Other nominees for this year's District of the Year Award were Vail and Benson school districts in Arizona (as a co-nomination); Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools in North Carolina; and Albemarle County Public Schools in Virginia.

For Long Beach schools, the District of the Year award adds to a growing list of national and international honors. The Global Education Study by the national nonprofit Battelle for Kids organization listed LBUSD among five of the world's highest performing school systems. LBUSD also is one of the world's top 20 school systems — and one of the top three in the U.S. — in terms of sustained and significant improvements, according to a report described as the most comprehensive analysis of global school system reform ever assembled. The study was conducted by McKinsey & Company, a trusted advisor and counselor to many of the most influential businesses and institutions in the world. LBUSD also is a five-time finalist and national winner of the Broad Prize for Urban Education.

## Kindergarten Fests

Kindergarten Festivals for incoming 2018-19 kindergartners and their families include parent workshops, free school supplies, dental screenings and lots of fun activities.

Following is the schedule of the Saturday festivals, which are planned for 9 a.m. to noon (registration begins at 8:45 a.m.):

- Jan. 13 at Dooley Elementary School, 5075 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach;
- Feb. 3 at Roosevelt Elementary School, 1574 Linden Ave., Long Beach;
- Feb. 24 at Oropeza Elementary School, 700 Locust Ave., Long Beach;
- March 10 at Burcham Elementary School, 5610 Monlaco Road, Long Beach.

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

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

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