



school bulletin

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

February 23, 2018



Sato Academy Student Eli Blacklock

‘We’re Receiving a Top Notch Education’

Student Body President Eli Blacklock, a junior at the Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science, speaks highly of the education he’s receiving at one of Long Beach’s newest high schools. At a recent Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education meeting, he served as the student board member, using the opportunity to provide a detailed report on Sato, which opened in East Long Beach in 2015 and is modeled after LBUSD’s nationally honored California Academy of Mathematics and Science. Here are excerpts of his comments:

“I am a member of the pioneering class at Sato, and it is a privilege to be representing the school here today. I would like to start off by thanking the Long Beach Unified School District and Mrs. Merlo, our principal, for having the vision to institute these specialized

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Poly Pac Rim Academy ‘Best of the Best’

Poly High School’s Pacific Rim Business Academy was named a Distinguished Academy by the California Department of Education this month. The honor goes to fewer than 2 percent of 406 similar academies statewide.

The Pac Rim pathway earned the 2018 California Partnership Academies Distinguished Academy award. Such academies focus on smaller learning communities with a career theme. Academy components include college prep academics and career-based learning, along with active partnerships with businesses and higher education.

Before selecting honorees, a CDE team responsible for oversight of these academies, along with their partners at UC Berkeley’s Career and College Academy Support Network, exhaustively reviewed reporting documents then visited schools to confirm that several elements were in place: compliance with education code; dual credit with post-high-school

Local Control Produces Results, Study Says

New research shows that California’s overhaul of public education finance and accountability is narrowing achievement gaps among groups of students and helping parents learn about school progress.

The Learning Policy Institute this month released “Money and Freedom: The Impact of California’s School Finance Reform,” a study by researcher Sean Tanner and UC Berkeley professor Rucker Johnson. The authors examined the impact of the landmark Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which gave school districts greater control over the use of state funds in exchange for greater accountability and parent engagement at the local level. LCFF, which was approved in 2013, also increased funding to districts that serve students needing extra support.

The authors found that LCFF “led to significant increases in high school graduation rates and academic achievement, particularly among children from low-income families.” Students in the highest poverty districts showed greater academic gains, the authors reported. The study also found that LCFF funding was used to improve classroom learning by lowering student-to-teacher ratios and helping districts recruit and train new teachers.

“Money targeted to students’ needs can make a significant difference in outcomes and narrow achievement gaps,” the study concludes. “Money matters.”

State Board of Education President Michael Kirst said the study covers more years of research—and uses more recent data—than other studies on LCFF’s impact, making it more relevant to decision-making.

“We still have work to do, and this research is very encouraging,” Kirst said.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson agreed.

“These results show clear progress for our ambitious plan for improving education,” Torlakson said. “This includes increasing investment, expanding local control and giving greater resources to those with the greatest needs.”

LCAP Highlights: Basic Services

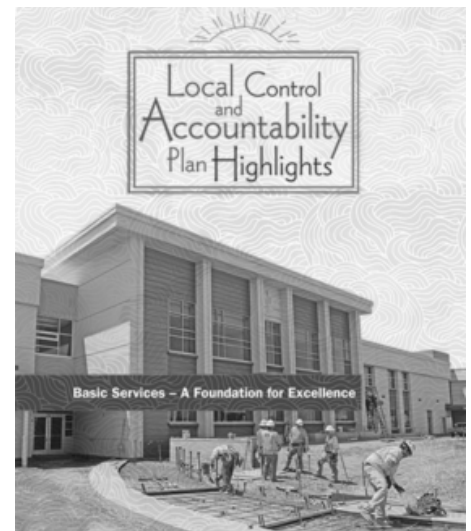
By Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent of Schools

Did you know that half of our campuses now have tablet devices, such as iPads or Chromebooks, for every student? That’s one of many encouraging developments detailed in our latest report providing details on our Local Control and Accountability Plan, or LCAP.

Earlier this month, we began sharing with you some highlights of our LCAP. We began with a publication titled Academic Excellence, and we continued last week with “Basic Services – A Foundation for Excellence.” That second report describes our commitment to efficiency and effectiveness in the basic operations that support teaching and learning. From nationally recognized professional development, to significant investments in classroom technology, instructional materials and school facilities, our latest report provides facts and figures that add up to a bright future for our students and schools.

If you missed our second report, you can still find it atop our home page at lbschools.net. Each of our reports is archived under the Local Control section of the website.

In the coming weeks, we will continue to share additional highlights of the LCAP.



School Librarian Earns Tech Honor

Kat Tacea, teacher librarian at Lafayette Elementary School, received the Technology Award at the California School Library Association state conference this month.

Tacea has been the chairperson for her school's Technology Team for three years. She is a technology leader, providing professional development for her staff as well as librarians in her district and at conferences. She is a co-teacher in more than 20 Google Classrooms.

"She promotes G Suite Apps within Google Classroom and Web 2.0 tools such as Class Dojo and EPIC Books," the conference program states. "She is a driving force for technology integration at her school who has shared her expertise widely."

In 2016, Tacea was named Teacher Librarian of the Year by the Long Beach School Librarians Association. She has also earned National Certification.

• Top Notch Education

(Continued from first page)
schools that help students enhance their educational experience and explore different career pathways... The engineering and biomedical classes that are offered to us every year are proof enough that the education we are receiving is top notch – from classes like computer-integrated manufacturing, with the use of industrial grade milling machines, to our medical interventions course, which simulates real-life scenarios in the medical field."

Read more of Eli's comments by finding this article at lbschools.net.

Dates to Remember

March	American Red Cross Month Music in Our Schools Month Middle Level Education Month National Nutrition Month Women's History Month Youth Art Month Social Work Month
1	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
2	NEA's Read Across America
2	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Indian Artists of the Southwest," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
3	Adoption of U.S. National Anthem
6-7	Conference Days — Elementary Schools
6	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Ask For It," Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
7	8:00, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 8 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 13 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 14 - 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 15 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 22 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 28 - 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 29 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
8	International Women's Day
9	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
11	Daylight Savings Time Day
11	Johnny Appleseed Day
16	First Black Newspaper in U.S. Published
16	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The Velveteen Rabbit," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
17	St. Patrick's Day
20	First Day of Spring
20 - April 30	Great American Cleanup
20	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Cesar Chavez," Grades 3-12, ed.tv 8
21	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Arbor Day/Earth Day," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
23	Anniversary of Patrick Henry's Speech
23	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "No Time to Waste," Grades 4-12, ed.tv 8
27	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Operation School Bus Safety: Be Cool, Follow the Rules," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
30	Admission Day — Holiday (LBUSD Observed)
31	Cesar Chavez Day



EXEMPLARY PARTNERS – Former principal Doris Robinson, third from left, receives a Community Partnership Award from Southern California Edison officials for her work as executive director of the CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative, which was established in 2011.

SCE Honors Head of Math Collaborative

As part of the national celebration of Black History Month, Southern California Edison recently recognized Edison customers, businesses and community partners for giving back to their communities. Among those honored at an event in Compton was a former Long Beach Unified School District principal, Doris Robinson, for her work as executive director of the CSULB-LBUSD Math Collaborative.

Robinson's work also was featured last week in an article on the SCE website insideedison.com. The Math Collaborative that she directs in conjunction with Cal State Long Beach has been SCE's community partner since 2011. The program helps African-American males, especially from North Long Beach, to excel and go to college, with an emphasis on preparation for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

"Our focus is on STEM, specifically math,"

Robinson said in the article by writer Sally Jeun. "If you master math, you can master any of the sciences."

Edison International has supported the Long Beach Math Collaborative with \$325,000 in grants since the program started.

A Million Meals, A Million Thanks

A group of local volunteers, who bring bags of groceries to schools on Fridays to make sure students have enough to eat on weekends, will celebrate the delivery of their millionth meal this semester.

As part of the Food4Kids program facilitated by the nonprofit Food Finders, volunteers deliver food bags to 15 local schools designated as Title I, with high percentages of low income families. Volunteers from the community-based group Team 100, who provide financial support, also assist with packing and distribution of meals.

About 70 percent of students in the Long Beach Unified School District qualify for free meals at school because their parents cannot afford to pay. But on the weekends, some students go hungry. So every Friday, volunteers deliver bags filled with ten or more items of non-perishable food like pasta, canned tuna and beef, oatmeal, soup, applesauce, rice, beans, peas and cereals.

"A million thanks to these dedicated volunteers," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauer said. "This effort is making a huge difference in the lives of some of our neediest students and their families."

The volunteers will continue celebrating the million-meal milestone throughout the semester, leading up to an annual fundraising ball in June.

Student Art Exhibit

The annual Gottlieb Student Art Exhibition at the Alpert Jewish Community Center features some of the best student artwork from local middle schools and high schools. The community center is located at 3801 E. Willow St., Long Beach. The exhibit continues through March 1.

In Memoriam

Rachel Larson
former intermediate office assistant
Jan. 14, 2018

Barbara Barnes
former counselor
Feb. 3, 2018

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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