



school bulletin

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

March 23, 2018

Student Wins First at County Spelling Bee

Dina Miranda, a seventh grader at Stanford Middle School, was countywide champion at the Los Angeles County Scripps Regional Spelling Bee this month.

The competition, which involved 150 spellers culled from nearly 35,000 students at more than 300 public, private, magnet and religious schools in the county, lasted 10 hours and 26 rounds, with 507 words given.



Miranda

Miranda is the first student from the Long Beach Unified School District to win the countywide competition and will represent LBUSD at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. this May.

Dina's success comes from a love of learning, which aided her in spelling grivoiserie, the 2018 championship word. This noun has French roots and means an act of impropriety.

In 2016, when Miranda was a fifth grader at Gant Elementary School, she won second place in the county competition.

Other notable finalist and elimination words this year included chiaroscuro, apishamore, yttrium, Gibraltarians, pfeffermuss, mynheer, zeitgeber and philhellenism.

AP Test Signups Reach Record High

Long Beach Unified School District students registered for 14,961 Advanced Placement college level exams this semester, an all-time high and a 6.1 percent increase over the prior year. The number of AP exams this year is nearly double the 7,633 taken five years ago.

The significant increase comes after concerted efforts to boost access to AP courses and tests. The school district provides students greater access to AP exams by covering the cost for families. AP exams usually cost \$92 each, but students here are paying only \$5 per exam for an unlimited number of exams.

Funding to cover exam costs is made possible through the Local Control and Accountability Plan, which allocates \$1.85 million toward this effort.

Additional funds have gone toward 17 more Advanced Placement teachers as part of an expansion of course sections on subjects such as AP Computer Science, AP Calculus, AP Seminar and AP Research. Eight AP coordinators and five pathway coordinators have been added to help guide students toward college and career readiness.

Raise Included in Tentative TALB, CSEA Deals

The Long Beach Unified School District and bargaining teams for the Teachers Association of Long Beach and Long Beach Chapter 2 of the California School Employees Association have reached tentative contract agreements that include an ongoing salary increase of 1 percent, plus a one-time increase of 1 percent.

Pending approval by the membership of the employee groups and the Board of Education, the ongoing 1 percent raise would be retroactive to July 1, 2017. The one-time, or "off schedule," payment provides 1 percent of earnings for the entire 2017-18 fiscal year. The earnings calculation for that fiscal year will include the retroactive pay.

TALB and CSEA members would see the ongoing 1 percent raise reflected on paychecks no later than June 22, 2018, and retroactive checks no later than June 15, 2018. Then the

one-time payment of 1 percent would be issued as soon as September.

Health benefits coverage is not affected in terms of co-pays, co-insurance, deductibles, out-of-pocket limits, covered services and prescription coverage formularies. The school district, TALB and CSEA have reached separate agreements to move from Blue Shield to Aetna for administration of PPO and HMO plans beginning July 1, 2018. A separate letter to employees on the Aetna move has been distributed.

The tentative agreement with TALB also includes changes regarding faculty/staff mailboxes, parental leave for child bonding/child care, transfers/reassignments and the sick leave donation program.

View the full tentative agreements for TALB or CSEA under Employees > Bargaining Updates at lbschools.net.

College Promise Shows Big Gains in 10 Years

Leaders from the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College, Long Beach State University and the City of Long Beach unveiled a 10-year anniversary report this week showing that The Long Beach College Promise initiative has produced significant gains in student achievement over the past decade.

The university, the community college and the school district first committed to The Promise in 2008, extending the promise of a college education to every student in the Long Beach Unified School District. The City of Long Beach and its Mayor's Office joined the initiative in 2014. Since its inception, The Promise has served as a model for communities in California and across the nation to develop partnerships centered on student success.

"This year marks the 10th anniversary of The Promise, and we are excited to share its

accomplishments with the community," stated the report, shared by officials during a community event attended by students, parents and local dignitaries at the Long Beach Museum of Latin American Art. "A national model for student success, The Promise has helped thousands of youth achieve their dreams of higher education."

View photos of the event at lbschools.net.

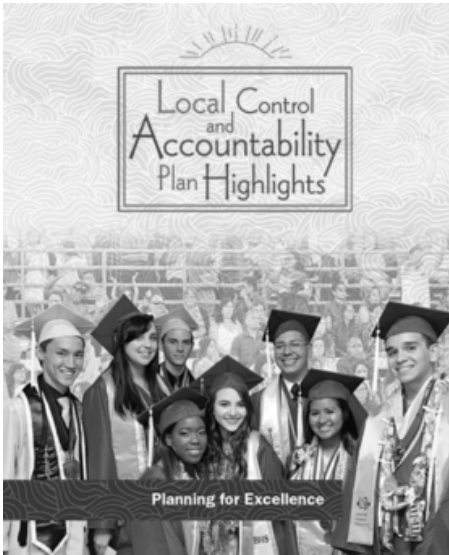
Elements of The Promise include increased access to early childhood education; college tours for 4th and 5th graders; a middle school pledge by students and parents, committing to college readiness; a tuition-free first year at LBCC; and guaranteed admission to CSULB for qualifying students.

Among the findings in the new report, "Moving Long Beach Ahead," were data showing that students now have far greater access to

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ENOUGH – Jordan High School students remember victims of the recent school shooting in Parkland, Fla. with a moment of silence. Students throughout LBUSD and the nation held such memorials and demonstrations against gun violence. View more photos and video at lbschools.net.





LCAP Highlights: A Plan for Excellence

By Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent of Schools

Over the past several weeks, we have shared with you some highlights of our Local Control and Accountability Plan, or LCAP. We have distributed the publications “Academic Excellence,” “Basic Services – A Foundation for Success,” and “A Team Effort – Parents, Students and School.”

As our final publication in the series, last week we shared “Planning for Excellence,” which combines the prior three reports into one convenient publication. If you’d rather read a few pages of highlights than the 250-page, state-required plan, then this publication is for you.

If you missed our final report of the series last week, 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.

Dates to Remember

April	National Autism Awareness Month
	School Library Month
	National Poetry Month
1	April Fools Day
2	International Children’s Book Day
2-6	Spring Recess
8-14	National Library Week
10	National Library Workers Day
10	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “The Velveteen Rabbit,” Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
11	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 12 - 8:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 17 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 18 - 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 19 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Adventures in Poetry,” Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
13	Thomas Jefferson’s Birthday
13	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “You Can Refuse,” Grades 5-8, ed.tv 8
15-21	National Student Leadership Week
15-22	National Volunteer Week
18	Anniversary of Paul Revere’s Ride
20	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 – “Cinco de Mayo,” Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
22	Earth Day
23-27	Public School Volunteer Week
23-27	Administrative Professionals Week
25	Administrative Professionals Day
26	Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day
26	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “The Paper Crane,” Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
27	National Arbor Day
29	International Dance Day

• College Promise: A Decade of Progress

(Continued from first page)
college, and are better prepared for higher education than they were 10 years ago:

- Enrollment by Long Beach Unified graduates at the university has grown by 71 percent since the inception of The Promise (from 519 students in 2008 to 889 students in 2017).
- Enrollment by LBCC students at the four-year university has increased significantly, as has first-generation enrollment by Long Beach Unified students at the university.
- Students are taking a record number of Advanced Placement college-level exams.
- More students are meeting the A-G college entrance requirements for the University of California and California State University systems. While students who don’t meet these requirements can still attend other colleges and universities, including community colleges, The Promise includes a concerted effort to improve A-G completion. Last year, 49 percent of LBUSD graduates met these requirements, up from 37 percent in 2011-12.
- The LBCC Foundation gave about \$500,000 in Long Beach College Promise Scholarships in 2017. These scholarships cover a tuition-free first year at LBCC. Long Beach Rotary is a major contributor to this effort and was honored at this year’s event as a Long Beach College Promise Champion.
- The Mayor’s Fund for Education was launched in collaboration with local partners to identify students’ needs at all levels, including pre-K, and to assist in fundraising. Earlier this year, the Mayor’s Fund launched Ready Rosie, an online platform that helps preschool parents incorporate learning activities into everyday interactions with their children.

- The Long Beach Internship Challenge, in conjunction with the work of Long Beach Career-Linked Learning has provided thousands of internships for students.
- Graduation rates at Long Beach Unified increased for the fifth year in a row, again surpassing state and county rates. Students of color in Long Beach schools also outperformed their peers countywide and statewide, and seven high schools here reported graduation rates above 90 percent.
- LBCC’s persistence and graduation rates are also increasing. Thirty-nine percent of LBCC students graduate from Long Beach State University in two years. Eighty-four percent of LBCC students graduate from Long Beach State University in four years.

Among the speakers at this week’s event were President Jane Conoley of Long Beach State University, Superintendent President Reagan F. Romali of LBCC, Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser of LBUSD, and

Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia. The leaders also presented college scholarships to 24 local eighth graders who have shown academic improvement.

The Promise includes efforts to align academic standards, teaching methods and student assessment across institutions to improve student achievement and teacher quality. The initiative has garnered recognition and attention from the White House, Gov. Jerry Brown and the California State Senate, and it has been modeled by many other communities in California, including Fresno, the Inland Empire, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco.



KHAN ACADEMY – As part of a world history lesson, a student uses a Khan Academy online tutorial to learn about Mayans and the ancient city of Teotihuacan in Central Mexico.

PBS Features Khan Partnership

The PBS television series “Inside California Education” features a Long Beach Unified School District pilot project with Khan Academy, which provides online video tutorials and other tools to help boost student achievement.

As part of the pilot project, Khan (khanacademy.org) provides professional development for teachers, helping them to integrate online lessons into their classrooms. Khan supplies its online content at no cost.

The program is one of the first of its kind, with Khan now in its first year of piloting such partnerships in the U.S. More than 100 teachers agreed to start the pilot program in local schools. The PBS segment includes interviews with students, teachers, administrators and Khan officials.

Find this article at lbschools.net to view the PBS segment.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

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In Memoriam

Esperanza Perez
former ROP teacher
Oct. 10, 2017

Patrick Markey
former teacher
Feb. 26, 2018

Ron Bennett
former deputy superintendent,
business services
March 17, 2018