



December 13, 2019

Singapore Educators Learn from LBUSD

What do Long Beach and Singapore have in common? Both have been ranked among the world's top five school systems in recent years. Singapore educators have taken note, visiting local schools to learn more about meeting the needs of advanced learners.

Four teachers from Catholic High School, a gifted school for boys in Singapore, recently visited the gifted classes of GATE-certified (Gifted and Talented Education) teachers at Cubberley K-8 School. The visitors also observed classes at Millikan High School's QUEST honors program.

The trip was initiated by the USC Rossier School of Education's Sandra Kaplan, a leader in the field of gifted education.

"She requested that we host the visitors, as their learning goals were focused on ways to differentiate instruction for advanced learners," said Pam Lovett, GATE coordinator for the Long Beach Unified School District.

The visit was the second one in two years from the Singapore school. Last year, Singapore teachers visited the Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science, as well as the

(Continued on next page)

CAMS Excels at International Forestry Event

California Academy of Mathematics and Science juniors Zoe Storaasli and Ivy Goodwin recently travelled to Russia, where they won third prize at the 16th International Junior Foresters' Competition for their research paper entitled "The effectiveness of different brush removal methods in the Los Angeles area."

The students had received a scholarship from the USDA Forest Service International Programs office to cover the costs of their travel to the event and were accompanied by a USDA Forest Service program manager for Russia, Europe and Eurasia.

"Our students usually do well at Junior Forestry, but this is the first time CAMS has made it to the international competition," CAMS Principal Wendy Poffenberger said.

Storaasli and Goodwin's research included field observations and interviews with hazardous fuels managers in the Los Padres, Angeles and San Bernardino national forests.

The International Junior Foresters' Competition is an annual event hosted by the Russian Federal Forestry Agency, which brings

together youth from nations around the world to promote and reward young scientists for their interest and efforts in the environmental field. The event also encourages international dialogue concerning forestry and other natural resource management issues.

This year's competition took place in Voronezh, Russia. Thirty-one young adults, ranging in age from 14 to 22 and representing 27 different countries, defended their projects in front of an international jury that included researchers and forestry experts from Russia, Europe, China and the United Nations.

The USDA Forest Service and the Russian Federal Forestry Agency have been collaborating for more than 50 years on research, technical cooperation and policy issues. Given that Russia contains more than 20 percent of the world's forests, it is in America's interest to understand trends in Russian forestry. The collaboration between the two agencies emphasizes important themes such as forest inventory and monitoring, wildfire management, illegal logging and climate change.

Complete Census Count Key to Funding

The Long Beach Unified School District and the City of Long Beach are co-chairing a Census 2020 Complete Count Campaign. By partnering with many other organizations throughout Long Beach, the campaign aims to achieve a complete count of every person in the city.

An accurate count is key to securing millions of dollars in funding for local schools, including Title I funds for disadvantaged populations, and resources to support Head Start, child care, the National School Lunch Program, and other vital health, housing and energy assistance services.

The census, which only occurs every ten years and is the most inclusive civic activity in the nation, is also integral to American democracy. The count ensures equal representation and equal access to important governmental

and private sector resources. The Census drives more than \$800 billion annually in federal assistance to states, localities and families. Census results are used to allocate seats and draw district lines for the U.S. House of Representatives, state legislatures and local boards.

Schools will support the Census in a number of ways as the campaign launches in Spring 2020. K-12 classroom materials will be provided by LBUSD's History/Social Studies Office to support using Census 2020 as a teaching opportunity. Employees will be encouraged to take the Census themselves and ensure that their children are counted. Front offices at schools will offer access to Census materials and a Chromebook that parents can use when the count begins.

Learn more at 2020Census.gov.

Three Schools Make Newsweek STEM List

Three high schools in the Long Beach Unified School District made Newsweek's recently published list of the "Top 5,000 STEM High Schools" recognizing some of the best science, technology, engineering and math programs in the nation.

The California Academy of Mathematics and Science appeared on the list along with McBride and Poly high schools. CAMS placed in the top 500, with a ranking of 479. McBride ranked 3,507 while Poly ranked 3,679.

"Your students are natural STEM students," Newsweek's notification letter to CAMS stated. "We need to make sure that innate drive, curiosity and creativity aren't lost along the way. And California Academy of Mathematics and Science is helping to ensure America's future in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is in good hands."

Newsweek partnered with STEM.org Educational Research to consider a broad set of data for the rankings. Learn more at newsweek.com.

Retroactive Checks

Retroactive checks are being distributed to members of the local California School Employees Association. A recently approved contract agreement calls for a 2 percent ongoing salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2018, and a 1 percent "off-schedule," or one-time increase equal to 1 percent of annual salary.

The 2 percent retroactive checks were issued last week, and the 1 percent check is scheduled for disbursement on Jan. 10 to qualifying employees. The ongoing 2 percent increase also will be reflected on December paychecks.



SPECIAL GUEST – Beach High School student Ryan Jowett greets Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna, who met with students to share insights on making positive choices. **Story on next page.**

Police Chief Visits Reid, Beach Students

Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna shared key insights with more than 80 students this month at the Long Beach Learning Center, which includes Beach and Reid high schools.

"The students were so engaged that they came to him afterwards, forming a line to ask more questions," said Lori Andrews, a restorative justice and ASB coordinator at Beach/Reid.

The chief shared his story of growing up in Los Angeles and having a dream of being a police officer despite the fact that he did not hear positive things about the police and was even encouraged to choose another career path. He explained that he was able to avoid joining gangs and to resist being enticed into wrongdoing. His love for football gave him a viable

alternative, while some of his friends who went down the wrong path did not survive.

He answered students' questions regarding requirements to be a criminal analyst, the program "Why'd You Stop Me." (wysm.org) and how long it takes to become a police officer. He ended the event by inviting students to spend a week with a criminal analyst to see what the job entails and to join a ride-a-long with a police officer.

• Singapore Visitors

(Continued from first page)
California Academy of Mathematics and Science.

At Cubberley, the Singapore visitors learned from teachers Jane Alviar, Melissa Hamm, Heather Mills, Debi Bober and Caroline Muscato. The Cubberley teachers shared how they expand learning for advanced students by incorporating more depth and complexity into grade level curriculum.

At Millikan, the visitors learned from science teachers Christine Appel and Scott Allen. The visitors also observed Millikan teacher Russel Rudman's Advanced Placement Government course and learned about the QUEST Senior Project process, a year-long inquiry conducted by students and facilitated by teacher Thomas Lind.

The Singapore school submitted a summary report after the visit.

"At Cubberley, the Singapore teachers were impressed not just with the high capability of the teaching faculty but also the close partnership the principal has with the district," the report stated. "At Millikan, the belief that the student is the center of learning, and the support in developing future-ready skills in line with students' career choices, are keenly evident in the programs and curriculum."

Apply for Job Sharing

Permanent elementary or secondary teachers are invited to apply for job sharing partnerships for the 2020-21 school year. Job share deadlines are:

Jan. 17 – Submission of request to have your name and telephone number included on a list of interested job sharing partners. Go to teachlongbeach.com, select "For Current Employees" and then choose the Job Share Interest Request link to submit your information.

March 1 – Submission of applications for new job sharing partnerships, or renewal of existing partnerships. Submit your application to Human Resource Services, Attention: Job Share, via district mail or by email to jobshare@lbschools.net.

For more information, call Human Resource Services at ext. 8106.

Dates to Remember

January

| | |
|-------|---|
| 1 | New Year's Day |
| 1 | Anniversary of Emancipation Proclamation |
| 1-3 | Japanese New Year Festivities |
| 7 | 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00—"I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 8 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Martin Luther King, Jr./Black History Month," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 9 | 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Dare to Dream," Grade 9, ed.tv 8 |
| 10 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"The Boyhood of Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 4-6, ed.tv 8 |
| 14 | 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00—"I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 15 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Thomas Edison," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 16 | 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 17 | 10:00, 11:20, 12:20—"First Moon, Celebration of the Chinese New Year," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 19 | World Religion Day |
| 19-25 | National School Choice Week |
| 20 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Day—Holiday |
| 21 | 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Why We Need Each Other: The Animals' Picnic Day," Grades 1-4, ed.tv 8 |
| 22 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Florence Nightingale," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 23 | 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"New Zebra in Town," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 24 | Fall Semester Ends |
| 24 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"The Klan—A Legacy of Hate," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 25 | Chinese New Year |
| 27 | Spring Semester Begins |
| 28 | 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Preventing Conflicts and Violence," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 29 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Helen Keller," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 30 | 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 31 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Riding Your School Bus Safely," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8 |

Rotary Offers \$10K In Literacy Grants

Long Beach Rotary and its charitable foundation are offering up to \$10,000 for creative, teacher-driven literacy projects. Teachers in preschool through third grade, including Special Education, may apply for grants from \$500 to \$2,500. The application deadline is Feb. 7. Grants will be awarded by the end of March and may be used to purchase books, e-books, teaching aids, training programs or other materials in the 2020-21 school year.

Find the grant application under Rotary Literacy Grants in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Since 1999, Rotary has held an annual Reading by 9 fundraiser where its members and others donate to the Long Beach Rotary Charitable Foundation to support literacy and the program's goal to promote grade level reading by age 9. This year about \$60,000 was raised. More than \$735,000 has been raised since the inception of the program, and Rotary has donated more than 265,000 books and e-books to local literacy efforts.

Names in the News

Cabrillo High School graduate **Estefany Villalta** will be honored as Graduate of the Year by Goodwill of Southern Los Angeles County during the Celebrate Power of Work Awards Dinner on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. While Villalta was a student at Cabrillo in 2014, she enrolled in Goodwill's Certified Nurse Assistant training made possible by a partnership with LBUSD. Throughout her senior year in high school, she attended training classes one Saturday per month and upon graduation in 2015 enrolled in the Long Beach City College Vocational Nurse training program, completing the program in 2018 while working as a CNA. She is now working as a licensed vocational nurse at Seal Beach Health and Rehabilitation Center. She endured many obstacles during her training but remained steadfast. She plans to continue her education to become a registered nurse.

Jordan High School teacher **Linda Bueno** was featured recently in *Palacio* magazine at palaciomagazine.com. She partnered with a *Palacio* reporter to help her develop curriculum in American History and U.S. Government.

"Linda Bueno wants her students to embrace American History because it is also their history; their history as Latino/as, African Americans, Pacific Islanders, Cambodians, European-Americans," *Palacio* reports. "In that history and in those lessons, they also learn about life, their own educational goals and their future."

Weight Watchers

Now through Jan. 31, new and current Weight Watchers (WW) members can enter a sweepstakes to win a trip for two to Los Angeles to attend Oprah Winfrey's 2020 Vision Tour event on Saturday, Feb. 29 at The Forum. Winfrey is partnering with WW for a cross-country arena tour. New members will be eligible for a Jumpstarter kit with their sweepstakes entry. Current members gain entry into the sweepstakes for referring an eligible employee who joins the WW program. A flier will be emailed by site secretaries.

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

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

FELTON WILLIAMS, President
JUAN BENITEZ, Vice President
DIANA CRAIGHEAD, Member
JON MEYER, Member
MEGAN KERR, Member

In Memoriam

Christopher Bynum
September 19, 2019
former campus security officer

LaJuana Rudy
November 13, 2019
former computer support user rep