



school bulletin

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

November 8, 2019

‘End Abuse’ Group Honors Administrator

Long Beach Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Tiffany Brown will be honored by the nonprofit End Abuse Long Beach organization during an annual awards breakfast scheduled for 8 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14 at the Alpert Jewish Community Center, 3801 E. Willow St., Long Beach.



Brown

Brown is one of two honorees to be recognized for outstanding work with children and domestic violence victims in Long Beach. The second honoree is Alicia Rodriguez, a domestic violence victim advocate with the Long Beach City Prosecutor’s Office.

“I am deeply appreciative of the work that End Abuse Long Beach has done to bring our village together on behalf of children,” said Brown, who oversees LBUSD School Support Services. “Our Long Beach community is

(Continued on next page)

Nationally Honored Principal Leads LBEF

Lucy Salazar, the Long Beach Unified School District’s recently appointed Director of Community Partnerships, also will serve as the new executive director of the Long Beach Education Foundation. Salazar takes over for Judy Seal, the long-time executive director who recently retired.



Salazar

“I am privileged and thrilled to have the opportunity to serve as the new executive director,” Salazar said.

Back in 2018, Salazar won the National Distinguished Principal Award at LBUSD’s Alvarado Elementary School, where she served until her recent promotion to the central office.

“I look forward to advancing the foundation’s mission to encourage the success of all students in the Long Beach Unified School District,” said Salazar, who earned her doctorate from USC in 2018, the same year Alvarado was named a National Title I Distinguished School for its successful programs and the progress of its students.

Learn more about the foundation at lbschools.net.

Educators from 12 States Focus on Equity

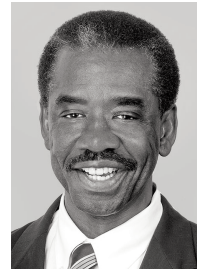
About 50 educators from throughout the nation gathered at the Long Beach Unified School District’s Teacher Resource Center recently for a three-day visit to discuss “Leading for Equity.” The visit was a joint effort of the school district and San Diego State University in partnership with The Wallace Foundation.

LBUSD partners with SDSU on educator credential programs, and in recent years Wallace has provided significant grant funding to help Long Beach schools build a leadership pipeline featuring principal supervisors and extensive coaching in support of high quality teaching for all students. The Long Beach effort has garnered attention in national journals such as School Administrator and Principal Leadership.

Among the LBUSD presenters at the recent three-day gathering were Deputy Superintendent Jill Baker and Director of Leadership Development Kelly An, who have been instrumental in the development of

LBUSD’s leadership pipeline.

LBUSD Board of Education President Felton Williams and Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser participated in a panel discussion with Francisco Escobedo, superintendent of the Chula Vista Elementary School District. The three leaders discussed the “systems” decisions that are made to support equity-driven leadership.



Williams

Williams discussed the importance of strategic planning and goal setting with an eye toward equity.

“Everybody really needs to be rowing their oars in the same direction and not against one another,” Williams said, “and that’s what the planning process allows us to do.”

(Continued on next page)

Teacher Wins State Music Educator Award

Long Beach Unified School District music teacher Valerie Vinnard recently earned a top award from the California Music Educators Association.

“We were impressed with your excellence as a music educator and your service to our profession,” the CMEA award notification letter stated.

Vinnard will be recognized at a Feb. 21 conference in Fresno.

“I am so proud that I will be able to represent our district and its continued support of elementary music when I attend the gala and conference in February,” Vinnard said.

Vinnard has taught K-5 general music in LBUSD schools since 1999. Last year she published an article on the use of classroom drum circles. “The Classroom Drum Circle Project: Creating Innovative Differentiation in Music Education,” appeared in Delta Kappa Gamma International’s Collegial Exchange Magazine. DKG promotes professional growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Vinnard and her fellow music teachers have been using grants from the Rumba Foundation of Long Beach since fall 2017 to introduce drum circles to students in their classrooms.

Vinnard reports that participating students are showing academic gains and improved wellbeing.

“Teachers and administrators have noticed a positive shift in some key students,” Vinnard writes in the professional publication. “A documented increase in student achievement scores has also been noted at several of the sites in which the program has been implemented,” including increased percentages of students meeting or exceeding state standards

in English and math.

Learn more about the drum circles and view video by searching for “Drums Helps Students” at lbschools.net.



STATEWIDE HONOR – Music teacher Valerie Vinnard will be recognized by the California Music Educator Association. Here she demonstrates on a Ngoma leader drum, traditionally used in Africa.

• Leading for Equity

(Continued from first page)

Williams is serving his fifth term as LBUSD board president and will be honored with a Civil Rights and Education Award by the Long Beach Branch NAACP (lbcanacp.org) during a 40th Founder's Gala Celebration 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at The Long Beach Hilton.

During the recent panel discussion, Superintendent Steinhauser recalled the early stages of LBUSD's leadership pipeline efforts, and he underscored the importance of long-term, five-year budgeting as a way to sustain the continuity of efforts like the principal supervisor initiative.

"This effort was about leadership development, but it was really about supporting teachers and kids and administrators and the mission of the system," Steinhauser said. "It has been very positive, through the leadership of Dr. Jill Baker and others in the program."

The audience included educators from Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Tennessee. Learn more about The Wallace Foundation's work at wallacefoundation.org.

Harmony Project Gala on Dec. 11

The Long Beach Unified School District continues to partner with the nonprofit Harmony Project, which provides instrumental music education for children from lower income communities. The project's fifth annual gala, a reception and fundraiser hosted by the school district and the Long Beach Education Foundation, is scheduled for 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 11 in the Pacific Room at The Long Beach Arena, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. The evening will include musical performances and special guests. RSVP at harmonyproject@lbschools.net or 997-8448.

K-12 School Growth Awards on Nov. 18

An event to honor 32 schools in the Long Beach Unified School District for outstanding academic growth is scheduled for 4:15 to 5:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 18 in the Millikan High School Auditorium.

The 2019 Outstanding Growth Awards ceremony is designed as an opportunity for school teams to be recognized by the Board of Education, superintendent and executive staff. The event will feature students and staff who will share ideas about what is making a positive difference in local schools.

Free Flu Vaccinations

The City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services is offering free flu vaccinations. These upcoming clinics do not require an appointment:

- 9 a.m. to noon, Monday, Nov. 11, Drake Park, 951 Maine Ave.
- 2 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, Health Department, 2525 Grand Ave.

Learn more at longbeach.gov/flu.

• 'End Abuse' Group Honors Assistant Supt.

(Continued from first page)

certainly better as a result of their efforts."

Brown leads the school district's Community-Based Mental Health Collaborative that brings the Department of Mental Health and numerous community agencies together to deliver mental health services to Long Beach schools. She helps to make sure these vital services are accessible to students and families who are experiencing emotional or behavioral challenges.

Among her many accomplishments, Brown teamed with Beach High School Principal Troy

Marine Band Packs Poly Auditorium

The United States Marine Band recently performed to a packed house at Poly High School's Andrew Osman Performing Arts Center. The band was founded by an act of Congress in 1798 and is America's oldest continuously active professional musical organization.

"The President's Own" band had not performed on the West Coast in a decade prior to its latest tour. The storied ensemble's 17th director was John Philip Sousa, who initiated the concert tour tradition in 1891.

"The President's Own Marine Band is the finest band possibly in the world," said Poly music teacher Chris Stevens. "It is made up of an elite group of musicians. The best thing we can do as educators is expose our children to the finest examples, and there is no finer example than this."

View video from the event at lbschools.net.

Used Chromebooks Put to Good Use

The Long Beach Unified School District recently replaced about 24,000 "G4" Chromebook computer tablets with the "G6" version as the new standard for use in schools. Because the older G4 version is still appropriate for use by students and families on their home WiFi, LBUSD will give the older devices to families, along with a charging cord for each device, to support learning beyond the school day.

The used devices have been "wiped clean" to a factory reset and are arriving at schools in the coming weeks for distribution.

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. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

Bennett and The Guidance Center to start a trauma-informed training program for school staff and teachers. Her work to help reduce chronic truancy and absenteeism for students experiencing homelessness was recognized with an IMPACT Award from City Prosecutor Doug Haubert. She also was a regional recipient of the Nadine Lambert Award for Outstanding School Psychologists from the California Association of School Psychologists.

"On a personal note, Dr. Brown also is a very humble, hardworking and kind woman," the award announcement from End Abuse Long Beach states. "We thank her for her amazing work in the greater Long Beach area with children and the district."

Learn more at endabuselb.org.

Green Summit at Hughes Nov. 16

Teachers, support staff, administrators and parents who would like to assist with recycling and other sustainability efforts are invited to the Green Summit at Hughes Middle School from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Nov. 16. The school is at 3846 California Ave., Long Beach.

School district, city and local non-profit representatives will provide information on campus sustainability. Learn about the latest recycling changes and how to get started at your school with sorting and recovering food, cans, bottles, paper and more. The aim is for each school to have a green site coordinator.

Event sponsors include Long Beach Unified School District Nutrition Services, LBUSD Operations, Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Bureau of Environmental Health), Long Beach Public Works Department (Environmental Services Bureau), Algalita, Food Finders and Grades of Green.

A stipend rate is available for teachers/staff attending the summit (register in myPD for either the classified employee or certificated employee section of Course 9160).

Parents can RSVP at lbschools.net/green.

Contact pweinstein@lbschools.net, kwasinger@lbschools.net or dvandivort@lbschools.net.

In Memoriam

Dale McVey
former teacher
September 15, 2019

Cynthia Jackson
former teacher
September 29, 2019

Georgia Hambly
former assistant principal
October 11, 2019

Barbara Legrand
former teacher
October 13, 2019

Steven Maleski
former multimedia technician supervisor
October 20, 2019