



school bulletin

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

October 17, 2003

Community-Based Tutoring Wins Golden Bell

Long Beach Unified School District's unique Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) classes won the Golden Bell Award this month. The award, which is the California School Boards Association's highest honor, will be presented December 13 in San Diego.

The innovative tutoring provided by the Long Beach School for Adults helps parents and children become literate and fluent in English. At local elementary schools, parents learn tutoring strategies and useful English phrases in adult classes. They immediately tutor children in class, using their new skills. At home the same evening, they use videos, worksheets and assist their own children with homework.

"The Golden Bell means so much to our teachers, staff and parents," said Christopher J. Steinhäuser, superintendent of schools. "These tutoring classes get dramatic results. This recognition makes Long Beach CBET a statewide model."

CBET parents have improved their English skills, gained knowledge of how to help their children, and become much more involved in school. They performed well on the state's measurement of literacy gains. Of 427 students who recently took the test, 71 percent improved by at least one benchmark level. Nearly 20 percent improved by two levels.

"Everybody's really excited about the award," said Vicki Roberts,

CBET program specialist for the Long Beach School for Adults. "The credit goes to everyone from the teachers and college aides to the parents and babysitters who work so hard to support the program."

Seven schools piloted CBET six years ago after Rosi Pedersen, assistant principal at the Long Beach School for Adults, secured state funding. Today, 25 schools offer it.

Last school year a mobile laptop lab began serving every site for two weeks each semester. Technology teacher Ryan de la Vega drives the van, delivering 30 laptops and lessons to classrooms for each two-hour session. Parents and students participate in laptop computer tutoring together during the last 30 minutes of class.

CBET recently introduced additional curriculum to help adult students understand the K-12 school system. Parents learn the language of promotion and retention policies and

Marathoners Report

All district employees who participated in the recent Long Beach Marathon are invited to have their names listed in the next issue of the School Bulletin. Call ext. 8250 to report your event time.

parent-teacher conferences so they can help prepare their children for college.

During adult classes, more than half of the parents rely upon the babysitting service, where children enjoy preschool activities. This free service is offered at every CBET site.

The district now has won four Golden Bells, including awards for CBET, school uniforms, beginning teacher support project, and Project PEAKS training for teachers of English.



TOP HONOR -- Community-Based English Tutoring (CBET) won the Golden Bell Award, the California School Boards Association's highest honor. Innovative classes bring students, teachers and parents together to improve student achievement and increase parent involvement. CBET's mobile laptop lab brings computer instruction to parents and students at schools throughout the district. Several school districts statewide have replicated the successful tutoring classes.

Free Flu Shots

Free flu shots for all district employees will be available at selected locations in October:

- Monday, October 20, Administration Building, Cafeteria, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 24, 999 Atlantic, Suite 305, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 28, Food Services, Conference Room-Second Floor, 2 to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday, October 31, School for Adults, Room 4, 2 to 4:30 p.m.

No appointment is required.

Lakewood, Millikan Earn \$1 Million Grant

A new \$1 million grant will help Lakewood and Millikan high schools develop smaller learning communities that boost student achievement.

Implementation begins this year and will include extra training for teachers and staff. Both schools completed extensive planning for the grant last year involving many focus groups, surveys and workshops. The schools learned this month that their planning was deemed worthy of the \$1 million grant.

"It was glorious news, especially during these lean times," said Charles Acosta, co-principal at Lakewood High School. "This winning effort was driven by the energy and enthusiasm of the instructional staff."

Lakewood and Millikan already have worked to provide small, safe and successful learning communities. The schools offer several four-year academies that help students build lasting, positive relationships with peers and teachers.

Smaller learning communities have been found to result in higher course-passing rates, better attendance and fewer suspensions.

The large grant from the U.S. Department of Education will last three years and help both schools continue their popular academies. It will also allow the schools to provide specific career paths, with a strong focus on the state's academic standards, technology, and values like commitment and dedication.

The project will offer students personal adult advocates who help them refine and fulfill individual learning plans. The ultimate goal is to have an increased number of students qualifying for admission to the University of California, California State University and successful careers.

Students also will work to earn an Academic Foundation Certificate that work-force partners will endorse.

Career/College Night

Thousands of students and parents are expected at the Long Beach Unified School District's 32nd Annual Career College Exploration Night, Wednesday, November 5, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the CSULB Pyramid.

Representatives from more than 175 colleges, universities, businesses and public agencies from throughout the nation will be available to parents and students to discuss career and college opportunities.

The popular event is open to students in grades 8 through 12 and their families. Parking and admission are free. Free bus transportation will be available from Cabrillo and Jordan high schools.

For information, contact Christopher Clifton, career education support services manager at 989-7872, ext. 292.

Salary Credit Rules

Teachers wanting to receive salary credit for college coursework must submit official, sealed transcripts to Human Resource Services by November 1.

All college or university credit shall be from an accredited institution. An employee must complete all requirements for the courses prior to September 15 to qualify for placement on a higher salary scale for that fiscal year.

Transcripts received after the November 1 deadline will apply to the next contract year.

There is a 16 semester unit (24 quarter unit) maximum allowed toward salary credit. All coursework beyond the bachelor's degree must be upper division, of graduate standing at an accredited institution. Courses described as "professional" will not count without written approval by Human Resource Services.

For information, call ext. 8008.

Crucible for Students

Arthur Miller's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "The Crucible," is required reading for many high school classes. International City Theatre will perform this American classic at the Long Beach Performing Arts Center, 300 E. Ocean Blvd. from November 4 to December 7.

Local students may attend at a special reduced student group price. For groups of 12 or more students, tickets are only \$15. (Regular ticket price is \$35.) A 50 percent deposit is required when making reservations.

For information, call 436-4610.

The Crucible previews November 4, 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. Regular performances November 8 through December 7 will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. School groups of 100 or more will meet the director and/or cast in a post-show discussion. The play offers for discussion important ideas that are as timely and relevant today as the day they were written.

Names in the News

Rick Tebbano, administrative assistant, Attendance Service, has been appointed to a two-year term on the executive board of directors of the Southern Section of the California Association of Supervisors of Child Welfare and Attendance.

The upcoming book "Chicken Soup for the Ocean Lover's Soul" will include a story by **Martha Gusukuma**, kindergarten teacher at Longfellow Elementary School. Entitled "In Harmony," the fishing story was passed on to her when she was a child. Her father first told her the story about a traditional fishing style used by ancient Hawaiians. The book will be available in stores later this month.

Carolyn Williams, head counselor of Evening High School, was honored as Outstanding Educator by the Gibson County Training School and the Polk-Clark High School Alumni Association in Tennessee.

In Memoriam

William Lee
teacher, Wilson
October 6, 2003

Teacher Induction Meetings Scheduled

Teachers with an SB 2042 preliminary credential must attend one of two meetings about the Teacher Induction Program, a district sponsored two-year program that helps preliminary credential holders earn their professional clear credential.

Teachers who have a preliminary credential or who have applied for the preliminary credential and have not taken any university courses for the clear credential may also attend.

Meetings will be held 4:14 to 5:15 p.m., Tuesday, October 28 and Tuesday, November 4, at the Hughes Middle School Auditorium. RSVP to Fran Pfeiffer at ext. 2901.

New Web Resources

Recent additions to the Long Beach Unified School District website include quicker ways to find the district's master calendar, and effective math drills that challenge students to "beat the computer."

The master calendar may now be found under Links, or in the alphabetical index under Master Calendar and Calendar, Master.

The math drills may be found in the alphabetical index under Math Computer Drills.

To learn more, visit www.lbusd.k12.ca.us.

Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

Michael De-Four, plant supervisor I, MacArthur;

Maria Gonzalez, Head Start instructional aide, Head Start;

Edith Jacks, instructional aide-special, Twain;

James Kruse, computer support specialist assistant, Information Services;

Kim Lam, Head Start instructional aide, Head Start;

Ileana Lomeli, intermediate office assistant, Hudson;

Darlene Ragucci, computer support user representative, Information Services;

Beth Roman, food service supervisor II, Head Start;

Horalia Velasquez, Head Start instructional aide, Head Start.

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.lbusd.k12.ca.us

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOBBIE SMITH, President
MARY STANTON, Vice President
JAMES CHOURA, Member
SUJA LOWENTHAL, Member
JON MEYER, Member
ANTONIO ARELLANO, Student Member

Public Library Hours

Long Beach public libraries will close for an extra day or two each week starting Saturday, October 18. City budget cuts prompted the closures, which will be staggered so that branches in the same parts of town will not be closed on the same day.

The only unaffected library will be the North Library, which will remain open six days a week. A total of 20 percent of library hours were cut.

The complete schedule is available at www.lbpl.org. For questions or comments on the schedule, call or e-mail Nancy Messineo at 570-6540, nmessineo@lbpl.org or Eleanore Schmidt at 570-6016, eschmidt@lbpl.org.

Spanish Classes

Program Assistance for Language Minority Students (PALMS) is offering its "Spanish for School Personnel" course to employees. The course emphasizes basic conversation skills and school terminology. Registration takes place at the first class session on a first-come, first-served basis. The beginner class will be held on Wednesdays, October 29 to January 14. The intermediate class will be held on Mondays, October 27 through January 12. Both classes will take place at the Lincoln School Parent Center from 5 to 6 p.m.

Get Some Freebies

The Purchasing Branch will host a Manufacturers' Show sponsored by Office Depot on Thursday, November 6, 1 to 5 p.m. More than 20 manufacturers will display their newest products. There will be plenty of free samples for every attendee. All teachers and office personnel are encouraged to attend. An invitation along with additional information will be sent to your site soon. For information, call ext. 1701.

Job Opportunities

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for carpenter supervisor, credentials services specialist, instructional assistant-intensive behavioral treatment, painter supervisor and student evaluation technician-bilingual Khmer.

Teachers are needed to serve severely handicapped students in their homes. Adaptive PE teachers in particular are encouraged to apply. For information, call ext. 7172.

Join the Beach Walk

Superintendent Chris Steinhauer invites all employees and their friends and family to join the Long Beach Unified School District team for the 13th Annual Beach Walk Saturday, November 1, 8 a.m. on the bike path at Shoreline Drive in Long Beach.

The fundraising event benefits The Children's Clinic, which serves many LBUSD students and their families. Honors will go to the largest team and to the team that raises the most money. Walkers are eligible for individual prizes as well.

Signup forms and sponsor sheets are available from Leticia Rodriguez at ext. 8464.