



# school bulletin

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

March 4, 2005

## District, TALB Reach Tentative Salary Deal

The Long Beach Unified School District and the Teachers Association of Long Beach announced this week that they have reached a written tentative salary agreement. The tentative agreement for 2004-05 will be submitted to the Los Angeles County Office of Education for a required 10-day review. Then the agreement will go to the school district's Board of Education for approval in coming weeks.

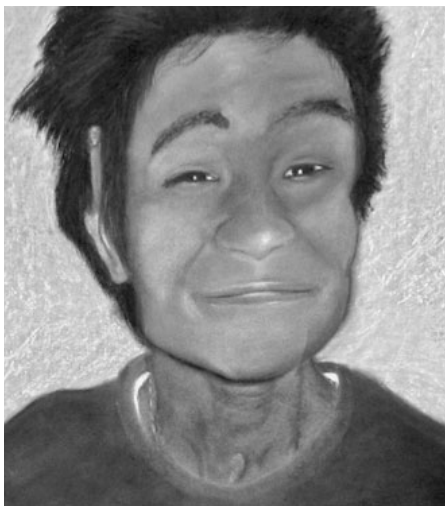
The new agreement also must be approved by TALB's Board of Directors, Representative Council and membership.

The agreement provides cost-of-living adjustments for TALB members ranging from 2.56 percent to 1.11 percent, retroactive to July 1, 2004, equivalent to an across-the-board 2.26 percent raise. As part of the tentative agreement, the school district agreed to restructure parts of the salary schedule for certain classifications of teachers, depending on their education levels and years of experience.

## Coffee With Chris

The next Long Beach Unified Family Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, March 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Poly High School Library.

The informal meetings encourage open dialogue between employees and Superintendent Chris Steinhauser. All interested employees are invited to attend.



**PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST**—Millikan student Jason Keam won first place for this self-portrait in the annual Norman Gottlieb Art Show, which runs through Wednesday, March 9 at the Alpert Jewish Community Center. Students districtwide participated in the contest.

**VIRTUE REWARDED**—Superintendent Chris Steinhauser received a super-sized check from U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein aboard the Queen Mary recently. At the National Leaders Luncheon, Feinstein commended the Long Beach Unified School District as a model for other districts throughout California. The new federal funds she announced will provide teacher and principal training, more college prep courses and other high school initiatives.



## U.S. Senator Feinstein Praises 'Model District'

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein had high praise for the Long Beach Unified School District during a recent National Leaders Luncheon sponsored by the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce and the Long Beach Education Foundation.

"This is a city that in California is noted for education," Feinstein told an audience of nearly 600 people at the Queen Mary. She lauded LBUSD's distinction as winner of the national Broad Prize for Urban Education for improving student achievement.

"Long Beach is serving as a model for dis-

tricts throughout our state," Feinstein said. "We know Long Beach is producing people who will serve the state well in the professions and in so many other ways."

At the luncheon, the senator announced a \$100,000 federal contribution to the school district. The funding will help pay for teacher and principal training, expanded college preparatory offerings and other high school initiatives.

During her address, Feinstein also recognized two outstanding scholar-athletes with certificates of commendation. Receiving the honors were Lakewood High School senior Lawrence Anderson and Wilson Classical High School senior Cynthia Barboza. Anderson is ASB president and captain of the Lakewood baseball team. He coaches youth basketball and plans to become a history teacher after attending San Diego State University. Barboza has earned early admission to Stanford University and is the youngest member of the USA Women's Volleyball Team.

## Art Show Winners

The annual Norman Gottlieb Youth Art Show, which continues through Wednesday, March 9, includes exemplary award-winning work from some of the Long Beach Unified School District's most talented middle and high school artists. The exhibit at the Alpert Jewish Community Center honors winners of one of the few juried art shows available to students in the school district.

This year's winners at the high school level are: first place, Jason Keam, Millikan; second place, Daniel Brajes, Jordan; and third place, Kyle Moreno, Wilson. High school honorable mention awards went to Elias Alexopoulos, Wilson; Sarah Gretz, Wilson; Lindsay Lopez, Poly; William Poroj, Jordan; and Zoila Ramirez, Jordan.

This year's middle school award winners are: first place, Regina Nicholson, Hill; second place, Diana Solis, Stephens; third place Julie Chin, Butler. Middle school honorable mention awards went to Jennifer Bui, Franklin; Sophaul Chheang, Butler; Molica Lim, Hill; Joana Muriel, Stephens; Anh Thach, Butler; and Kiley Thompson, Stanford.

## ALBEM Salutes 199 New School Partners

The Association of Long Beach Educational Managers is honoring 199 new business partners today for their contributions to local schools. ALBEM welcomes each of the new business partners with plaques during the annual Partnership Recognition Breakfast at the Long Beach Marriott Hotel.

The additional businesses bring the total number of school partnerships in the Long Beach Unified School District to a new record of 1,093. Securing the most partnerships this year was Long Beach Head Start with 42 new partners.

## Psychologist Posts Reduced for 2005-06

Up to 11 psychologist positions in the Long Beach Unified School District will be eliminated for 2005-06 as part of a budget reduction plan approved earlier this year. The Board of Education decided this week to send required notices of the reductions to affected employees by Tuesday, March 15.

The number of the notified employees who will remain with the district in another capacity is yet to be determined, pending resignations, retirements and reassignments. The cuts will reduce the total number of psychologists in the district to 53.

Psychologists work at schools, where they assess and counsel students, provide referrals to community services, and work with teachers to improve classroom behavior and achievement.

Budget cuts continue because state funding has not kept pace with the rising cost of educating students. In addition, LBUSD's enrollment is projected to decline by 1,400 students next year. Declining enrollment worsens budget problems because schools receive funding based on their average daily attendance.

## Employee of Month

Alicia Waldren was honored this week by the Board of Education as Long Beach Unified School District Employee of the Month.

Waldren, intermediate office assistant at Rogers Middle School, is known for her skill at filling in where needed to take up the slack on any given day. Her caring concern for an injured student recently brought her a bouquet of flowers from thankful parents who appreciated her above-and-beyond thoughtfulness.

The monthly award provides each winner \$100 from a private donation to recognize extraordinary service in a particular month.

Applications are available from each district site secretary. Applications must be received by the Employee Relations office by the last day of the calendar month.

For information, call ext. 8220.

## Names in the News

Recently honored as Outstanding Volunteers in Public Schools are **Leslie Elzinga**, Los Cerritos; **Peggy Hulce**, Bryant; **David Martes**, DeMille; **Marina Nieto**, Webster; **John Peck**, Wilson; and **Judith Williams**, McKinley.

**Rima McCoy**, seventh grade social studies teacher at Tincher, was selected to participate in the NCTA Summer Study Tour to Japan.

**Jennifer Lipman**, a Registered Nurse and Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, recently won the California Head Start Association's Friend of the Year Award. She works as a child care health specialist with LBUSD's Head Start/Early Head Start.

## Dispute Resolution

The Office of Special Education offers several Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) options to support schools and parents with potential special education dispute issues. For more information, contact Tracy Christman-Sturm, ADR coordinator, at 422-6868, ext. 246.

## Burcham To Go K-8

The Board of Education has approved plans to convert Burcham Elementary School to a K-8 school. Parents and staff requested the change at the K-5 school.

The conversion will take place over the next three years. This fall, Burcham will add sixth grade, followed by seventh grade in 2006-07 and eighth grade in 2007-08.

Burcham is the second elementary school approved for K-8 conversion in recent weeks. Gompers Elementary School also has received board approval to go K-8.

## The Job Board

Hudson School is seeking a full-time Magnet Coordinator for its new Global Studies magnet starting this fall. The school is also seeking teachers for its accelerated learning programs. Tech core (algebra/science) and humanities core (English/history) middle school positions may be open for September 2005. Interested candidates may contact Wendy Claflin, Hudson principal, at [wclaflin@lbusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:wclaflin@lbusd.k12.ca.us).

## Newspaper Class

A Newspaper In Education workshop will be held Saturday, March 12, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Press-Telegram, 604 Pine Ave. It includes continental breakfast, lunch, a tour, hands-on activities and teaching materials. The class may be taken for one unit of credit (\$114) by completing eight hours of classroom application or for non-credit (\$49). Each participant receives 350 free newspapers. For information call Gayle Knapp at 499-1445.

## School Calendars

The Board of Education recently approved several calendar changes for the 2005-06 school year.

Signal Hill Elementary School will change from a multi-track year-round school to a single-track year-round school. Starr King Elementary School will change from an extended school calendar to a traditional calendar.

Washington Middle School will go from an extended school year to a traditional school year. Franklin Middle School will go from a multi-track year-round schedule to a modified traditional school year.

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

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## Students Design City of Tomorrow

Fifth graders from Stevenson, Whittier and International elementary schools recently participated in a five-week afterschool project to create a model plan for Long Beach in 2025.

The 36 students worked with educators, police, firefighters, and transportation and water experts at the Aquarium of the Pacific to design a clean city with ample green space, a thriving job market and no traffic congestion.

The Aquarium organized the sessions and loaned students the materials needed to create a physical model of their project, entitled "Creating a Sustainable Coastal Community for the Long Beach of Tomorrow."

## Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

**Mary Hall**, school support secretary, Millikan;

**Phaloeuk Loewn**, benefits assistant, Risk Management;

**Rhonda Washington**, lead custodian, Operations;

**Rachel White**, Kids Club lead assistant, Fremont;

**Patricia Younger**, plumber, Maintenance.

## Job Opportunities

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for assistant purchasing and contracts director, coordinator-autism services, and student evaluation technician.

## What Others Say

"Long Beach is that rare place where the well-being of the community and the welfare of all its children provide a mission, a focus and a guiding light that drive all decisions for those who work here. In Long Beach, kids do come first, and that really makes all the difference."

"Since my first days here, I have been amazed by the degree of decency, integrity, professionalism and respect exemplified by the district and its employees. In no other district where I have worked or observed have I felt such a sense of family and such a sense of genuine caring as I have witnessed here."

—Sean McPhetridge, Harvard's Urban Superintendents Program Intern in the Long Beach Unified School District

## In Memoriam

**James Young**  
former custodian  
January 18, 2005

**James Cosby**  
former custodian  
February 18, 2005