



school bulletin

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Sports Illustrated Ranks Poly Tops in Nation

The latest Sports Illustrated cover story ranks the scholar-athletes at Poly High School as number one in the nation, documenting the school's legendary prowess both on the athletic field and in the classroom. A hundred copies of the magazine arrived at Poly just as the school was celebrating its high ranking by Newsweek as one of the best high schools in the U.S.

"We're the only school to make Newsweek and the cover of Sports Illustrated in the same week," beamed Poly co-principal Shawn Ashley. "How special this place is. How fortunate we are to be here."

In what Sports Illustrated deemed "the most selective ranking in all of sports," Poly topped the list of more than 38,000 high schools in the U.S., including 1,000 that were eligible for the magazine's list of the nation's top athletic programs. Criteria for "The 25 Top Sports High Schools in America" included all-around excellence during the past 10 years, state titles won and college athletes produced.

Writer Alan Shipnuck detailed how Poly has lived up to the motto inscribed above the school's front entrance: HOME OF SCHOLARS AND CHAMPIONS.

"What is all the more remarkable about Poly is that many of the athletes really are scholars, just as the sign says," wrote Shipnuck, who praised the school's rigorous magnet, PACE. Students in PACE "have a profound effect on the ambitions of the entire student body," said Shipnuck. He quoted Ashley: "College is all the PACE kids ever talk about, and that becomes part of the culture of the school. It makes college a tangible goal

and a reachable destination for students who might otherwise never have considered it."

The article includes praise from Poly alumni including tennis great Billie Jean King and New England Patriots two-time Pro Bowl linebacker Willie McGinest. It also lists the top 25 schools in the nation. The only other California schools to break into the top 25 were Mater Dei in Santa Ana (ranked sixth), and De La Salle in Concord (ranked 11th). Both are private schools.

CAMS Makes Cover of U.S. Publication

The Achiever, a national publication of the U.S. Department of Education, featured the exemplary success of CAMS, the California Academy of Mathematics and Science, in its May 1 issue. The front-page story, "The Variable that Makes the Difference," describes CAMS' cohorts, small groups of 30 students who move together from class to class, building a support system that helps them excel.

CAMS, a 2004 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School, accepts applications from students from 80 middle schools in 11 participating districts—usually coming from the top 30 percent of their class. More than 40 percent of CAMS students qualify for free or reduced-price meals, yet they have a remarkable UC admission rate of 68.6 percent, among the highest in California.

The article reported: "By the time they graduate (from CAMS), students have completed the equivalent of six years of science, four years of math and, on average, have earned 22 college credits. Ninety-four percent of CAMS graduates go on to college.

"CAMS students participate in more than 40 clubs, including Key Club, the BioMed Club and the National Honor Society. This year, 50 CAMS students completed the Los Angeles Marathon."

Wilson GPA Triumph

The Wilson High School softball team was named the 2005 Academic All Stars for large schools in the CIF Southern Section. The team was honored last week at Angel Stadium for compiling a team grade point average of 3.551.

This is the fourth time in the past seven years that the team has been so honored.

Team members are Marly Barth, Talisa Bosse, Elizabeth Bravo, Emily Buika, Erin Buika, Nikki Chavez, Emily Davis, Milena Engvidanos, Ashley Gomez, Stephanie Laverty, Leigh Oberjuege, Shae Olds, Amanda Moreno, Callie Nikoletic, Marti Reed, Kelsey Schafer, Maddie Smith and Beth Walczak. The team is coached by Frank Donahue.

CAMS, Poly, Wilson Among America's Best High Schools

Newsweek's May ranking of "America's Best High Schools" lists the California Academy of Mathematics and Science, Polytechnic High School and Wilson Classical High School among the top four percent of U.S. high schools.

Schools ranked by Newsweek have the greatest number of students taking Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests, compared to the number of graduating seniors.

Graduates of these high schools save millions of dollars in college tuition each year by earning college credit on the difficult AP exams. Each school on the list performed among the top four percent of 27,468 public high schools nationwide.

"This national recognition validates our schools' extraordinary efforts to prepare more students for success in college," said Christopher J. Steinhauser, superintendent of schools. "All of our schools are working very hard to help students excel."

Newsweek's 1,036 top-ranking U.S. high schools included CAMS at 685, Poly at 790 and Wilson at 822. The magazine's May 16 cover story and school rankings are available at Newsweek.com, along with Newsweek's web-exclusive extended list of the nation's top high schools.

Newsweek's list of top high schools has been compared to U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges" list.

Newsweek ranks public schools according to a ratio called the Challenge Index -- the number of Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate tests taken by all students at a school divided by the number of graduating seniors. The schools on the list are deemed to have the strongest AP or IB programs in the nation.

International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement courses have become increasingly important for college admissions and scholarships. Students have enrolled in 1,700 more AP courses in the Long Beach Unified School District this school year.

The LBUSD Board of Education recently approved plans to honor high school seniors who go above and beyond regular coursework to take the most challenging classes.

Advanced Academic Achievement Awards will honor seniors upon graduation, starting with the Class of 2005. Awards will include a special designation on students' diplomas.



Lakewood Madrigals

The Lakewood High School Madrigal Choir was one of the top 20 choirs in Southern California invited to perform recently at the Los Angeles Music Center. They participated in a grand finale concert of 900 high school musicians singing together in the new Walt Disney Concert Hall under the baton of the conductor of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Grant Gershon. The Lakewood Madrigal Choir is directed by Ralph Siemsen.

Coffee With Chris

The next Long Beach Unified Family Committee meeting will be held Tuesday, May 24, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building Community Room.

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

CPR Sunday Soon

CPR Sunday will be held Sunday, June 5, at Long Beach City College, 4901 E. Carson St. This citywide event is a great opportunity for LBUSD personnel and their friends and families to learn CPR at a very low cost. Nutrition educators from the Nutrition Services Branch and the Health/Physical Education Curriculum Office will be in the vendor area. For details, go to www.cprsunday.org.

The Job Board

- Butler School is seeking a math coach to support math teachers in grades 4-8, to collect and analyze data, assist lesson planning and delivery, develop grade level assessments, provide professional development, facilitate teacher collaboration sessions, and assess and monitor individual student progress.

Butler is also seeking a program facilitator to oversee categorical programs/budget, parental education, community involvement, instructional support to teachers, supervision of college student aides, the School Improvement Plan and after-school tutoring programs. For information about either position, contact LaShell Denegal, principal, at ext. 5610.

- Stanford Middle School has an opening for an Honors/Advanced math teacher at the sixth/seventh grade levels. For information, contact Don Keller, principal, at ext. 4530.

- Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for speech-language pathology assistant.

Names in the News

Recently honored as Outstanding Volunteers in Public Schools were **Pat Alba**, Signal Hill; **Lucinda Estrada**, Garfield; **Sylvia Katzman**, LBSA; **Leslie Livingston**, King; **Elvia Moctezuma**, Monroe; **Dennise Ochoa**, Stephens; **Mari Carmen Remigio**, Edison; **Margarita Sanchez**, Chavez; **Diane Smith**, Lakewood; and **Patricia Vargas**, Buffum.

Retirement Events

Honoree	Date	Contact
Sue Buckley	June 8	Briana Graham-Ramos 422-6868 x120
Lynn Boren	June 9	Marty Key ext. 6630
Carolyn Nix	June 10	Irene Harris ext. 6808
Catherine Furman	June 12	Lilly Yoshimura ext. 4645
Pearlie Bailey-Nelson	June 23	Sandy Morgan ext. 5815

BBQ Today to Honor Classified Employees

The winner of the annual Classified Employee of the Year Award will be announced at noon during today's annual Classified Employee Barbecue. Thirty nominees and five finalists, including the top winner, will be recognized at the Teacher Resource Center, 1299 E. 32nd St. in Long Beach. A districtwide committee is hosting the event from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to allow employees an hour or so to attend. Offices may wish to stagger work schedules to allow attendance.

Carpooling is encouraged. Carpool parking will be available at TRC/Burroughs until the lot is full. Other parking will be available in the nearby Target parking lot, where shuttles will run every 15 minutes starting at 10:45 a.m.

This year's Classified Employee of the Year Award nominees are **Jessie Barrera**, Burnett, transportation aide; **Maria Barrientos**, Jordan, locker room attendant; **John Bosley**, Marshall,

campus security officer; **Adrian Brown**, Harte, school community worker bilingual Khmer; **Audrey Brown**, Butler, intermediate office assistant-schools; **Christine Burns**, Roosevelt, elementary school office supervisor-multi-track/year round; **Alex Castro**, Newcomb, plant supervisor II; **Anita Coley**, Riley, plant supervisor I; **Lakiesha Cotton**, Rogers/The Willows, instructional assistant-intensive behavioral treatment; **Julie Crook**, Twain, intermediate office assistant-schools; **Susan Cuff**, Millikan, high school office supervisor; **David Doiron**, Nutrition Services, warehouse materials processor; **Joann English**, OCPD, senior office assistant; **Debra Evans**, The Willows, senior office assistant; **Wanda Hammond**, Hill, intermediate office assistant-schools; **Ronald Jacobs**, Emerson, plant supervisor I; **Annette Johnson**, Hudson, intermediate office assistant-schools; **Brian Linton**, Holmes, plant supervisor I; **Maria D. Lopez**, Hughes, intermediate office assistant-schools; **Elsa Martinez**, Harte, school community worker bilingual Spanish; **Gail McCullough**, Special Projects, administrative secretary; **Rose Medina**, Burcham, instructional aide; **Pam L. Mitchell**, Riley, Nutrition Services supervisor I; **Fred Nathan**, School for Adults, campus security officer; **Tony Padero**, McKinley, custodian; **Yezica Palacios**, Hill, instructional aide-special; **Francisco Salceda**, Hill, custodian; **Marilyn Stanford**, Wilson, school support secretary; **Marina Sturgeon**, Nutrition Services, senior office assistant; **Paula Wiesenhutter**, Personnel Commission, certification services supervisor; and **Sandra Zike**, Rogers, intermediate nutrition services worker.

Teach After School

Evening High School is now hiring teachers for Fall 2005. Teachers with credentials to teach high school English, social studies or math may apply.

Additionally, EHS will be offering extensive CAHSEE math and language arts prep classes in the fall. Classes meet two days a week (Tuesdays and Thursdays), 2.5 hours per session, usually from 3:30 to 6 p.m., and are held at the Cabrillo, Jordan, Lakewood (meets Mondays and Wednesdays), Millikan, Poly and Wilson campuses.

Deadline to apply is June 10. For more information, call Victoria Angle at 989-7872, ext. 296.

Recent Promotions

The following classified employees recently received promotions:

Theresa Boone, high school office supervisor, Jordan;

Sandra Combs, research testing materials supervisor, Research, Planning and Evaluation;

Sylvia Flegal, elementary school supervisor, MacArthur;

Heidi Oliver, assistant purchasing and contracts director, Purchasing;

Michael Sturges, elementary school office supervisor, Buffum;

Candice Thomas-Hardesty, intermediate nutrition services worker, Sutter.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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Certificated Deadline

Certificated employees planning to resign, retire or request a leave of absence for the 2005-06 school year should submit the appropriate form to their site administrator as soon as possible. Resignations and requests for full-year leaves of absence received after June 30 will not be approved unless the district is able to hire a suitable replacement.

For information, contact Bobbie Montes, program administrator, at ext. 8108 or at bmontes@lbusd.k12.ca.us.

Credential Currency

All certificated employees are required to keep their credentials and permits current at all times. The district can help.

Certificated employees may check their credential status by visiting the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing website at www.ctc.ca.gov, or they can contact a credential specialist for assistance at ext. 8008.

Dates to Remember

June	
1	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 2 - 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 - "Adventures in Poetry III," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
8	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 - "Flag Day/Citizenship Day," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
12	Anne Frank's Birthday
12	Race Unity Day
14	Flag Day
15	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 - "Independence Day(s)," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
16	Last Day of School - Students (Traditional)