



school bulletin

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

October 21, 2005

Schools Doggedly Help Hurricane Effort

Gompers student Joe Aubuchon's generous donation to hurricane relief efforts last month paid off in an unexpected way this week. His donation of more than \$200, which he had been saving for years to buy a rare breed of puppy, inspired State Schools Superintendent Jack O'Connell to present the boy with a 10-week-old white German shepherd.

"That was quite a heroic and selfless act," O'Connell said of the boy's donation while addressing students at a surprise assembly. He presented Gompers with a certificate of recognition for the nearly \$1,400 the school has raised for hurricane relief.

"This school really stepped up in a big way, and so did other schools throughout the state," O'Connell said. Students and staff in public schools statewide have raised more than \$800,000 for hurricane relief, he said.

The first grader already had a name picked out for his new dog - Marshmallow. He has raised another \$65 by doing household chores, and he pledged to donate that money to hurricane relief, too.

The Long Beach Unified School District has now accepted 40 students who were displaced from the Gulf Coast. Students and staff throughout the district continue to raise funds in support of the relief efforts.

• Poly raised \$8,177 over a one-week period for the Hurricane Katrina Fund. Efforts included class-to-class collections by the Poly Student Commission, JROTC and Peer
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VIRTUE REWARDED—Ecstatic Gompers first grader Joe Aubuchon meets Marshmallow, a white German shepherd puppy given to him this week by State Schools Superintendent Jack O'Connell. The youngster had saved more than \$200 to buy the puppy but instead donated the money to the school's hurricane relief effort. O'Connell learned of the boy's selfless act when he first visited Gompers three weeks ago.

Experienced Teacher Pay Here Ranks No. 1

The salary of experienced teachers entering the Long Beach Unified School District ranks number one among 47 Los Angeles County school districts, according to an annual independent survey just released by the Los Angeles County Office of Education.

Teachers entering the district with 15 years of experience earn up to \$75,343 per year for 182 days of work, the highest pay among 47 comparable school districts in the county. Teachers already in the district with 15 years of experience earn the same salary.

The report on unified school districts, or K-12 districts, also shows Long Beach schools ranking competitively on several other teacher salary schedules, including salaries for both new and experienced teachers.

For new teachers with a credential but no experience, Long Beach ranks second out of 47, offering a starting salary of \$43,227.

Long Beach teachers with a master's degree and 13 years of experience rank third highest in pay at \$65,859 per year, while teachers with 25 years of experience and two years of education beyond a master's degree rank seventh highest in pay at \$77,343 per year. This
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Unified School Districts Experienced Teachers Salary Schedule Highest Pay for Incoming Teacher		
Unified School District	Rank	Annual Salary
Long Beach	1	\$75,343
Paramount	2	74,974
Baldwin Park	3	72,072
South Pasadena	4	71,534
Manhattan Beach	5	70,832
Azusa	6	70,655
La Cañada	7	70,570
Downey	8	69,221
El Segundo	9	69,089
Palos Verdes	10	69,001
Bassett	11	68,983
Glendale	12	68,748
Claremont	13	68,739
Rowland	14	68,686
Norwalk-La Mirada	15	68,640
ABC	16	68,451
Hacienda-La Puente	17	68,444
San Gabriel	18	68,068
Inglewood	19	68,035
Bellflower	20	67,502
Los Angeles	21	67,351
Montebello	22	67,320
Santa Monica-Malibu	23	66,008
Duarte	24	65,952
Culver City	25	65,640
El Rancho	26	65,601
Walnut Valley	27	65,573
Burbank	28	64,764
Bonita	29	63,930
Lynwood	30	63,167
Covina-Valley	31	61,700
Beverly Hills	32	61,306
San Marino	33	61,171
Charter Oak	34	60,765
Glendora	35	60,382
Arcadia	36	59,704
Redondo Beach	37	59,644
Compton	38	59,172
Pasadena	39	58,420
Alhambra	40.5	57,517
Las Virgenes	40.5	57,517
Temple City	42	57,362
Monrovia	43	56,193
Pomona	44	56,181
Torrance	45	54,210
West Covina	46	53,622
Acton-Agua Dulce	47	50,511

Source: Los Angeles County Office of Education, 2004-05 rates

JetBlue Exec to Lead Principals for a Day

Business and community leaders are being invited to go to the principal's office at some of the nation's best urban schools. The reason? Principal for a Day, the annual inside look at educational leadership in California's third largest school system, the Long Beach Unified School District.

Each guest principal will visit classrooms, ask questions and participate in school meetings, testing, playground supervision and other activities on campus.

Every school in the Long Beach Unified School District will host a Principal for a Day on Thursday, November 3. Leaders who wish to apply to become Principal for a Day may contact the Long Beach Education Foundation at (562) 997-8054.

Al Spain, JetBlue Airways Corporation's senior vice president for operations, will be the special guest Superintendent for a Day, spending time learning what it takes to run America's Best Urban Schools. JetBlue, based at New York's JFK International Airport, looks forward to becoming part of the school district's family of corporate supporters.

Following a day at the school, Principals for a Day will be hosted at a debriefing reception. District school board members, administrators, teachers and student representatives attend to hear what Principals for a Day learned as well as what recommendations they may have to improve local schools.

This program has been one of the most successful business-in-education activities of the last decade. Hundreds of business and education partnerships have started because of this popular event. The day is co-sponsored by the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, the Long Beach Unified School District and the Long Beach Education Foundation.

• Hurricane

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Counselors, sale of products donated by food vendors, and collections at the first home football game with the assistance of the Long Beach Fire Department. Funds were divided among Operation USA, American Red Cross, and Salvation Army. Each of the six New Orleans students enrolled at Poly were given \$100 gift cards to a local retailer.

- Cubberley raised \$4,000 in support of relief efforts.
- Rogers collected \$2,678. Donations went to the Red Cross and to Oprah's Angel Network which provides home supplies and appliances.

- The recreation staff, community and school student body at Robinson raised \$1,600. They sent some funds to a school in the New Orleans School District, gave money to the Red Cross and wrote a check for \$500 to Betty Hucks in the Office of School Recreation. She forwarded the amount to her mother, who lived in New Orleans and lost her home due to flooding. Staff at the Administration Building also contributed to the fund.

- Efforts at Butler have raised \$2,670. Brooke Polius, fourth grade student and Hurricane Katrina survivor, presented the donation to a Red Cross representative at an all-school assembly.

- The MacArthur community, students, parents and staff have collected more than \$1,900 to donate to the Red Cross.

- Lindbergh students and staff collected \$1,025 for the Red Cross.

- Burbank raised more than \$1,500 for hurricane victims. Approximately \$430 went to the Red Cross. The remainder was used to assist the two families from New Orleans who are newly enrolled at Burbank.

- Prisk is selling links in a paper chain that lets purchasers write an encouraging thought. Links are connected into a chain that will run the length of the school's main hallway. Students and staff will continue the effort into January. Proceeds will be donated to the Houston Independent School District.

Dates to Remember

November

	American Indian Heritage Month
	Child Safety and Protection Month
1	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"The Reference Section," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
3	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"If Books Could Talk," Grades 1-3, ed.tv 8
4	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"America's Veterans," Grades 4-9, ed.tv 8
8	Election Day
8	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Molly's Pilgrim," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8
9	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Louis Pasteur," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
11	Veterans Day
13-19	American Education Week
13-19	Geography Awareness Week
14-20	National Children's Book Week
14-20	Youth Appreciation Week
15	National Community Education Day
15	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Pilgrims at Plymouth" (Thanksgiving), Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
16	Education Support Professionals Day
16	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"William Bradford—The First Thanksgiving," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
17	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Turkeys in the Wild," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
18	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Thanksgiving," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
22	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"First Thanksgiving," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
23	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00—"Thanksgiving Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
24	Thanksgiving Day
25	Declared Holiday
29	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30—"Respecting Others," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8

Lakewood Teachers Await Weightlessness

Three teachers from Lakewood High School will see if they have the stomach to perform weightless experiments designed by their students.

NASA's Reduced Gravity Office at the Johnson Space Center in Houston accepted applications of student-generated experiments to fly on the famous "Vomit Comet" aircraft that simulates weightlessness. Lakewood was selected as one of nine schools in the U.S. to participate—the only one from California.

Lakewood's student experiment is designed to determine the ratio between circular motion and the radial arm, which will create one "G" of force. The experiment will be videotaped during the flight. Lakewood students will then analyze the video to determine how fast the object was moving and what G force was created. Software will be used in this analysis.

Lakewood science teachers Myles Lovell, Lindsay Penney and Aaron Volkoff were scheduled to travel to NASA's Johnson Space Center this month, but the trip was postponed to February due to recent hurricanes. The teachers will complete some of the same training as U.S. astronauts prior to making reduced-gravity flights. Lovell and Volkoff are expected to fly. Penney will serve as ground crew and flyer backup. After each day's flight, the three adventurous teachers will hold a videoconference with their students back at Lakewood.

Once their data has been analyzed, a web page completed by Lakewood students will be posted on NASA's web site to show the world the results of their experiment.

The three-year partnership provides scientific and engineering adventures that engage students in learning activities that can lead to careers in science, math and technology.

The Job Board

- Butler Visual and Performing Arts Magnet seeks teachers for after-school guitar, piano and dance classes three days per week 2:30 to 4 p.m. For information, contact Tina Montemer at ext. 5610.

- Marshall is seeking an art teacher for a position opening November 3. Call Sherryl Johnson, principal, at ext. 4520 by October 27.

- Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for high school office supervisor, intermediate office assistant-bilingual Spanish and intermediate office assistant/schools-bilingual Spanish.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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• Teacher Pay

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ranking of seven improves significantly upon Long Beach's ranking of 34 on the same salary schedule last year, an accomplishment that shows the school district's commitment to offering competitive salaries even during the leanest of times.

The survey, which reflects 10-month salaries for 2004-05, is the most commonly used comparative tool in school districts during bargaining with employee groups, according to the Los Angeles County Office of Education. In compiling the survey, county officials group together job classifications that are commonly found in school districts.

The job turnover of experienced teachers leaving Long Beach to take positions in other school districts has declined to 49, down from 66 teachers four years ago. In contrast, far more teachers from other school districts—1,552 experienced teachers—applied to teach here in the last year. That's a ratio of more than 31 experienced teacher applicants for every experienced teacher vacancy.

Why do hundreds of experienced teachers seek employment here?

The top reasons given by the applicants attest to the quality of the Long Beach Unified School District. Approximately eight out of 10 teacher applicants mentioned one or more of these factors in their decision to apply here:

- 78 percent cited competitive salaries.
- 80 percent indicated the district's strong academic focus was an important factor in seeking to teach here.
- 77 percent said the district's excellent staff development opportunities for teachers were attractive.
- 79 percent indicated the district's support for newly hired teachers was desirable.

The school district is California's third largest and has more than 5,000 teachers.

Open Enrollment Starts Next Month

This year's open enrollment in health and welfare benefit plans will be held Tuesday, November 1 through Monday, November 21. Details about open enrollment with instructions and contact information will be mailed later this month to each enrolled member at the mailing address the district has on file.

Post-Grad Planning

Thousands of students and parents are expected to make the annual migration to Long Beach Unified School District's 34th Annual Career/College Exploration Night. It will be held at the Pyramid at California State University Long Beach Wednesday, November 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Representatives from more than 150 colleges, universities, businesses and public agencies from throughout the nation will be in attendance to discuss possible career and college opportunities with students and parents.

The program is open to students in grades 9 through 12 and their families. Parking and admission are free. For information, call Christopher Clifton, career education support services manager, at 989-7872, ext. 292.