



school bulletin

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

July 20, 2006



INSPIRING VISIT—Maria Shriver, California's First Lady, visits the Long Beach Unified School District's Mary McLeod Bethune Transitional Center for Homeless Students. She encouraged students to pursue their dreams despite life's obstacles. "I want to congratulate you all for being in school because an education is the ticket to your dreams," Shriver told students. "It doesn't matter where you were born. What matters is where you are going."

Tentative Deal With CSEA Includes Raise

The Long Beach Unified School District and the California School Employees Association recently reached a signed tentative contract agreement. The agreement, pending approval by the Board of Education and ratification by CSEA's membership, provides a 4 percent salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2005 and a 6 percent increase effective July 1, 2006.

A timeframe for issuance of retroactive checks and inclusion of the 6 percent raise on paychecks is pending the additional approvals by CSEA and the Board of Education in the coming weeks.

The tentative deal provides the same salary increases approved for other LBUSD employee groups in recent weeks, including teachers, managers and non-represented employees. As with the other employee groups, the tentative agreement with CSEA also provides incentives tied to career longevity.

Under the agreement, the annual longevity increment provided to employees after their 14th year is \$1,250, up from the current \$500. The increment provided after 19 years is \$1,250, up from \$600. The amount provided after 24 years is \$2,000, up from \$900. Finally, a new increment provided after 29 years of service will provide \$2,500 annually.

These longevity increments would compound, so that the total of all career increments would be \$1,250 annually after 14 years; \$2,500 after 19 years; \$4,500 after 24 years; and \$7,000 after 29 years.

The local CSEA chapter includes 3,200 union members. CSEA represents custodians, maintenance workers, cafeteria workers, groundskeepers, bus and truck drivers, mechanics, instructional assistants, warehouse workers, school support staff and other employees.

Maria Shriver Visits Bethune Homeless Center

California First Lady Maria Shriver recently visited the Long Beach Unified School District's Mary McLeod Bethune Transitional Center for Homeless Students, where she encouraged students to pursue their dreams despite life's obstacles.

"I want to congratulate you all for being in school because an education is the ticket to your dreams," Shriver said. "My husband talks a lot about growing up poor and being really motivated and having a dream. As he says, it doesn't matter where you were born. What matters is where you are going."

The First Lady's visit to the Southland later included a stop at Cal State Long Beach for the Special Olympics Southern California Summer Games. Special Olympics, Inc. the largest sports organization in the world, was founded in 1963 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver to serve the needs of children and adults with intellectual disabilities.

The new Bethune Center was dedicated in February 2006. The west Long Beach facilities replace two old bungalows that formerly housed the homeless center. Two years ago,

Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, an advocate of education for the homeless, committed a million-dollar grant to construct the new building, which serves more than 300 students each year. The center allows children to attend classes without any stigma or embarrassment. It minimizes the loss of education from homelessness, and helps students catch up with missed schoolwork. After a few weeks at the transitional center, most of the children enroll in classes at a regular school in the district.

Bethune's facilities include two classrooms, nurse's, counselor's and administrative offices, a parent center, kitchen and restrooms. The center is located at the Villages of Cabrillo, which provide temporary housing to families while they get back on their feet and find housing in the community. Shriver also toured The Villages during her visit.

Prep for CAHSEE

High school students may attend special summer workshop sessions to prepare to take the California High School Exit Exam. Long Beach Ministerial Alliance is sponsoring the workshop sessions.

Saturday sessions, from 9 a.m. to noon, are July 22 and 29; and August 5 and 12. Tuesday sessions, from 5 to 7 p.m., will be held July 25 and August 1, 8 and 15.

Sessions will be held at four locations in Long Beach: 455 Artesia Blvd., 5640 Orange Ave., 1480 Atlantic Ave. and 1471 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For information, call 595-8893, ext. 271.

DREAMS COMING TRUE—Long Beach Unified School District high schools recently awarded diplomas to more than 5,100 local twelfth graders, including these two graduates from Wilson Classical High School. Students, parents, relatives and friends celebrated at 11 different ceremonies scheduled over six days throughout the school district.



Millikan High Hosts AP Summer Institute

More than 250 teachers from district schools and schools across the country and overseas converged on Millikan High School last week to take part in training to make themselves better teachers of Advanced Placement classes.

Long Beach Unified School District hosted the AP Summer Institute, a weeklong program of workshops for teachers. The gathering also offered teachers the opportunity for valuable informal exchanges.

"At a lot of schools, you might be the only one on staff teaching certain AP subjects, so you don't have a way to collaborate," said Wendy Hayes Ebright, LBUSD coordinator of Gifted and Talented Education and organizer of the Summer Institute. "Here, those teachers meet lots of others teaching the subject, and they can talk the talk of their discipline at an entirely different level."

While many participants are LBUSD teachers, some came from North Carolina, Washington, Mexico City and Shanghai.

Two years ago, LBUSD held a summer institute just for district teachers, offering workshops in five subjects. This year, the institute was sanctioned by The College Board, which administers AP tests. The recent sessions offered professional development in 16 AP subjects.

The Job Board

- Garfield Elementary School has an opening for a second grade EXCEL teacher. Applicants should be GATE Certificated or willing to work toward certification. Submit letters of interest and resumes to Donna McKeehan, principal, by email, dmckeehan@lbused.k12.ca.us, or fax, 595-8823. Interviewees will be contacted during the summer.

- The PALMS Office is seeking a teacher with a BCC or BCLAD Certificate to fill a vacant Teacher on Special Assignment position. Responsibilities and tasks may include, but are not limited to, parent outreach and training, liaison with private schools and volunteer organizations, curriculum development and training projects, and support for Title III Limited English Proficient (LEP) and Immigrant Education Programs. Send letters of interest and resumes to Pamela Seki in the PALMS Office by July 25.

- Poly has an opening for a PACE counselor. Interested counselors should contact Gwen Mack, co-principal, at ext. 5102 or gmack@lbused.k12.ca.us. The deadline to apply is Friday, July 28.

- Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for associate analyst-Human Resource Services, associate personnel analyst, budget advisor/analyst, electronics technician, personnel analyst, school support assistant, school support assistant bilingual Spanish/Khmer and senior personnel analyst.

Retiree's 22 Years

Poly teacher Rosann Monaghan should have been credited with 22 years of service to the district in the June 15 story about retiring certificated employees.

EXPLORING— Robinson Academy teacher Albert Licano takes part in a simulated Space Shuttle mission while attending last week's Boeing Educators to Space Camp program at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. He and Hamilton teacher Gwenelle Warren took part in space-oriented workshops and simulations that will help them make lessons and classroom demonstrations more compelling to students.



Teacher Training: It Takes a Rocket Scientist

Albert Licano from Robinson Academy and Gwenelle Warren from Hamilton Middle School were among 89 public school teachers from around the world who attended last week's 15th Annual Boeing Educators to Space Camp program at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

The teachers spent their days in training workshops designed for each grade level. Activities included simulated space missions, astronaut training and lectures by rocketry and space exploration experts. The teachers also received resources to use in the classroom to help students meet national standards for science, math and technology.

The Boeing Educators to Space Camp program uses space exploration initiatives to enhance teachers' skills in presenting math, science and technology lessons that will inspire students and help ensure a skilled workforce in a globally competitive technology market.

As graduates of Space Camp, Licano and

Warren returned home with workbooks to create lesson plans and additional program materials to use in the classroom. The graduates also will have access to an educator training facility and a web site offering science experiments and other curriculum information.

Boeing worked with U.S. and international school districts to select applicants for the program. This year, educators from Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Washington, D.C., Georgia, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Australia, India, Japan and Singapore took part.

Since 1992, more than 500 teachers have participated in the annual Boeing program, reaching an estimated 27,000 students around the world.

AP Bridge Students Prep for Fall Classes

Students taking Advanced Placement courses for the first time this fall can get help this summer preparing for the academic challenges they face.

The AP Summer Bridge programs are taking place at high schools in the Long Beach Unified School District at different times throughout the summer.

Workshop sessions to prepare for classes in specific subjects will be taught by teachers of those subjects. Students will learn time and stress management, learning to write in an AP course and reading for an AP course.

Activities will include motivational guest speakers, student panels and lunch meetings with AP instructors for informal question and answer sessions.

Teachers will track the performance of the Bridge students to better understand what is most helpful in the workshops. By seeing how students who went through the Bridge program do in their AP classes and examinations, organizers will be able to fine tune the sessions for next year.

For information about AP Bridge session times, call the counseling office at your local high school.

In Memoriam

Roseann Kittredge
teacher, Sutter
June 9, 2006

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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