



school bulletin

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

November 2, 2007



PIONEERING STUDENTS — These students are among the first to enroll at newly built Dooley Elementary School in North Long Beach. The school opened in September and will hold a dedication ceremony later this fall.

Rotary Club Donates To School Libraries

Long Beach Rotary raised approximately \$36,000 in donations and matching funds for local school libraries during the club's regular meeting last week.

Poly High School alumnus Frank Newell, past president of Long Beach Rotary, solicited more than \$21,000 in donations from the audience in about ten minutes. Private foundations will provide \$15,000 in matching funds, bringing the total to more than \$36,000.

These funds will buy about 20,000 books for local school libraries this year. Rotary already has donated more than 109,000 books to local school libraries in recent years.

Coffee With Chris

The Long Beach Unified Family Committee will meet Thursday, Nov. 15, 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.

CSEA Gets 4.53% Raise in Tentative Contract

The Long Beach Unified School District has reached a tentative contract agreement with the local chapter of the California School Employees Association. The tentative deal includes a 4.53 percent salary increase retroactive to July 1, 2007.

If approved, the agreement would remain in effect until October 2009, although 2008-09 salaries would be reopened for negotiations next year. The deal includes several contract language changes, revisions to employee evaluation forms, and enhancements to staff development, or training. No changes in employee benefits were proposed.

"This was a collaboration between both parties. I like the fact that we were able to work

together. I'm very pleased with this agreement," said local CSEA President Mary Brown. "I'd like to thank our great negotiating team and labor representative for staying focused and committed, and for getting the best deal for our members."

CSEA's membership will vote on the contract ratification Nov. 15, after which the contract would go to the Board of Education for approval.

The CSEA represents 3,000 of the school district's non-teaching employees. The tentative contract is for the CSEA's units A and B. Unit A includes clerical and support services employees. Unit B includes construction, repair and transportation workers.

Principal Kim Weber Earns National Honor

Chavez Elementary School principal Kim Weber will receive the National Center for Learning Disabilities Bill Ellis Teacher Preparation Award today at the International Dyslexia Association Conference in Dallas.

The award is presented annually to an educator who demonstrates commitment to all students, including those with learning disabilities.

The award brings \$500 to Weber's school, along with educational software and gift certificates. NCLD is covering all travel and hotel expenses for Weber to attend the conference while IDA is providing conference registration and a one-year membership in IDA.

"I'm really humbled," Weber said. "Only one person from throughout the nation receives this award, and I keep asking, why me? I don't

think it's my work, but the work of our teachers."

Weber also credits the training provided by the school district to principals regarding interventions for students who need extra help.

Prior to being principal at Chavez, Weber was principal at Kettering Elementary School for three years. Today's award also recognizes her work with Kettering teachers to include special education students in general education.



Weber

Philanthropists to Join Principals for a Day

Long Beach philanthropists Mike and Arline Walter will be Superintendents for a Day during the Nov. 16 Principal for a Day event co-sponsored by the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, the Long Beach Unified School District and the Long Beach Education Foundation.

Cal State Long Beach's landmark Pyramid events center bears the Walters' names in honor of the couple's \$2.1 million donation to the university. Mike Walter formerly headed CSULB's College of Business Administration and serves on the Long Beach Harbor Commission.

The Superintendent for a Day is the ceremonial and inspirational leader of area business leaders who will become principals for a day at elementary, middle and high schools to observe students, teachers and the operations of California's third largest school district.

Chairing this year's event are Ryan Alsop, director of Government and Public Affairs for Long Beach Water, and Shaun Lumachi, presi-

dent of Chamber Advocacy.

Visit www.principalforaday.com for more information.



Arline and Mike Walter

Longfellow, Hughes Parents Plant Trees

More than 400 parents and school supporters planted 56 trees last Saturday morning at Longfellow Elementary School and Hughes Middle School.

To help improve the community's air quality, parents at the two schools applied for and received a grant from United Voices for Healthier Communities. The tree planting event took place in between the two schools. It was part of the Great Clean Air Tree Planting Project, an initiative of the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Saturday was the largest single-day urban tree planting effort in the history of the AQMD. More than 6,500 trees were planted in Southern California that day. As the trees grow, they remove pollutants from the air.

Surplus Items Sale

The Purchasing Warehouse is offering surplus vehicles and used printshop equipment for sale to the public through 11 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 15. Sealed bids for the items will be accepted at the Warehouse, located at 2201 E. Market St. For information, contact Jim Martin at ext. 1775.

Renaissance Musical

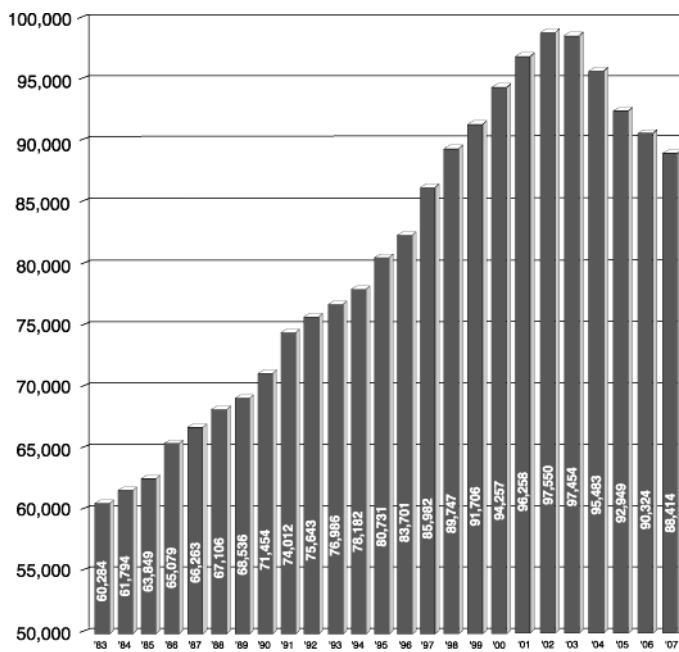
Renaissance High School for the Arts is presenting "Footloose," a musical based on the 1984 movie of the same name starring Kevin Bacon.

Performances will be Sunday, Dec. 2 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the Terrace Theatre, 300 E. Ocean Blvd. Tickets are available through Ticketmaster at (213) 480-3232 or www.ticketmaster.com.



NEW ART GALLERY – Renaissance High School for the Arts unveiled its new student-art gallery, "Emphasis," last week. The 1,000-square-foot gallery is a first for the performing and visual arts magnet school. Here, student Esmeralda Banuelos poses with her work. Some of the gallery's artwork will be for sale, with proceeds going to student scholarships and the school's visual arts department.

ANOTHER DIP – Enrollment in the Long Beach Unified School District declined significantly again this fall. After the first month of school, 88,414 students were enrolled, a decrease of 1,910 compared to the same time last year. Total enrollment is now lower than it was nine years ago. Enrollment dips here and in other school districts mean less school funding. Much of the decline at local schools has occurred in the elementary grades as young families seek more affordable housing elsewhere.



Band Spectacular

The 23rd Annual Long Beach Unified School District High School Band Spectacular will take place 7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 13 at the Cabrillo High School stadium.

Marching bands from Cabrillo, Jordan, Lakewood, Poly and Wilson high schools and the Long Beach City College Viking Show Band will present their 2007 field shows. Dance, drill and tall flag teams will also be featured. The evening culminates with a special performance of the combined bands.

Tickets are available in advance from high school band members or at the entrance to the performance. Suggested donation is \$5. All proceeds benefit high school band programs.

Academic Uprise

Academic Uprise is presenting its 6th Annual Education Symposium and President's Forum from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17 at Poly High School.

The free event features workshops to increase enrollment of under-represented students in higher education. Entertainment and food will also be available. Call 426-6846 or visit www.academicuprise.org.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

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College, Career Night

The 36th Annual Career/College Exploration Night will be held 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 7 at the Cal State Long Beach Walter Pyramid. More than 140 career and college representatives will provide information to students and parents. For more information, call 997-8023.

Hughes Way Badges

Employees and visitors to the Administration Building at 1515 Hughes Way are required to wear identification badges. School district employees who do not have their permanent badges will be issued temporary badges at the front desk.

The Job Board

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for stage technician and student evaluation technician-bilingual Spanish.

Open Enrollment

November is open enrollment month for employee benefits. Information was sent to employees' homes. Employees should review their benefits and make changes by Nov. 30.

In Memoriam

Herminio Mendoza
former intermediate office assistant
Sept. 9, 2007

Fred Watkins
former lead asphalt worker
Sept. 23, 2007