



school bulletin

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

April 4, 2008



A PROMISING FUTURE — Signing the Long Beach College Promise at the Walter Pyramid are, from left, California State University Long Beach President F. King Alexander, Long Beach City College President Eloy Ortiz Oakley and Long Beach Unified School District Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser.

Long Beach Promises College Access to All

Education leaders from the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach have announced the creation of the Long Beach College Promise, guaranteeing to Long Beach students the opportunity to receive a college education.

With the promise, all three education entities have made a commitment to make higher education and rewarding careers attainable for every Long Beach student.

The agreement includes a variety of educa-

tional benefits and services. It also provides all incoming students at LBCC a tuition-free first semester by 2011, and it offers CSULB admission to students who complete minimum college preparatory requirements or minimum community college transfer requirements.

The three institutions will assist students
(Continued on next page)

School Counselors Earn State Honors

Twelve schools in the Long Beach Unified School District will receive honors today from the California Counselor Leadership Network, including top state awards for sustained excellence over multiple years.

The SPARC (Support Personnel Accountability Report Card) Awards are presented each year to California schools that best implement the state counseling curriculum.

Earning the highest honors, the Diamond Best in the West Award, were Avalon High School, the California Academy of Mathematics and Science, and Lakewood High School. These schools demonstrated counseling excellence for five years in a row.

Earning the Best in the West Award, which recognizes excellence for three years in a row, were Educational Partnership High School and Hughes Middle School.

Earning a Letter of Commendation for one year were Cabrillo, Jordan, Millikan, Poly, Reid, Renaissance and Wilson high schools.

LBUSD Again Up For National Broad Prize

For a remarkable fourth time, the Long Beach Unified School District was named among the top five school systems in the nation this week by the Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation.

Only one other school system nationwide has achieved this honor more times than Long Beach -- Boston, a five-time finalist. Long Beach now will compete with four other school districts for public education's largest prize, The Broad Prize for Urban Education, which will be announced Oct. 14 at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

The top winner receives \$500,000 in student scholarships. Four remaining finalists receive \$125,000 each in scholarships. In all, the prize money totals \$1 million. School districts cannot apply for this award. Instead, an independent panel reviews vast amounts of student achievement data from 100 big-city school districts nationwide. Of these 100 school systems, only five were chosen as finalists.

"Long Beach's commitment to students again pays huge dividends," said LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser.

"What an extraordinary accomplishment it is to be named for the fourth time as one of the top school systems in the nation. We deeply appreciate the hard work of our teachers, parents, support staff, administrators, Board of
(Continued on next page)

Wilson, CAMS Gain \$250K for Career Tech

Wilson Classical High School and the California Academy of Mathematics and Science will receive nearly \$250,000 in matching funds for career technical education, the state announced recently.

Wilson will use \$26,000 in funds to purchase equipment for architecture and construction classes, while CAMS will use \$223,800 for engineering and design equipment and tools. The two schools also will match the funds, bringing the total investment at Wilson and CAMS to about a half million dollars.

Equipment at Wilson will include drafting and computer desks, saws and hand tools, safety equipment, and reconfigured and upgraded computer and electrical wiring. The equipment will help to expand the school's existing Architecture and Construction Program which more than 250 Wilson students participate in each year.

CAMS will purchase computer-aided manufacturing equipment, including a 3-D computer printer and a structure stress analyzer, to help students test the strength of materials.

Jordan ACE Academy Awarded \$316K Grant

Jordan High School's new Architecture, Construction and Engineering Academy has earned a \$316,000 grant from The James Irvine Foundation. The grant will help the ACE Academy's students to take courses at Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach while the students are still in high school.

The two-year grant will fund summer math and science education camps for ACE students at CSULB. Funds also will go toward professional development for ACE teachers, who will

work with instructors at LBCC and CSULB to prepare students for college coursework in architecture, construction and engineering.

The college courses are free to the ACE students. The grant also will pay for college textbooks and city bus passes for the students.

Modeled after a successful program at Kearny High School in San Diego, the Jordan ACE Academy began serving 50 students in tenth grade last fall. By the 2010-11 school year, as many as 400 students will participate.

• Broad Prize

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Education and our many business and community partners. Together we're building brighter futures for our students, and we're providing a sense of hope for America's public schools."

Among the reasons Long Beach was selected again was that in 2007, Long Beach outperformed other California districts serving students with similar income levels in reading and math at all grade levels: elementary, middle and high school, according to The Broad Prize methodology.

Long Beach's low-income, African-American and Hispanic students outperformed their peers in similar districts in reading and math at all grade levels. Long Beach's Hispanic and low-income students achieved higher average proficiency rates than their state counterparts in reading and math at all grade levels. Long Beach's African-American students also achieved higher average proficiency rates than their state counterparts in math at all levels and in elementary and middle school reading levels.

The four other finalists include two school systems in Texas and two in Florida. Long Beach won the top prize in 2003.

Math Contest Results

The winning schools at the recent districtwide Middle School Math Madness event were Hudson, first place; Bancroft, Lindbergh, Powell and Stanford (four-way tie for second place); and Gompers, third place. The event was the first of its kind in the school district, allowing spirited competition among students of all capabilities.

Students winning individual first place honors were Vincent Carpio, DeMille; Monica Cerda, Powell; Chalice Geronimo, Lindbergh; Dezon Haney, Butler; Janae Ivory, Hughes; Joel Luna, Stephens; Colleen McGarity, Stanford; Daniel Orozco, Hudson; Tristan Parsons; Bancroft; Fabian Ramirez, Hudson; John Ramon, Gompers; Brian Rodriguez, Hudson; Emily Taing, Stanford; Lusía Vaaiga, Lindbergh; and Leslie Walker, Cubberley.

Summer Enrichment

Registration is now taking place for the Summer Enrichment Program for students in grades 1 through 8. Sessions run from June 23 to July 10 and from July 14 to 31. Classes meet Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$215 per session.

For information, call 218-0493, ext. 228 or find Summer Enrichment Program in the alphabetical index at www.lbschools.net.

In Memoriam

Deborah Curry Beaman
former teacher
March 13, 2008

Kelly Centanni
teacher, Franklin
March 22, 2008

• College Promise Builds Upon Seamless Ed

(Continued from first page)

and families with the requirements by starting outreach services in sixth grade and continuing them through the college transition.

"Students who learn more will earn more," said Christopher J. Steinhauser, superintendent of schools for the Long Beach Unified School District. "In today's complex society, a college education is more important than ever. That's why we're standing shoulder to shoulder with our fellow educators in higher education to give all of our students every opportunity for a brighter future."

Implementation of the Long Beach College Promise will begin in fall 2008 with sixth graders at all local schools. The promise emphasizes student readiness for both college and careers with a focus on multiple pathways for students to attain their goals.

"Long Beach owes much of its nationally recognized success to the strong and effective partnerships the school district has built with Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City

Achievement Up At Middle, K-8 Schools

Fourteen local middle and K-8 schools have earned awards from the Long Beach Unified School District for significant growth in academic achievement. The district's Office of Middle and K-8 Schools recognized each of the winners at a recent Board of Education meeting.

The Pyramid Awards, recognizing the cooperative efforts of parents, school staff, the principal and students, went to schools that demonstrated significant gains on state tests and other measurements.

Of the 14 schools honored, seven were recognized for Highest Honors, which means that they at least doubled their schoolwide growth target for the state Academic Performance Index. These schools also met state and national achievement goals in English and math, and closed achievement gaps by meeting growth targets for all subgroups of children.

Earning Highest Honors were Gompers, Hughes, Tincher, Cubberley, Rogers, Stanford and Newcomb schools.

Seven other schools earned Honors for demonstrating significant growth in student achievement, based on multiple criteria. Honor schools included Bancroft, Hill, Hoover, Hudson, Lindsey, Powell and Robinson.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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College," said Eli Broad, founder of The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation.

"Now, Long Beach educators have raised the bar even higher, setting a standard of K-12/college collaboration that will serve as a model for many other districts nationwide," Broad said. "We applaud their efforts and encourage other school systems to learn from them."

The Long Beach College Promise builds upon the Long Beach Educational Partnership, created in 1994 to provide seamless education from preschool to graduate school.

Beginning in sixth grade and continuing through each student's senior year in high school, LBUSD is now committed more than ever to providing information, services and resources to help Long Beach students and their families prepare for college. Activities will include learning about college opportunities, visiting college campuses, learning about and taking college preparatory courses, applying for college admission and applying for financial aid.

LBCC is offering a tuition-free first semester of higher education to all LBUSD students who choose to attend the college after graduating from high school. The college will offer active assistance in transitioning from high school to college or career.

CSULB promises that all LBUSD and LBCC students will be offered help in applying for admission to the university, transitioning from high school or community college and succeeding at CSULB, meeting requirements for a bachelor's degree and preparing for careers and graduate school.

Teach in Japan

Applications to teach in Yokkaichi, Japan are due Wednesday, April 9. Interviews are scheduled for Tuesday, April 22. For information or an application, call ext. 8025.

Retirement Event

Honoree	Date	Contact
Monica Meade	May 17	Kelly Meade 506-6965

Names in the News

Winners of the district spelling bee are 1st — **Tyler Racero**, Birney; 2nd — **Tiger Khou**, Madison; and 3rd — **Matanofo Keil**, Webster.

Linda Waltzman was recently presented with the Voice for Long Beach Children Award by the Long Beach Early Care and Education Committee. Waltzman serves Early Start students who have disabilities. She is also speech and language specialist at Tucker.

Kelley Tenny, health education teacher at Cubberley, recently became vice president-elect for health education for the California Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

Recently honored as Outstanding Volunteers In Public Schools (VIPS) for April are **Michelle Callahan**, Monroe; **Iracema Espinoza**, Bryant; **Cathy Martinez**, Burnett; **Kelly McGill**, Riley; **Kim Peterson**, Hughes; **Cathy Procopio**, Hughes; **Dolores Sanchez**, Dooley; and **Ismenia Siaumau**, Newcomb.