



school bulletin

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

November 6, 2009



OUNCE OF PREVENTION — Garfield Elementary School student Juan Temores receives a swine flu vaccination from Katie Whittington, a student nurse from California State University, Long Beach. Cabrillo High School hosted the free vaccination clinic, offered by the city's Health Department.

Memorial Fund to Aid Melody Ross Family

The nonprofit Long Beach Education Foundation established a charitable fund this week to assist the family of Melody Ross, the student who died in a shooting near Wilson Classical High School last Friday evening.

Funds will go toward funeral costs and other family expenses.

Within the first 24 hours of the fund's creation, online donations totaled more than \$2,000.

Donation checks are payable to the Long Beach Education Foundation. "Melody Ross Memorial Trust Account" should be noted on the check memo line. Checks may be mailed to the Long Beach Education Foundation, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, CA 90810.

Donations also may be made online at www.lbschools.net. Go to "Melody Ross Memorial Trust Fund" in the A-Z Index.



Melody Ross

Swine Flu Shots Start, More Clinics Coming

Hundreds of parents took advantage of free vaccinations for their children this week as the Long Beach Unified School District began offering its first flu shot clinics to combat the H1N1 virus.

This Saturday, Nov. 7, the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services will host a separate community clinic at the Long Beach Convention Center. Children and adults alike may be vaccinated at this clinic, which will be open to the general public. Vaccine supplies are limited.

Additional clinics are planned for 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 17 at Wilson Classical High School, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21 at Millikan High School. The Wilson

clinic is for students ages 3 to 18. The Saturday clinic at Millikan will serve adults and children.

Parents and guardians must accompany their children and sign consent forms in person.

The initial clinics this week were held at Cabrillo and Jordan high schools. The school district's scheduling of additional clinics is dependent upon future shipments of the vaccine. Large-scale distribution of the vaccine has been hampered by delays nationwide.

At the first clinic, all 1,900 or so people who lined up for a vaccination received one by day's end.

The school district has worked closely with
(Continued on next page)

Berkeley Study Touts Leadership Training

A recent study by UC Berkeley-based Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE) praises the Long Beach Unified School District's leadership development programs, noting LBUSD's efforts to identify and nurture potential school leaders within the organization.

The study, "Leaders for California Schools," examines the challenges that California must overcome to recruit, hire, train and retain strong and talented principals.

Long Beach's leadership development plan features four key components: Teacher Leadership, Aspiring Principals, Induction (targeting administrators in their first few years leading LBUSD schools) and In-service (targeting all LBUSD administrators).

Though LBUSD's plan has been scaled back significantly due to budget cuts, the study says "this leadership development program

enables the Long Beach Unified School District to identify talent from within its teaching force and to prepare these individuals for the challenges of leadership in LBUSD. It emphasizes critical points in a school leader's development — especially the first few years — while simultaneously recognizing that strong school leadership demands lifelong learning."

When the Broad Foundation named LBUSD as a finalist for the 2009 Broad Prize for Urban Education, it cited LBUSD's hiring and development of effective principals as key "best practices" that can be emulated by other districts.

PACE was founded in 1983 as a cooperative venture between Stanford University and the University of California (Berkeley and Davis). It is an independent policy research center whose primary aim is to enrich education policy debate with sound analysis and hard evidence.

Measure T

Local Voters Reject Funding for Schools

Voters have rejected Measure T, a local measure that would have provided about \$60 million to help the Long Beach Unified School District offset ongoing state budget cuts.

In a special election this week, 13 percent of 245,877 registered voters cast ballots. Of those voters, roughly 43 percent — or 13,823 — favored the measure while 57 percent — or 18,238 — opposed the measure.

"The voters have spoken, and we respect their decision," said Christopher J. Steinhauser, LBUSD superintendent of schools. "We have some tough decisions ahead, but we'll find a way to balance our budget and give our students the best education possible. We're still America's best urban school district, and we plan to keep it that way."

Measure T would have levied a \$92 parcel tax for five years. Facing unprecedented budget cuts due to the state's fiscal crisis, the school district placed the measure on the Nov. 3 ballot. LBUSD has cut more than \$100 million during the past five years and must cut as much as \$90 million more over the next two years due to multi-billion-dollar state cuts to education.

Use of Data Lauded By National Council

A national journal on educator training describes "a deep commitment to professional learning and widespread use of data" in the Long Beach Unified School District.

The article, "Let Data Do the Talking," appears in the fall edition of the Journal of Staff Development. The piece includes an extensive interview with LBUSD Superintendent of Schools Christopher J. Steinhauser.

The journal, produced by the National Staff Development Council, is known as the authority on professional learning.

NSDC writer Tracy Crow notes that Long Beach schools are widely praised for their success. In a Q & A, Steinhauser discusses the importance of remaining committed to research and professional development even during tough budget years.

Visit www.nsd.org for more information.

Rotary's Donation of Books Tops 150,000

Long Beach Rotary raised about \$30,000 in donations and matching funds for local school libraries and Child Development Centers during a recent club meeting.

Poly High School alumnus Frank Newell, past president of Long Beach Rotary, solicited about \$15,000 in donations from the audience in less than 10 minutes.

The \$15,000 will be matched with money from the Rotary Charitable Foundation and two private foundations that donate anonymously.

Since Rotary began the Reading by 9 program in 1999, it has raised more than \$275,000 and soon will have donated in excess of 150,000 books. The service club has given at least 2,000 books to each of LBUSD's elementary schools.

Local Child Development Centers will, for the first time, also be the beneficiaries of Rotary's book donations this year. The CDCs will use hundreds of the books to supplement a new, early literacy effort funded by a federal grant. Many of the children served by CDCs do not have books at home.

CDCs serve toddlers and preschoolers at 24 elementary and K-8 school locations and four Long Beach Parks and Recreation locations.

Open Enrollment

With open enrollment for employee health benefits being held this month, employees may want to attend this Friday's Long Beach Unified School District Health Fair.

The fair will be held 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 6, in the Long Beach School For Adults Auditorium, 3701 E. Willow St. Attendees can find answers to health and wellness questions, learn how to manage health plans and live healthier lives, and win prizes. No reservation is required.

Open Enrollment, which will be held through Monday, Nov. 30, is the one opportunity each year for employees to change current benefits, add or remove dependents from benefit plans, or enroll in a flexible spending account (FSA) for next year.

An enrollment packet was mailed to each employee's home, timed to arrive last week.



HELPING HANDS — Garfield Elementary School student Steven Temores braces for his swine flu vaccination at Cabrillo High School.

• Flu Vaccinations

(Continued from first page)
the city's Health Department to plan the local clinics. LBUSD, however, is neither requiring nor recommending H1N1 vaccination for students but is simply hosting clinics for parents' convenience. Anyone with questions about the vaccine should speak with their doctor.

For more information about the H1N1 virus, visit www.longbeach.gov/health.

Coffee Cancelled

The Thursday, Nov. 12 meeting of the Long Beach Unified Family Committee, also known as "Coffee With Chris," has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14 at the Cabrillo High School Library.

In Memoriam

Michael Botsford
warehouse materials processor, Warehouse
Oct. 31, 2009

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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(562) 997-8000. www.lbschools.net

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Superintendent of Schools

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Beach Walkers Raise Healthy Sum for Kids

Students, staff and parents from the Long Beach Unified School District recently raised big bucks for the non-profit Children's Clinic of Long Beach by participating in a 5K walk in downtown Long Beach.

Proceeds help the clinic to provide low-cost and free health care for local children.

Teams of walkers from local schools raised tens of thousands of dollars at the walk. Millikan High School alone raised \$21,000. Millikan volunteers also helped to staff the event this year. Students from the high school assisted with registration and other duties.

Visit www.thechildrensclinic.org for more information.

Wilson Goes Global With Amateur Radio

Wilson High School student David Strachan-Olsen and Wilson teacher Devon Day recently passed their General Class Amateur Radio Exam and are now licensed to work worldwide amateur radio bands.

Day is the faculty advisor for the school's Amateur Radio Emergency Communications team. Strachan-Olsen, the team's captain, earned internships at Boeing and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena partially because of his work in amateur radio.

Wilson plans to build a high frequency radio station at the school that will allow students to communicate with stations throughout the world.

Day is the recipient of multiple, national honors including National Board Certification and the national MetLife Foundation Ambassador in Education Award, a project of the National Civic League.

An experienced "ham" radio operator, Day began Wilson's amateur radio team in 2005 and has helped many Wilson students to earn their ham radio licenses.

Academic Uprise

Academic Uprise will hold its 8th Annual Symposium and Back to School FLING Nov. 19 to 21.

Activities begin with the Sponsorship reception on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at 1900 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach.

The Youth Leadership Summit will be Friday, Nov. 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at DeVry University, 3880 Kilroy Airport Way, Long Beach.

The EXPO and Back to School FLING is Saturday, Nov. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Martin Luther King Park, 1950 Lemon Ave., Long Beach.

For more information, call 988-5811, or visit www.academicuprise.org.

The Job Board

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., for grounds equipment operator II, plant supervisor II, small engine mechanic and substitute Head Start instructional aide.