



school bulletin

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

September 11, 2009

Broad Prize To Be Announced Sept. 16

For a record-tying fifth time, LBUSD is among the top five finalists for the national, \$1 million Broad Prize for Urban Education. The award honors urban school districts that demonstrate the greatest overall performance and improvement in achievement for all students. Only Boston Public Schools share this five-year record of consistently outperforming other school systems nationwide.

The winner of this year's top prize will be announced Wednesday, Sept. 16 by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan at about 8:20 a.m. Pacific Time during a ceremony on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

Also scheduled to attend the event are House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, members of Congress, D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty, philanthropist Eli Broad and 300 leading education policy-makers and practitioners.

The four other finalists are school districts in Aldine, Texas; Broward County, Fla.; Gwinnett County, Ga.; and Socorro, Texas.

The winning district will receive \$1 million in college scholarships for high school seniors, with \$250,000 in scholarships for each finalist district.

The event is sponsored by The Eli and Edythe Broad Foundation.

Camp Hi-Hill Still Off Limits After Fire

Hi-Hill Outdoor Education Center remained off limits to school district personnel this week after the camp was nearly burned by the largest wildfire in the history of the Angeles National Forest.

A damage assessment team from the Long Beach Unified School District hoped to gain access to the camp next week.

The massive Station Fire burned through the forest immediately surrounding LBUSD's outdoor science camp for fifth graders. Ultimately, however, recent brush clearance work performed by the school district under the Forest Service's guidance helped to save the school when the fire burned through the area earlier this month.

"The fire burned right up to the school but did not touch the school," said Kristy Bryner, a U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman.

No students were attending the camp when the Station Fire broke out. A maintenance worker for the Long Beach Unified School District was evacuated from the 13-acre site as a precaution, and no other LBUSD employees remained at the site.

More than 300,000 students had attended the camp since it opened as one of California's first outdoor science schools in 1948.



Griffith



Jacobs



Martinez



Vega

Promotions, Assignments Fill 47 Key Posts

A total of 47 administrators will take on new assignments at schools and offices in the Long Beach Unified School District this fall.

Promoted to principal at Cabrillo is Alejandro Vega, former assistant principal apprentice at Cabrillo. Promoted to acting principal are Rese Jacobs, Bixby, who was vice principal apprentice/administrative assistant at Webster/Superintendent's Office; Sophia Griffith, Hill, who was assistant principal apprentice at Hill; and Maria Martinez, Webster, who was vice principal at Lincoln.

Reassigned to principal are Donald Beaver, from Hi-Hill to Los Cerritos; Lauren Price, from Los Cerritos to Signal Hill; Juan Gutierrez, from Bixby to MacArthur; and Kevin Maddox, from Webster to Willard. Sandra Blazer becomes principal at Wilson; she was chief academic officer for Green Dot Public Schools.

Ellen Janssen was reassigned as vice principal from Burbank to Dooley. Reassigned from vice principal apprentice to vice principal are Nicole Howton-Chiles, from Keller to Barton; Wendy Sowinski, from Cubberley to King/McKinley; and Albert Gallo, from Lee to

Lindbergh. Assistant principals becoming vice principals are Heidi Dalton-Sklarz, from Stanford to Hudson; and Cassandra Richards, from Franklin to Cubberley.

Reassigned to assistant principal are Rosalinda Cervantes, from Jordan to Hughes/Newcomb; Scott Fleming, from Marshall to Rogers; Karen Grunst, from Hamilton to DeMille; Lorena Moreno, from DeMille/Lindbergh to Robinson; Kelly Webb, from Cubberley to Marshall; Roshann Williams, from Hill to Hamilton; William Davidson, from Bancroft to Poly; Cathy French, from Jordan Academy to Cabrillo; Cory Gregory, from Wilson to Lakewood; Guillermo Jimenez, from Millikan to Jordan; Jeffrey Johnson, from School for Adults to Lakewood; Jonette Newton, from Cabrillo to Lakewood; Amy Stuht, from EPHS to Jordan Academy; Maurice Valentine, from Lakewood to Wilson; Quentin Brown, from Millikan to Male Academy; Sunday Abbott, from Hoover to Lakewood; and Douglas Stewart, from Cabrillo to Renaissance. Returning from leaves of absence to become assistant

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Test Scores Show Solid Academic Gains

New test scores show far more students in the Long Beach Unified School District meeting state standards than just a few years ago.

"Test scores here continue their upward trend," said Christopher J. Steinhauer, superintendent of schools for the Long Beach Unified School District. "We're seeing academic growth at a rate surpassing that of other urban school districts nationwide."

Since 2003, when all California Standards Tests (CSTs) were completely aligned to state standards, the number of LBUSD students meeting standards (by scoring at the proficient or advanced level) has increased steadily. The CSTs measure the achievement of students in grades 2 to 11 in English-language arts, math, science and history-social science. The tests are based upon California standards, which are some of the most rigorous in the nation.

"Considering that we've repeatedly slashed

our budget by tens of millions of dollars since 2003, these solid gains are a testament to the hard work of everyone in our schools," Steinhauer said. "Despite our many challenges, we still have the will to win, and it shows in these test results."

In English, the percentage of students scoring proficient or advanced proficient this year ranged from 36 percent in grade 11 (up 9 percent since 2003) to 64 percent in grade 4 (up 27 percent since 2003).

Math scores also improved at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Over the past seven years, elementary and middle schools showed double-digit growth in the percentage of students meeting standards. Grade 3 showed the highest overall percentage of students meeting math standards this year, with 73 percent of students reaching that goal. That's up 26 percent since 2003.

Future Engineers from CAMS Place 2nd in U.S. Submit Transcripts For Salary Credit

Students from the California Academy of Mathematics and Science won second place in a national engineering design competition in Denver this summer. The winning team was part of California State University, Long Beach's Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement (MESA) college prep program.

The students from CAMS -- Alejandro Lopez, Stephanie Navarro, Eliana Portillo and Aureliano Garcia -- beat teams from throughout the nation to earn second place in the high school division of the MESA National Engineering Design Competition. The event was held at the University of Colorado.

Teams designed and then built a trebuchet,

a siege engine similar to a catapult, which was judged for distance, strength and accuracy. The students also were evaluated on their knowledge of the math and physics principles behind the device.

The CAMS students beat out dozens of other California teams in a grueling set of preliminary and regional competitions before winning the state run-off so they could represent California. The team members traveled to Denver with their MESA teacher from CAMS, Charise Williams.

CAMS is a 600-student regional high school at Cal State Dominguez Hills and is run by the Long Beach Unified School District. The school is widely recognized for sending its graduates to top math, science and engineering college programs.

Sponsors of the recent competition included Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, United Launch Alliance, IBM and the U.S. Department of the Interior. Technical professionals from Sun Microsystems, Hewlett-Packard, Northrop Grumman and the University of Colorado judged the competition.

National Certification

The Long Beach Unified School District has made a commitment to support teachers who are interested in applying for National Board Certification.

Teachers who are accepted and successfully complete the district's Pre-Candidacy Program are eligible for payment of National Board application fees, a \$2,665 savings. Additionally, teachers who obtain National Board Certification are eligible for up to a 10 percent salary increase for the life of the certificate (10 years) in addition to any compensation provided through the state.

An information meeting will be held Wednesday, Oct. 21, 3:45 p.m. at the Teacher Resource Center in Room C to discuss the National Board Certification process and the district's Pre-Candidacy Program. Attendance at this meeting is not necessary to apply; program applications can also be downloaded at www.lbschools.net. Click on "N" for National Board Certification.

For information, call Elisa Hagen, ext 2900.

• Promotions

(Continued from first page)
principals are Jay Camerino, at Poly, and Geraldine Rescinito, at Renaissance.

Vice principals becoming assistant principals are Beth Cohen, from Robinson to Franklin; and Marie Hatwan, from Hudson to Hamilton. Vice principal/vice principal apprentices becoming assistant principals are Kimberly Carpenter, from Gompers/Tincher to Lindbergh; and Mark Curran, from Newcomb/Powell to Jefferson. Assistant principals becoming acting assistant principal are Jack Sokoloff, from Jefferson to Hoover/Hughes; Jonathan Hayes, remaining at Cabrillo; and Douglas Jordan, from Rogers to Hoover/Hughes.

Laurence Tendis transfers as vice principal/assistant principal from Monroe/Jefferson to Muir/Stanford.

Laura Foster earned promotion from nurse inspector, Stanford, to program specialist, Nursing Services.

Principals becoming program administrators are Peter Davis, from Hill to Superintendent's Office; and Wayne Wong, MacArthur to Special Projects. David Zaid transfers as program specialist from Special Projects to the Elementary Office. Patricia Chambers, project employee in the Superintendent's Office, becomes administrative assistant, Special Projects.

Dates to Remember

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| September | Library Card Sign-Up Month |
| 11 | Patriot Day |
| 13 | Grandparents' Day |
| 15 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 15-Oct. 15 | Hispanic Heritage Month |
| 15-Oct. 16 | Mexican Independence Days |
| 16 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Native American Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8 |
| 17 | Citizenship Day |
| 17 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 17-23 | Constitution Week |
| 18 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Beginning Responsibility: Learning to Follow Instructions," Grades 1-3, ed.tv 8 |
| 19-20 | Rosh Hashanah |
| 21 | International Day of Peace |
| 22 | First Day of Autumn |
| 22 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Staying Out of Trouble With Your Friends," Grades 3-4, ed.tv 8 |
| 23 | Back to School Night — Elementary Schools |
| 23 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Pocahontas," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 24 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Ask For It," Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8 |
| 25 | California Native American Day |
| 25 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Beginning Responsibility: A Lunch Room Goes Bananas," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8 |
| 28 | Yom Kippur |
| 29 | Back to School Night — Middle Schools |
| 29 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Columbus," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 30 | Back to School Night — High Schools |
| 30 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Christopher Columbus," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8 |

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

JON MEYER, President

MARY STANTON, Vice President

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In Memoriam

Vicki Slater
buyer, Purchasing
June 5, 2009

Karen Dejerf
former teacher
June 19, 2009

Michael Jaramillo
air condition and refrigeration technician,
Maintenance
July 3, 2009

Sylvia Ortiz
former teacher
July 12, 2009

Delores Lemmons
former principal
July 26, 2009

Kathy Baverstock
former instructional aide
Aug. 5, 2009

Carol Hillis
former teacher
Aug. 17, 2009

Sandy Howarth
former counselor
Aug. 22, 2009