



school bulletin

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

April 15, 2011



SHOWTIME — Marshall Middle School Principal Michael Navia makes a cameo appearance with students in a 30-second movie theater advertisement designed to boost enrollment in local schools. See the ad at a theater near you, or view a similar version at lbschools.net.

Four More Schools Earn Title I Awards

Addams, Buffum, Henry and Madison schools recently earned the Title I Academic Achievement Award. The award goes to schools that, despite having large numbers of disadvantaged students, continue to make exemplary progress.

"These schools have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the education of their students and have achieved impressive results," said State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson, who announced the winners. "I congratulate all those who put forth the extra effort that resulted in this prestigious award—school administrators and staffs, teachers, parents, and, of course, the students themselves."

The Title I Academic Achievement Award is given only to schools receiving federal Title I funds. Title I is the largest federal program for K-12 public education. Title I funds help schools meet the educational needs of students living near or at the poverty level.

One of the local winners, Buffum Elementary School, will be closed down next school year due declining enrollment and the state's ongoing, multi-billion-dollar cuts to public education.

To meet the award criteria, schools must demonstrate that all students are making significant progress toward proficiency on California's academic content standards. The school's socioeconomically disadvantaged students also must have doubled the achievement targets set for them for two consecutive years.

Winners will be honored at a reception and banquet at the Disneyland Hotel on May 20.

Boosting Enrollment Via a Theater Near You

A 30-second Long Beach Unified School District advertisement now playing in local movie theaters aims to help boost student enrollment here.

The ad, created by LBUSD's Office of Multimedia Services, is an attempt to shore up enrollment in a school district where the student population has decreased by about 14,000

over the past decade. Much of the school district's funding is provided by the state based upon the number of students enrolled.

The six-week advertising run began April 1. Within the first week, the ad brought dozens of additional phone calls to the school district by parents seeking to enroll their children, including many parents from neighboring cities.

Featuring alternating photos of local students at school, along with a continuously present lbschools.net web address, the ad script reads, "You need to know that your child is safe. You need to know the curriculum is effective. You need to know that your child is our foremost consideration. You need the Long Beach Unified School District," followed by, "Now enrolling students."

See the movie ads on the big screen at Cinemark 14 on Pine Avenue, Edwards 26 at the Long Beach Town Center on Carson Blvd., AMC Marina Pacifica 12 on Pacific Coast Highway, or the UA Marketplace 6 on Pacific Coast Highway. The 30-second spot also is airing regularly on plasma screens in the lobbies of these theaters.

A similar version of the theater ad is available at lbschools.net.

Jordan Students Ace Construction Contest

For the third year in a row, Jordan High School Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) Academy students earned first place at the Orange County Design/Build Competition, where Southern California high schools and Regional Occupation Programs competed.

Coached by Jordan teachers Mike Zeke and Tom Kelsey, the ACE "build team" was led by student foremen Jose Barajas and Jesus Castro.

After receiving a set of plans and a bundle of materials, the students were required to complete a 6' x 8' barn. Hammers pounded from morning to night last Saturday and Sunday at the Orange County Fair and Event Center, with inspectors approving work throughout the entire process. Students submitted all changes to City Hall on-site and observed all safety regulations.

Participants earned points for utilization of manpower, workmanship, ability to work with the building inspectors and judges, and completed structure, including stability, functionality, appearance, and clean-up for a total of 100 points. The ACE students won first place with a score of 127 points. Additional points were earned for achievement above and beyond, giving ACE the top score in the high school division.

Poly Baseball Wins Top Academic Honor

The Poly High School varsity boys' baseball team has won a first place Academic Team Award from the CIF Southern Section. The team's combined grade point average of 3.6 earned the "home of scholars and champions" the top spot in its enrollment division.

The team will receive recognition and a commemorative banner during a May 9 ceremony at Angel Stadium prior to the game between the Anaheim Angels and the Chicago White Sox.

New Commissioner

Long Beach resident Linda Vaughan recently was appointed by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to fill the Long Beach Unified School District Personnel Commission seat previously held since 1992 by Charles Acosta.

Vaughan was sworn in March 31, and her term expires December 2013. A 38-year employee of the Lynwood Unified School District, Vaughan serves as a California School Employees Association Chief Job Steward. She also serves on the Merit System Committee for CSEA at the state level.

The Personnel Commission consists of three LBUSD residents who meet biweekly regarding items affecting the employment and compensation of classified employees.



Vaughan

Employee of Year Deadline Extended

The deadline for employees to nominate colleagues for the annual Classified Employee of the Year Award has been extended one week to Friday, April 22.

Obtain criteria and nomination forms at work sites, the Personnel Commission office, or from lbschools.net. Completed forms may be faxed to 435-1018 or sent through school district mail to the Personnel Commission, Attention: Employee Recognition Committee, or they may be delivered in person at 999 Atlantic Ave., Third Floor, Long Beach.

Finalists and the top winner will be announced Friday, May 20 during the annual Classified Employee Celebration and Ice Cream Social at the Teacher Resource Center. The event is supported by private donations. The winner and finalists also will be recognized at a Board of Education meeting.

Autism Documentary

A free screening of the powerful documentary, "A Mother's Courage: Talking Back to Autism," will be offered at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday, June 8 in the Millikan High School Auditorium.

Narrated by Academy Award winner Kate Winslet, the film chronicles a mother's international odyssey in search of proper treatment and schooling for her son.

The screening is made possible with help from the Long Beach Education Foundation, The Verizon Foundation, and LBUSD's Community Advisory Committee for Special Education.

Keynote speaker Areva Martin, a nationally recognized expert on parental advocacy and author of the recently released book, *The Everyday Advocate*, will share her work on raising awareness about autism through the nonprofit Special Needs Network.

For more information, contact Sam Platis at GreatMindsCare@gmail.com.

Commuters Beware

Work crews are closing the 7th Street connector in East Long Beach for about a year for reconstruction. Commuters have detour options to navigate around the major closure.

The combined northbound I-405 and westbound SR-22 / 7th Street connector will fully close at 10 p.m. April 18. Demolition of the "7th Street bridge" is tentatively scheduled for April 27 to 30.

Visit the West County Connectors pages under "Projects Under Construction" at octa.net for updates.

Retirements, Leaves

Certificated employees planning to resign, retire or request a leave of absence for the 2011-12 school year should submit the appropriate form to their site administrator as soon as possible. Resignations and requests for full-year leaves of absence received after June 30 will not be approved unless the school district is able to hire a suitable replacement.

Contact Bobbie Montes at ext. 8108 or at bmontes@lbschools.net with any questions.

Names in the News

Students Alyssa Krug of CAMS and Sean Rickter of Poly, along with teacher Melinda Ramsey of Jordan, were selected as the new sister-city goodwill ambassadors to represent Long Beach in Yokkaichi, Japan. The trio will visit Japan this summer.

Several students earned kudos at the State School Technology Event honoring innovative use of technology in designing classroom video/media projects. Teams from Cubberley and Tincher schools presented projects at the California Student Technology Showcase recently in Palm Springs. Earning recognition certificates from Cubberley's team, coordinated by teachers Kristine Dasserio and Sarah Dasserio, were fourth graders Jack Herrema, Macey Coffman, Dextin Sparrevoth and Ayato Hisanaga. Tincher's team, coordinated by teachers Chris Eckert and Jamie Vallianos-Healy, included fourth and fifth graders Sage Salice, Elisabeth Loveridge, Sage Davis and Brook Sasse.

High school seniors Jeffery Washington and Karina Simpson of CAMS, and Aaron Irving of Millikan have earned Posse Foundation full-ride scholarships of \$100,000 each to (respectively) Kalamazoo College, Bucknell University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The students were nominated by The Harbor Area Chapter of The Links international women's group. Bryant Elementary School Principal Doris Robinson is President of the Harbor Chapter. The Roberta and Matthew Jenkins Family Foundation helped secure the scholarships.

Fifteen Jordan High School students completed last month's Los Angeles Marathon: Yoselin Chavez, Alfonso Escobar, Illiana Garcia, Elizabeth Hernandez, Marco Iniguez, Evelin Llamas, Myrian Lamas, Diana Martinez, Eric Nao, Javier Reyes, Gladis Rivera, Brenda Salazar, Jennifer Samayoa, Yessenia Samayoa and Stacey Walker.

Local chef and Fremont Elementary School parent Paul Buchanan got a taste of fame in the March/April edition of *Westways*, the magazine of the Automobile Club of Southern California. *Westways* is the tenth largest magazine in the nation, with a circulation of about 3.6 million. The magazine notes that Chef Paul, as he is known to Fremont students, helps the school to maintain an organic garden, and he helped to get a salad bar placed in the lunchroom. He also runs Days of Taste, which allows fourth graders to go to the farmers market and choose ingredients to make and eat a salad.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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Public Meeting on Cabrillo Pool Plan

The Long Beach Unified School District will hold a public meeting Thursday, April 21 to inform the community about plans for the addition of a swimming pool at Cabrillo High School.

Set for 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium, 2001 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach, the meeting will provide the public an opportunity to ask questions and share any concerns as the school district embarks on the design of the new pool facility.

The project is among those identified by the LBUSD's Facility Master Plan as priorities for the Measure K School Bond initiative, approved by voters in 2008 to build, renovate and improve aging schools.

Learn more by clicking on Measure K Bond Program in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Science Fair May 21

One of largest science fairs in the nation, the 16th Annual Long Beach Unified School District Science Fair, is scheduled for 9:45 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 21 in the Cabrillo High School gymnasiums.

More than 1,300 students from 57 LBUSD schools will bring their best science projects together for all to see.

The event is community-sponsored and relies upon more than 470 volunteers. Additional volunteer reviewers are needed.

Call ext. 2964 for details.

Credential Current?

All certificated employees are required to keep credentials and permits current. California does not allow service without a valid credential or permit.

If employees allow a credential or permit to expire, or if they do not provide the state with evidence of meeting renewal requirements, they cannot remain in paid status in any California public school district.

The Commission on Teacher Credentialing requires all clear and professional credential holders to renew their credentials online. The online renewal process requires payment by VISA or MasterCard. Click on "Renew Your Credential" at ctc.ca.gov.

Contact a credential services specialist for assistance at ext. 8071.

In Memoriam

Rick Vandruff
teacher, Wilson
March 16, 2011

Larry Ward
welder, Maintenance
March 19, 2011

Brian Downey
laborer, Transportation
April 7, 2011