



school bulletin

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

December 16, 2011

State's Mid-Year Cuts Could've Been Worse

Mid-year budget cuts announced by Gov. Jerry Brown mean a loss of about \$4.2 million for the Long Beach Unified School District, including \$3.3 million in transportation funds.

The cuts could have been much worse. The reductions were built into the budget that Brown and lawmakers approved in June, set to kick in if revenue did not reach the optimistic level they had assumed. LBUSD could have lost as much as \$24 million under the plan, but a surge in personal and corporate income tax receipts led the state to raise its cash-flow projections. Because LBUSD lost \$4.2 million rather than \$24 million, it can absorb this

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Keller to Close As Schools Consolidate

The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education has decided unanimously to close Keller Elementary School at the end of this school year and transfer most of Keller's students to nearby Burcham K-8 School next fall. Keller will then temporarily accommodate students and staff from Newcomb K-8 School while Newcomb is completely rebuilt.

The school board also decided by a 5-0 vote that Roosevelt Elementary School students will be transferred to Butler Middle School next school year while Roosevelt is completely

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Grant Preps Teachers For Linked Learning

The College of Education at Cal State Long Beach has earned a major grant in partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District to implement models of teacher preparation and induction that prepare new teachers for Linked Learning environments in high schools.

The two-year, \$234,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation was written in collaboration with LBUSD and with the support of the California State University Chancellor's office.

Linked Learning is a high school improvement approach that combines strong academics, demanding technical education and real-world experience in a pathway centered on an industry theme.

The project will establish and document a model of clinical preparation at CSULB to prepare future school teachers by including the principles and practices of Linked Learning throughout the curriculum and field work.

NOTEWORTHY — Elsie Perez performs with Stevenson Elementary School's Suzuki Strings at a recent State of Education debriefing that was part of the annual Principal for a Day event. The Poly String Quartet also performed. The school district has preserved music instruction despite unprecedented state budget cuts to education. View video of the student performances at lbschools.net.



Guest Principals Learn Valuable Lessons

About 200 guest principals shadowed Long Beach Unified School District principals during the recent Principal for a Day event, the largest single-day involvement of business and community leaders in local schools.

Serving as a Superintendent for a Day was Damon Dunn, who played football at Stanford University and in the NFL before building a successful real estate business. He shadowed LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser, as did two other superintendents for a day: LBS Financial Credit Union President and CEO Jeff Napper; and Long Beach City College Superintendent and President Eloy Ortiz Oakley.

The guest superintendents joined business and community leaders at a State of Education debriefing at the Center Theater, where guest

principals shared what they saw during their morning visits at schools. The debriefing included performances by the Suzuki Strings from Stevenson Elementary School and the Poly High School String Quartet.

Dunn, the former NFL player, recently initiated and funded a Future Business Leaders Academy mentoring program for high school students here.

As a child, Dunn faced difficult circumstances. He was born to a 16-year-old mother, and when he was three years old, his father was killed. Dunn then lost three of his closest friends to murder by the time he was 16. He lived with 10 people in a three-bedroom trailer. But he attended Stanford University and played in the NFL, eventually owning his own business and building its value to about \$160 million.

The tenacious athlete and businessman praised LBUSD's perseverance.

"One of the things I've always tried to evaluate in any organization — my company when I ran it, and particularly when I played in the NFL — is how you respond when you reach and face adverse circumstances," Dunn said.

"Anyone can perform and keep high expectations when it's a sunny juncture in your life and you have plentiful and bountiful resources. And one of the things I've seen here, particularly today as I've been able to go out to a couple of the schools, is that there really is this element of 'The Long Beach Way' — that in spite of the lack of certain resources, expectations are high, they measure the results, and they have accountability measures in place."

The annual Principal for a Day event allows business and community leaders to observe schools first-hand. More than 1,000 business partnerships with schools have begun as a result of the event.



SUPERINTENDENT FOR A DAY — Former Stanford University and NFL athlete Damon Dunn shadowed LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser as part of the recent Principal for a Day event. Here he participates in a panel discussion at a debriefing session.

• State Budget

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reduction by using reserves so that no major cuts are needed for the remainder of this school year.

Brown, however, warned that more cuts are around the corner, in the proposed 2012-13 budget that he will present next month. Likewise, LBUSD is likely to face additional cuts down the road if state funding for schools doesn't improve. The school district projects that its ending balance will dip well below zero in two years. School districts are required by law to maintain a 2 percent reserve.

• Consolidation

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rebuilt. Butler students will instead attend the brand new Nelson Middle School that is nearing completion at 20th Street and Cherry Avenue in Signal Hill.

The new Roosevelt campus is targeted for completion in January 2015. Meanwhile the Butler campus is being considered for re-use as a small high school, though no formal decision has been made.

The Newcomb, Roosevelt and Nelson projects are being funded with Measure K school bonds that local voters approved in 2008. Such funds can be used only for school construction and renovation. Among the reasons LBUSD is focusing on Newcomb is that the school is on the state's priority list of campuses that need to be rebuilt or retrofitted to meet modern seismic safety standards. Roosevelt is an aging campus that originally opened in 1921.

Keller now has about 360 students in grades K-5, making it one of the smallest schools in the district. LBUSD staff continues to examine the consolidation of small schools to save money.

Dates to Remember

January

1	New Year's Day
1	Emancipation Proclamation Anniversary
1-3	Japanese New Year Festivities
2	New Year's Holiday — Observed
10	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
11	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Martin Luther King, Jr./Black History Month," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
12	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Everyday Creativity," Grades 4-12, ed.tv 8
13	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The Boyhood of Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 4-6, ed.tv 8
15	World Religion Day
16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
17	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
18	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "The Wright Brothers," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
19	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Dare To Dream," Grade 9, ed.tv 8
20	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "What Liberty and Justice Mean," Grades 3-4, ed.tv 8
21	Education Celebration
23	Chinese New Year
24	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Silversmith of Williamsburg," Grade 5, ed.tv 8
25	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Thomas Edison," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
26	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
27	10:00, 11:20, 12:20— "First Moon, Celebration of the Chinese New Year," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
30	Fall Semester Ends
31	Spring Semester Begins
31	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "George Washington," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8

All You Need to Know About Kindergarten

The first of four Kindergarten Festivals for incoming 2012-13 kindergartners and their families is 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 28 at the Buffum Learning Center, 2350 Ximeno Ave. in Long Beach.

Coordinated by the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee, the popular Saturday festivals include parent workshops on how to support successful students, free H1N1/flu vaccines (first two festivals only) and free dental screenings. Each incoming kindergartner receives a free book and backpack with school supplies. More than 20 community agencies will share resources and information about their services.

Parent workshops on math, reading, kinder-

garten readiness, transitional kindergarten and school district registration procedures run from 9:20 to 10 a.m., 10:10 to 10:50 a.m., and 11 to 11:40 a.m.

Sponsors of the festival include Verizon, St. Mary Medical Center, Los Angeles Universal Preschool, the National Council of Jewish Women, Long Beach Rotary and Charitable Foundation, and Molina Medical.

All festivals are from 9 a.m. to noon. Call 435-4080, ext. 19 for more information.

Kindergarten Festivals

(9 a.m. to noon)

Saturday, Jan. 28

Buffum Learning Center
2350 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach

Saturday, Feb. 25

International Elementary School
700 Locust Ave., Long Beach

Saturday, March 31

Mann Elementary School
257 Coronado Ave., Long Beach

Saturday, April 28

Dooley Elementary School
5075 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach

Poly Students Make Real-Life Ad Pitches

Students from Poly High School's Media, Entertainment and Technology Systems small learning community made a unique presentation recently to the nonprofit Children's Institute, Inc.'s communications staff.

The meeting was the culmination of a public/private partnership to provide training to teens in a professional work environment.

Poly collaborated with global advertising firm Saatchi & Saatchi and another nonprofit, Pasadena-based Light Bringer, which provides arts and learning activities for youth. The aim was to provide Poly students real-life experiences and mentoring in the field of advertising.

First the students met their client, the Children's Institute, which specializes in the treatment and prevention of child abuse and neglect. Then students developed a campaign to boost public awareness of CII's services for vulnerable children and families.

The process placed students in real-life scenarios, working as a creative team to meet their client's needs. Campaign ideas included billboard ads and public service announcements as well as marketing materials and a radio jingle.

"The students walked away with valuable professional experience," states a recent CII newsletter, "while the project partners were amazed and gratified by the students' work and enthusiasm."

Such real-life experience is part of the Linked Learning approach at high schools. The approach combines strong academics, demanding technical education and real-world experience in a pathway centered on an industry theme.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

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Scholarship Honors Memory of Lumachi

The Long Beach Education Foundation has established an account for donations to the Shaun Lumachi Leadership Award, a scholarship for a graduating senior who has been admitted to any California State University campus.

Lumachi, 33, was a member of the Foundation's board, and he supported local schools in many other ways before he suffered fatal injuries in a Dec. 3 car crash in Florida.

Long Beach Unified School District Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauer called Lumachi "a great friend of the school district who was always there when we needed a helping hand."

Donations to the scholarship fund may be made at lbschools.net/give. Select the Shaun Lumachi Leadership Award in the drop-down menu.

Board Changes Meeting Schedule

The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education recently approved two changes to its meeting schedule.

The board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 3 was cancelled because this date is a non-duty day and the school district will be closed.

The board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 3 has been rescheduled to Tuesday, March 27. The meeting will begin at the usual time of 5 p.m. in the Community Room of the Administration Building at 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach.