



school bulletin

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

November 2, 2012

AIMING HIGH – Jordan High School’s AIMS and ACE career academies have captured the attention of national officials, including Assistant U.S. Secretary for Education Brenda Dann-Messier, seen here visiting with Jordan students. The academies are being used as the model for a new national project.



Senior U.S. Official Praises Long Beach

Greg Darnieder, the U.S. Secretary of Education’s senior advisor on college access, praised local schools during Long Beach’s recent State of Education event, saying that education reform efforts here are “10 to 12 years ahead of almost every community in America.”

Darnieder addressed more than 200 business, community and higher education officials, many of whom had just spent the day shadowing local school principals as part of the Long Beach Unified School District’s annual Principal for a Day event. The event is the largest single-day involvement of local businesses in Long Beach public schools.

“It was fabulous, unbelievable what I saw this morning – just absolutely incredible,” Darnieder said.

He said LBUSD has made systemic changes, through collaboration with teachers, parents and the community under the guidance of leadership that is genuine and trusted. Such leadership is a hallmark of successful school systems, he said, “and it’s happening here. I just want to commend all of you for what you’ve been able to develop here over the past 15, 18 years.”

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Assistant U.S. Secretary Visits Jordan High

Jordan High School hosted a recent visit by a senior staff member from the U.S. Department of Education, who toured two career academies that are being used as models for a national project.

Brenda Dann-Messier, assistant secretary for vocational and adult education, visited Jordan’s Aspirations in Medical Services (AIMS) and Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) academies.

Dann-Messier, nominated by President Barack Obama in 2009, leads the Education Department’s career and technical education efforts. She oversees 11 grant programs totaling over \$1 billion annually and is seeking legislative approval for an additional \$1 billion in funding for high school career academies like AIMS and ACE.

AIMS and ACE are California Partnership Academies, which are being used as the model for a new national academies project. AIMS was funded in 1990 and is one of the original 49 academies approved as a partnership acad-

my. The medical academy is one of eight Lighthouse Academies in the state whose purpose is to mentor new academies in California. ACE opened in 2007 and is supported by Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, the school district and multiple industry and community partners.

Joining Dann-Messier, was Jerry Winthrop, who oversees California Partnership Academies at the California Department of Education. Lead Teachers Sabrina Arney and Melissa Brookman gathered a panel of representatives from the mayor’s office, Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach.

Dann-Messier concluded her visit by encouraging students to pursue their dreams with determination and hard work, and she heard positive feedback from students about Jordan’s academies.

“I am so happy I enrolled in AIMS,” said Jordan junior Joseph Apodaca. “I knew my life needed to take a different direction after middle school, and AIMS led me down the right path.”

College Prep Group Honors Hudson Teacher

Hudson K-8 School teacher Heather Mills recently earned a research award from the International Baccalaureate (IB) college preparation system.

Mills is the first person in the United States to receive this award, which comes with \$700 to help her complete her doctoral research. She will study the impact of U.S. educational policy on the implementation of the rigorous IB Primary Years Program.



Mills

The International Baccalaureate Organiza-

tion was established in the 1960s to provide curriculum for children of ambassadors worldwide so they might receive uniform, high-quality preparation for college. IB has since grown and has been offered at selected public and private schools in 140 countries.

Long Beach first began offering IB in 1992 at Jordan High School, where students can earn the International Diploma, a designation that is recognized by the world’s leading universities. Hudson began offering IB in 2008. Lindsey Academy (grades 6-8) earned the designation in 2010, and Dooley Elementary School earned the IB designation in 2011.

The recent award is part of IB’s efforts to support independent, school-based research to better inform the IB community.



HIGH PRAISE – Greg Darnieder, the U.S. Secretary of Education’s senior advisor on college access, said Long Beach’s education reform efforts are 10 to 12 years ahead of almost every community in America.

• State of Education

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Joining Darnieder for the State of Education were the following panelists: LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauer, Long Beach City College President Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Cal State Long Beach Provost Don Para, Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce President Randy Gordon, and Tricor Co-Founder Damon Dunn.

While college access has improved locally in recent years, K-12 and higher education officials here warned of dire consequences for schools, including unprecedented cuts to student services, if California voters next week reject tax initiatives that would provide revenue for public education.

Credential Current?

All certificated employees are required to keep their credentials and permits current at all times. The State of California does not allow a single minute of service for employees who do not possess 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. The renewal web page is <https://teachercred.ctc.ca.gov/teachers/RenewableSearchProxy>.

The \$60 renewal fee increased to \$70 as of July 1, 2012. The renewal process may be completed as early as one-year in advance of the credential expiration date.

Questions about credentials may be directed to a credential services specialist at ext. 8071.

Payroll Forms Online

Many of the commonly used payroll forms are now available at lbschools.net. Find Payroll in the A-Z index, then select Download/View Payroll Forms.

Currently available are the W-4, salary advance, warrant location and direct deposit authorization forms. Also available are the payroll calendar, certificate of absence and vacation request forms.

CalSTRS Seminar

California State Teachers' Retirement System seminars will be offered on Monday, Nov. 26 at the Teacher Resource Center (ABC room) and Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 1515 Hughes Way (Room 143). Both seminars are scheduled for 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

CalSTRS members who are eligible for retirement may find the seminars to be especially pertinent. Presentation topics will include CalSTRS service retirement allowance and retirement options, along with updates on legislation and disability and survivor benefits. Staff from Human Resource Services and Risk Management will be available to answer questions.

Space is limited. RSVP by Wednesday, Nov. 21 at 997-8214.

TIPS & TREATS – Long Beach Police Chief Jim McDonnell shared Halloween safety tips and reflective trick-or-treat bags with Chavez Elementary School students in teacher Laura Higuera's second grade class. The students earned the recent visit as a reward for achieving the best attendance record among the school's primary grades.



Target Transforms Burnett School's Library

Thanks to Target Corporation's Library Makeover Program, students and staff at Burnett Elementary School recently witnessed the unveiling of a remodeled library filled with 2,000 new books, 10 iPads, a state-of-the-art smart board, new furniture, shelving and a fresh coat of paint.

Launched as part of a \$1 billion, multiyear

commitment to education, the 2012 library makeover program is benefitting 150 schools nationwide.

Students at participating schools get to keep seven books, and they can participate in the Target Meals for Minds food pantry program, which includes, through a partnership with Feeding America, monthly distributions of fresh produce and staple foods for students and their families.

The Burnett project was completed with help from the Heart of America Foundation and more than 140 volunteers, many of whom came from the nearby Signal Hill Target store.

Classified Transfers

Transfer requests remain active through Nov. 30, when they must be renewed, according to Article IX of the CSEA contract.

Classified transfer forms may be filled out online. Go to Related Information under Personnel Commission at lbschools.net. Complete the form, print it out and submit to Maria Villalobos, HR Technician, 999 Atlantic Avenue, 3rd Floor, Long Beach, CA, 90813 after Nov. 30.

Changed Addresses?

Employees should submit a Notice of Address/Name Change form whenever their personal information, including their address, telephone or cell phone number changes. The form can be found at lbschools.net under Human Resource Services (then For Current Employees), or under Personnel Commission (then Related Information).

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Kindergarten Fests

Kindergarten Festivals for incoming 2013-14 kindergartners and their families include parent workshops, free school supplies, dental screenings, and lots of fun activities.

Following is the schedule of the Saturday festivals, which are planned for 9 a.m. to noon:

- Dec. 1 at the Buffum Learning Center, 2350 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach;
- Jan. 12 at Dooley Elementary School, 5075 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach;
- Feb. 2 at Alvarado Elementary School, 1900 E. 21st St., Signal Hill;
- March 2 at International Elementary School, 700 Locust Ave., Long Beach.

Free flu shots will be available to the first 100 people at the first two festivals.

Call 435-4080, ext. 19 for more information.

Names in the News

Judy Seal, executive director of the Long Beach Education Foundation, has earned the Excellence in Higher Education Service Award from the Long Beach Community Hispanic Association (Centro CHA).

Be Sure to Vote

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 6.

Information about the election, including overviews of ballot initiatives affecting public schools, is available at lbschools.net (select Ballot Information near the top of the page).