



# school bulletin

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

October 19, 2012

## GRAMMY Foundation Honors Cabrillo High

The GRAMMY Foundation presented a \$2,000 check to Cabrillo High School's music department during a lunchtime rally this week, honoring the school with a Signature Schools Community Award.

Fifty of the awards will go to public high school music programs nationwide this year. Along with the monetary prize, the awards qualify schools to participate in the GRAMMY Signature Schools application process, which could bring additional funding.

Prize money is provided by Hot Topic, which specializes in pop-culture-inspired fashion.

Past winners of the GRAMMY Signature Schools Award include Poly High School, which was designated a "Gold" recipient as one of the top 10 music programs in the nation.

## More Schools Exceed State Academic Goals

The number of Long Beach Unified School District schools meeting state Academic Performance Index targets for all subgroups of students grew by about 9 percent this year, according to newly released data from the California Department of Education. Meanwhile nearly three-fourths of schools here met their overall, or schoolwide, targets for academic growth.

A majority (about 52 percent) of local schools met all of their subgroup targets (including groupings by race or socioeconomic status), up 9 percent over the previous year.

The encouraging news on student performance comes despite the fact that LBUSD has cut more than \$330 million from its budget, including 1,000 jobs, since 2008.

The API is a numeric index that ranges from a low of 200 to a high of 1,000. The state's ultimate target for schools on the index is 800.

Schools with some of the highest API gains were Hoover, +52; Lindbergh, +48; Butler (now Nelson), +46; Jordan, +44; Jefferson, +43; Franklin, +36; Webster, +32; Renaissance, +31; Wilson, +31; Rogers, +30; Lindsey, +27; Cabrillo, +25; Bixby, +22; Robinson, +21; and Marshall, +20.

Middle schools showed strong gains for the second year in a row. The middle schools have implemented a number of changes aimed at improving student achievement, including self-contained sixth grade classrooms at many campuses. Such classrooms create a more gradual transition to middle school by allowing students to stay with one teacher for the entire day rather than switching from class to class. Middle schools also placed more students into eighth

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## \$72 Million at Stake Locally with Prop. 30

Leaders from the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach gathered recently to warn that all three institutions face crippling cutbacks if Gov. Jerry Brown's November tax initiative (Proposition 30) fails. The three institutions stand to lose more than \$72 million in their combined annual budgets on an ongoing basis.

"California must find a way to stabilize its volatile funding for K-12 and higher education. Without a basic commitment of resources from our state, our ability to serve students is in great peril. State cuts already are impacting students in significant ways, and yet further cuts to education loom," stated a release from LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser, LBCC Superintendent-President Eloy Ortiz Oakley and CSULB President F. King Alexander. The three education leaders held a news conference at CSULB to inform the public of pending negative impacts upon thousands of local students, families and employees.

Together the three institutions educate more than 142,000 students and employ more than 13,000 people, making public education Long Beach's largest source of employment.

Prop. 30 increases personal income tax on annual earnings over \$250,000 for seven years. The initiative also increases sales and use tax by 1/4 cent for four years.

Failure to pass Prop. 30 would force LBUSD (California's third largest school district) to cut an additional \$35 million from its 2012-13 budget. This would be on top of the \$22 million in programmatic cuts implemented in 2012-13, in addition to the more than 1,000 jobs that have been eliminated in the school district since 2008.

LBUSD's Board of Education approved a fiscal plan in March that calls for the following ideas to be considered should Prop. 30 fail:

- Reduce or eliminate high school sports
- Reduce school year from 180 days to 160
- Close multiple small schools
- Eliminate elementary music and visual arts
- Eliminate middle school sports
- Eliminate teacher-librarians
- Reduce or eliminate counselors
- Eliminate AVID college readiness program
- Eliminate all adult education offerings
- Increase class sizes
- Reduce number of Advanced Placement college prep classes in high schools
- Reduce or eliminate work-based learning programs
- Seek savings in employee health and welfare benefits
- Freeze certificated and classified hiring
- Change staff calendars, such as from 12-month to 10-month
- Eliminate all non-mandated transportation
- Eliminate all non-mandated testing

Statewide, the California State University system is bracing for a \$250 million mid-year reduction in the event Prop. 30 fails. That amount equates to roughly \$31 million in cuts at the CSULB campus.

The CSU system has already been cut \$750 million, or 30 percent during the last 16 months. The Long Beach campus alone has witnessed a decline in state support from \$205 million in 2007-08 to \$131 million this fall with the potential of losing \$31 million additional dollars if Gov. Brown's tax initiative fails. This means CSULB has gone from receiving nearly 42 percent of all its revenues

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**MAESTRO** – Nationally renowned Long Beach Symphony Orchestra Music Director Enrique Arturo Diemecke conducts a recent rehearsal of the Millikan High School Chamber Orchestra. LBUSD's comprehensive music curriculum is enhanced by many educational partnerships with the Long Beach Symphony, which reaches more than 25,000 students a year.



## Adopt-a-Teacher Grant Applications

The Long Beach Jaycee Foundation is accepting applications for its annual Adopt-a-Teacher grants. Many teachers spend their own money to provide supplies for classrooms and students. To help offset these costs, each year the Jaycee Foundation provides grants for school supplies or programs. Teachers have used grant funds for field trips, classroom supplies and various projects.

Apply online at [lbjccfoundation.org](http://lbjccfoundation.org) by Nov. 1 for the \$250 grants and the \$1,000 grand award. Click on 2012 AAT Application.

Adopt-a-Teacher was established to honor MaryPat Bamrick, a former Jaycee and elementary school teacher in Long Beach. The non-profit Jaycees also provide annual scholarships to Long Beach City College students.

## • Academic Gains

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grade algebra and provided the extra support needed to master this college gateway course.

Several high schools also posted significant gains this year, including Jordan, Renaissance, Wilson and Cabrillo. Among the reasons for the high school gains is that sophomores last year benefitted from a federal grant that allowed for additional instruction after school, and in some cases, on Saturdays, to help students master the skills that are measured by the California High School Exit Exam. Performance on the exit exam is a key factor in the API calculation for high schools.

"We again saw a trend of significant, steady gains overall, which is why our districtwide API rose another 10 points to 781," said Christopher J. Steinhauser, LBUSD superintendent of schools.

"We continue to provide targeted support that is making a positive difference for students," Steinhauser said. "Our employees, parents and many community partners should be commended for a job well done."

## Long Beach Libraries Alter Hours, Services

The Long Beach Public Library will implement changes effective Tuesday, Oct. 23.

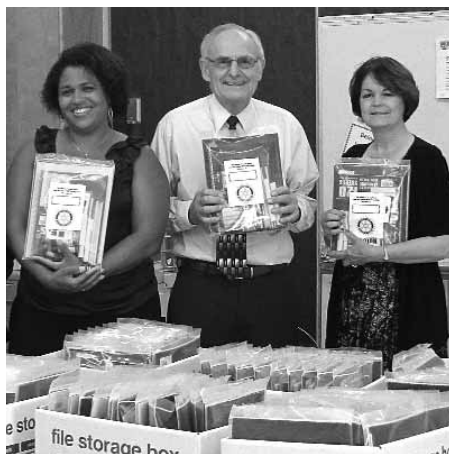
The Main Library will have new hours Tuesday through Thursday and will open to the public at noon (instead of 10 a.m.) and remain open until 7 p.m. (instead of 6 p.m.) on Thursday evenings.

Hours at all neighborhood libraries are unchanged. The library, however, is changing its service model at six neighborhood branches: Alamitos, Ruth Bach, Bay Shore, Brewitt, Dana and Los Altos. Programs and check-out services will continue to be offered through an alternate staffing model using support staff and limited librarian assistance.

Family Learning Centers will remain open and staffed with Homework Helpers at all Long Beach Public Libraries.

Teachers are advised to check with individual libraries prior to field trips, class visits or large assignments to ensure the best possible library experience.

Learn more at [lbpl.org](http://lbpl.org) under Locations and Hours.



**CARE PACKAGES** — Signal Hill Elementary School Principal Lauren Price, left, accepted packages of school supplies from Signal Hill Rotary volunteers David Swidrak and Pamela Famisaran. Rotarians assembled and donated 1,150 of the packets.

## Signal Hill Rotary Helps Local Schools

The Rotary Club of Signal Hill made its first annual presentations of The Nancy Long Education Project recently to students at Signal Hill and Alvarado elementary schools. The Rotarians assembled 1,150 individual school supply packets from over 13,000 items provided by Bob Long in honor of his wife, Nancy Long, an avid supporter of elementary school education in the Signal Hill area.

## Future Administrators

The Leadership Development Department is now accepting applications for the Future Administrators Program (formerly called the Aspiring Assistant Principals Program).

Certificated employees who hold a valid Administrative Services Credential, have at least three years of teaching experience, and are seeking to become an assistant/vice principal should apply online and submit all application documents by Friday, Nov. 2.

For more information regarding eligibility requirements, the application process and program, go to Future Administrators Program in the A-Z index at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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## • Proposition 30

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from the state in 2007-08 to 24 percent this fall, with the potential of this figure dropping to 19 percent this November. Although student tuition and fees have helped to mitigate these draconian reductions, student contributions have only replaced less than half of these state cuts.

LBCC is developing plans for a minimum of \$2 million in reductions during the 2012-13 academic year to address the college's structural budget deficit. These reductions will become effective July 1, 2013. The budget reduction target may increase by:

- Up to an additional \$2 million (\$2 million to \$4 million total) in cuts if the state's budget assumptions on property taxes or student fees prove too optimistic even if Prop. 30 passes.
- An additional \$6.4 million (\$8.4 million total) if Prop. 30 fails.

About half of any of these reductions at LBCC will come from instructional programs, primarily affecting full-time faculty positions. The remaining reductions will result from measures that will impact the structure and administration of the college by reducing the number of management team and other staff positions as a result of the realignment of instructional and other programs.

California already has reduced funding to its community colleges by over \$809 million, or 12 percent of its total funding, since 2008-09. LBCC general fund revenues have declined by more than \$10.9 million – a 9.7 percent reduction.

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 6. The deadline for voter registration is Monday, Oct. 22. Registering to vote is easier than ever and can be done online at [sos.ca.gov](http://sos.ca.gov), where voters can find a complete listing of measures that have qualified for the ballot.

Additional information about the upcoming election, including overviews of ballot initiatives affecting public schools, is available at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net) (select "Voter Registration & Ballot Info" near the top of the page).

## Dates to Remember

### November

1	National Native American Heritage Month 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "Taking Care of Your School Building," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
2	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "America's Veterans," Grades 4-9, ed.tv 8
4	Standard Time Day
5-9	Conference Days — Elementary Schools
6	Election Day
6	First Quarter Ends
6	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00 — "Pilgrims At Plymouth," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
6	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 — "William Bradford, The First Thanksgiving," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
7	Veterans Day
11	American Education Week
11-17	Veterans Day — Observed
12	Elizabeth Cody Stanton's Birthday
13	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00 — "First Thanksgiving," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
14	Education Support Professionals Day
14	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 — "Thanksgiving Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
15	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "Turkeys in the Wild," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
16	Substitute Educators Day
16	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "Thanksgiving," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
19	Gettysburg Address Anniversary
22	Thanksgiving Day
22-23	Thanksgiving — Observed
27	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00 — "Respecting Others," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
29	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
30	Mark Twain's Birthday
30	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 — "McGruff on the Law: Bicycles and Pedestrians," Grades 2-5, ed.tv 8