



school bulletin

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

December 14, 2012

College Board to Help Boost Access to A.P.

Three high schools in the Long Beach Unified School District are eligible to receive funding to boost participation in Advanced Placement STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) classes, the College Board announced. LBUSD plans to pursue this funding, which would go toward the creation of additional AP math and science courses.

The California Academy of Mathematics and Science, Millikan High School and Poly High School are among 800 schools invited to participate in the College Board's AP STEM Access program, created to increase the number of traditionally underrepresented minority and female high school students who participate in AP STEM disciplines.

A \$5 million grant from Google as part of its Global Impact Awards to **DonorsChoose.org** will make it possible for high schools across the country to start new AP math and science

courses and to encourage traditionally underrepresented minority and female students who demonstrate strong academic potential to enroll in these courses.

"We're focused on creating equal access to advanced math and science courses, and ensuring that advanced classrooms become as diverse as the schools themselves," said Jacquelline Fuller, director of giving at Google.

The College Board is collaborating with **DonorsChoose.org** to work directly with AP teachers in the eligible schools to help them obtain the classroom resources and professional development they need to start new courses. AP courses offer willing and academically prepared high school students the opportunity to study at the college level, enabling them to earn college credit while in high school.

Grants will be used by teachers for
(Continued on next page)

Monroe to Close, Burcham Will Return to K-5

Monroe K-8 School will close, and Burcham K-8 School will become K-5 at the end of this school year, the Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education decided at its last meeting as part of ongoing budget reductions.

The three-member Personnel Commission and its 17 office staff members will move into the Monroe facility in the 2013-14 school year. This re-use of the facility will result in minimal impact to the adjacent neighborhood. The commission meets biweekly regarding items affecting the employment and compensation of LBUSD's classified employees.

"While none of us relishes the closure of this fine school, we will apply the savings from this closure toward our continued efforts to provide students an outstanding education," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser said.

The school board also approved school

boundary adjustments in light of the Monroe closure. The entire Monroe boundary will now be part of nearby Cleveland Elementary School's boundary, and Cleveland's new boundary will now become part of Bancroft Middle School's boundary. Monroe families also will have first priority in the school of choice process, which allows them to attend other schools in the district.

LBUSD staff is working closely with affected parents regarding student placement and has scheduled parent meetings in January.

The Monroe and Burcham consolidation is due in part to declining enrollment. LBUSD now enrolls 81,000 students, down more than 16,000 from the peak enrollment in 2002. Declining enrollment exacerbates budget woes because schools receive most of their funding based on student attendance.

The consolidation also is due to the likely
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RENEWAL



REMAKING AMERICA'S SCHOOLS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

HAROLD KWALWASSER

Book Praises LBUSD As a National Model

The recently published book "Renewal: Remaking America's Schools for the 21st Century" references the Long Beach Unified School District more than 30 times for its exemplary practices.

"All highly successful districts are, in their own ways, 'no excuses' districts," wrote author Harold Kwalwasser, former general counsel for the Los Angeles Unified School District, who studied 40 high-performing and/or "transforming" school districts throughout the nation to understand their best practices.

"Long Beach, Brownsville and Aldine have simply made it their mission that every child will learn," Kwalwasser stated. "It is now an accepted part of the belief system."

The book highlights Long Beach's professional development for teachers, curriculum, community partnerships, parent involvement and school choice program.

Kwalwasser praised LBUSD's efficiency, noting that Long Beach students achieve better academically than students in other school systems that spend significantly more per pupil, and he described a culture of trust and mutual respect here.

"Much of the decision making has been pushed out to the schools. Teachers and principals are counted on to develop new strategies," Kwalwasser stated. "The central office sees itself as supporting them, rather than the other way around. That reflects trust. Teachers reciprocate."

The book is available for purchase from several online booksellers.

HOLIDAY TREATS –

Long Beach school nurses raised the spirits of children and their families at the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House, baking more than 300 cookies and other treats for a holiday party, and delivering toys they had collected.



• College Board

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professional development and to acquire classroom materials, lab and technology equipment, college-level textbooks, and other resources. These grants will vary from \$1,200 to \$9,000, depending on the subject area.

Participating schools will start the new AP math and science courses in fall 2013 and will make a commitment to offer these new AP courses for a minimum of three years.

The 800 public schools that qualify for this program have historically had a population of underrepresented students who were academically prepared for an AP STEM course that is not offered by the school.

• Monroe, Burcham

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elimination of LBUSD's remaining K-8 transportation services, and because both Monroe and Burcham have relatively small numbers of neighborhood students. Only 162 of Monroe's 655 students live within the school neighborhood. At Burcham, only 55 of the 186 students in grades six through eight live within the school neighborhood, thus the recommendation to eliminate those grade levels.

Dates to Remember

January

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1 | New Year's Day |
| 1 | Emancipation Proclamation Anniversary |
| 1-3 | Japanese New Year Festivities |
| 8 | 9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 9 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Martin Luther King, Jr./Black History Month," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 10 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Everyday Creativity," Grades 4-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 11 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The Boyhood of Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 4-6, ed.tv 8 |
| 15 | 9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "I Have a Dream: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 16 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "The Wright Brothers," Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 17 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Dare to Dream," Grade 9, ed.tv 8 |
| 18 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "What Liberty and Justice Mean," Grades 3-4, ed.tv 8 |
| 20 | Inauguration Day |
| 21 | World Religion Day |
| 21 | Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday |
| 22 | 9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "Silversmith of Williamsburg," Grade 5, ed.tv 8 |
| 23 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Thomas Edison," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 24 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 25 | 10:00, 11:20, 12:20— "First Moon, Celebration of the Chinese New Year," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8 |
| 28 | Fall Semester Ends |
| 29 | Spring Semester Begins |
| 29 | 9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "George Washington," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |
| 30 | Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution |
| 30 | 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Abraham Lincoln," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8 |
| 31 | 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Abraham Lincoln," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8 |

In Memoriam

Jesse Quintana
former school safety officer
Nov. 24, 2012

Board OKs Non-Rep Benefit Modifications

Eligible non-represented employees here will no longer pay the current 5 percent employee contribution for health benefits, but instead will be subject to the terms of the health benefits program offered to represented certificated employees. The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education approved the changes for non-represented

employees this month, after agreeing to similar terms on benefits last month with the Teachers Association of Long Beach. Details of the TALB agreement are available at lbschools.net under Bargaining Update.

The changes for non-reps are effective Jan. 1. There is one difference between the represented certificated and the non-rep terms. The health benefit proration for part-time represented certificated employees will not apply to part-time non-represented classified employees.

Eligible non-rep employees retiring from the school district after Aug. 31, 2013 will be subject to the same district annual maximum contribution for medical plans provided to active represented certificated employees. Eligible non-rep employees retiring from the district on or before Aug. 31, 2013 will not be subject to the above district annual maximum contribution. In either case, the district will apply any health benefit cost containment changes, including plan design changes, implemented for active employees to retirees.

Clean Audits for District, Measure K

Detailed, independent audits of the Long Beach Unified School District's finances and its Measure K school bond program have resulted in the highest possible rating from certified public accountants.

The results of the audit of the school district's finances by a team of independent auditors were presented to the school board recently by the Vicenti, Lloyd, Stutzman firm. The auditing firm deemed that the school district has earned the coveted "unqualified" opinion, meaning the financial statements give a true and fair view of LBUSD's finances.

The accounting firm arrived at the same opinion after conducting two audits related to the school district's Measure K school construction and modernization program. One audit examined the school bond fund in detail, while a performance audit determined that the school district has expended funds appropriately. Auditors said the district is in full compliance, with proper internal controls. The Measure K audits also will be presented to the Measure K Citizens' Oversight Committee on Thursday, Dec. 20.

Names in the News

Nine more teachers in the Long Beach Unified School District have earned the highest professional distinction in teaching, National Board Certification. Another three teachers renewed their national certification. Newly certified are **Cathy Brady**, Stanford; **Mark Ennen**, Newcomb; **Mary O'Halloran**, Lakewood; **Jolie Weckerly**, Kettering; **Jennifer Stuart**, Wilson; **Katherine Tacea**, Library Services; **Maria Avina**, Holmes; **Emily Lloyd**, Lincoln; and **Susan Carle**, CAMS. Renewing their certificate for another 10 years are **Roberta Patterson**, Millikan; **Deborah Bober**, Cubberley; and **John Arfwedon**, Poly.

Wilson Classical High School students **Samantha Newman**, **Charly Champa**, **Christin Sum** and **Parker Sullivan** earned first place at the regionals of the Student Summit on the Ocean and Climate, held by the Aquarium of the Pacific and the Coastal America Partnership. Their teacher is **Ken Hamilton**. The students will now travel to Washington, D.C. to compete at the nationals in March.

Kettering Elementary School teacher **Amelia Valinsky-Fillipow** and her students are featured on the cover of Cal State Long Beach's fall 2012 edition of the "Beach Review" magazine along with CSULB student athletes who help out in Kettering classrooms. The cover story, "Ready, Set Serve" details the many hours of volunteer service provided to schools and community organizations by the university's student athletes.

History teachers **Gerry Morrison** of Hoover Middle School and **Tim Mulvehill** of Millikan High School were among 40 American educators awarded the Korea Society's 2012 Summer Fellowship in Korean Studies. The group consisted primarily of world history instructors and included teachers and administrators from across the United States. In Seoul the fellows attended an intensive seminar program at Korea University, and they toured South Korea's many historical sites. After returning home, Morrison and Mulvehill developed lesson plans to be posted on the Korea Society's website, and they gave presentations to LBUSD's history department chairs about their experiences abroad.

Job Share Deadlines

Permanent or non-permanent elementary or secondary teachers are invited to apply for job sharing partnerships for the 2013-14 school year.

Job share deadlines are as follows:

Jan. 18—Submission of written request to have your name and telephone number included on a list of interested job sharing partners.

March 1—Submission of applications for new job sharing partnerships, or for renewal of existing partnerships.

Submit the above items to Human Resource Services, or for additional information, call ext. 8106.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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