



school bulletin

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

October 18, 2013

College Promise A Model for State

The Little Hoover Commission, an independent agency that recommends ways to improve efficiency and effectiveness of state programs, has released a detailed report citing the Long Beach College Promise as a successful model.

Five years ago, leaders from the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach signed The Long Beach College Promise, committing the three institutions to providing local students with greater opportunities to complete their higher education. The effort has since attracted state and national attention.

The October 2013 report, "A New Plan for a New Economy: Reimagining Higher Education," cites the College Promise 24 times and calls on the California Legislature to encourage the creation of similar programs statewide.

"To encourage enrollment in higher education, improve higher education completion and reduce costs of remedial courses," the report states, "the Legislature should provide incentives for districts and colleges to collaborate and extend counseling and outreach to middle schools and high schools in areas that have both state college campuses and community college districts."

The College Promise has aimed to improve
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TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN – State Sen. Ricardo Lara visited a Transitional Kindergarten, or TK, classroom at Garfield Elementary School this week to learn more about the program. As an early implementer, LBUSD was one of the first school districts in California to pilot TK. Learn more under Transitional Kindergarten in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

MCBRIDE PRIDE – Barbara McBride Williams cuts the ribbon to dedicate Ernest McBride, Sr. High School. She is joined by her siblings, all children of the school's namesake, including Ernest, Jr., left, who told the audience about his father's civil rights legacy. See more photos at lbschools.net.



McBride High Celebrates Grand Opening

Ernest McBride High School celebrated its grand opening recently with a ribbon cutting ceremony that included parents, students, staff, school district officials and members of the McBride family.

The school is named after Ernest McBride, Sr., the late civil rights leader who fought segregation in Long Beach and co-founded the Long Beach chapter of the NAACP in 1940.

"He dedicated his life to helping others," said Ernest McBride, Jr., who earned cheers from the student body when he dubbed them "the wolf pack Class of 2017." The students recently chose the wolf as the school's mascot.

The \$75 million campus at Parkcrest Street and Los Coyotes Diagonal opened last month to a freshman class of 210 students. Each year, an additional class of ninth graders will be added until the school reaches an enrollment of about 1,000 ninth through twelfth grade students.

McBride's curriculum includes California State University and University of California

entrance requirements, with an added emphasis on real-world training in three high-demand career pathways: Health and Medical, Public Services and Forensics, and Engineering.

Built on the former site of DeMille Middle School, McBride is the first of several small high schools planned as part of the Measure K construction and renovation program. Measure K is the \$1.2 billion school facilities initiative approved by local voters.

"Thanks to the voters of this community, this campus is now a reality," said Board of Education Vice President Diana Craighead. She also thanked nearby residents of the school who endured three years of school demolition and construction.

The school has 43 classrooms in seven buildings. The administration building/library, science building, two multi-story classroom buildings, gymnasium, lecture hall and food services facility all have high-tech, energy efficient features.

Guest Principals Enjoy Day at Local Schools

More than 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.

LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauer, Cal State Long Beach Vice Provost David Dowell and Long Beach City College Superintendent-President Eloy Ortiz Oakley joined business leaders in reporting their experiences at a "State of Education" debriefing at the Center Theater in the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center. Guest principals shared what they saw during their morning visits at schools.

The school district also honored The Boeing

Company and Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster for their lasting contributions to local schools.

The annual Principal for a Day event allows business and community leaders to become principals for a day at elementary, middle and high schools to observe students, teachers and the operations of California's third largest school district. More than 1,000 business partnerships with schools have begun as a result of the event.

Among this year's participants was Henry Walker, president of Farmers and Merchants Bank. He spent the morning at Poly High School before sharing his observations at the State of Education event.

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• College Promise

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college access by providing key incentives and services, including tuition-free semesters for 4,000 students at LBCC, guaranteed admission at CSULB for local students who qualify, and college preparation and guidance as early as elementary school to help children understand that college is within reach.

This year's progress report on the College Promise shows that the number of LBUSD graduates completing college-level (non-remedial) English at LBCC increased by 500 percent over the previous year.

The number of LBUSD students completing college-level math (again, non-remedial) at LBCC jumped by 200 percent over the same period.

Learn more about the College Promise at longbeachcollegepromise.org.

Read the full report from the Little Hoover Commission at lhcc.ca.gov (search for "A New Plan").

3 New Info Hubs At lbschools.net

The Long Beach Unified School District's home page at lbschools.net offers three new hubs to keep parents and other web surfers informed on LBUSD's implementation of California's new funding formula for schools and a federal waiver from No Child Left Behind rules.

The three new sections near the top of the page are Parent University, School Budgets and Federal Waiver/Local Control Funding.

The information hubs relate to one another and will be updated with documents, PowerPoint presentations, video presentations, news, and other information during the course of the school year.

STEM Symposium

Looking for best practices, ideas and strategies for implementing the Common Core State Standards in Mathematics and Next Generation Science Standards, and bringing high-quality science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to life in your classroom?

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson invites California teachers and administrators to the first annual California STEM Symposium on Monday and Tuesday Nov. 18 and 19 at the Sacramento Convention Center.

The symposium will bring together the best minds in STEM teaching and learning for keynotes, hands-on workshops, student/teacher demos and more.

Special presenters include 2013 TED Prize winner Sugata Mitra, Academy Award-winning actress Geena Davis and NASA astronaut and Reaching for the Stars Foundation founder José Hernández.

Early Bird Registration ends Friday, Oct. 18, and tickets are limited. Register at californiastemconference.eventbrite.com.

Learn more at cdefoundation.org/stem-conference.

Questions? Contact the California Department of Education STEM Office at (916) 323-5847 or STEM@cde.ca.gov.

Health Fair, Then Open Enrollment

Learn about health benefits at the Long Beach Unified School District Health Fair, scheduled for noon to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25 at the Long Beach School for Adults auditorium, 3701 E. Willow St., Long Beach. Open Enrollment for LBUSD health benefits will follow, from Nov. 1 to 30.

The health fair offers information on health and wellness, along with details on health plans. Free health screenings will include body mass index, blood pressure and more. Kaiser and Blue Shield will offer flu shots. Only Kaiser members may obtain a flu shot from Kaiser.

Open enrollment is the one opportunity each year for employees to change current benefits, add or remove dependents from benefit plans, or enroll in a flexible spending account (FSA) for next year. An enrollment packet is being mailed to each employee's home address.

Dates to Remember

November	
1	National Native American Heritage Month 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "America's Veterans," Grades 4-9, ed.tv 8
3	Standard Time Day
4-8, 12	Conference Days — Elementary
5	Election Day
5	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
11	Veterans Day — Holiday
12	Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Birthday
12	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "First Thanksgiving," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
13	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Thanksgiving Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
14	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Turkeys in the Wild," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
15	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Thanksgiving," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
17-23	American Education Week
19	Gettysburg Address Anniversary
19	9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 2:00— "Respecting Others," Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
20	Education Support Professionals Day
21	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
22	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "McGruff on the Law: Bicycles and Pedestrians," Grades 2-5, ed.tv 8
28-29	Thanksgiving — Holiday
28-Dec. 5	Hanukkah
30	Mark Twain's Birthday

Retirement Event

Honoree	Date	Contact
Kathy Whitman	Oct. 25	Tara Cole 426-8144 ext. 256

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

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• Principal for a Day

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"It was absolutely an excellent day. It was great to see the engagement of the youth and energy of the staff who are doing the daily job of teaching," Walker said. "When you see that progress and dedication, you feel good about your taxes going toward that public service. I enjoyed it immensely, being in the classrooms. I did see some students who I'd like to pick from that crop for employment."



Walker

Walker's father and grandfather attended Poly. Decades ago when LBUSD was having difficulty selling school bonds to build new schools, the grandfather purchased them. Today, Walker marvels at the daily operations of a large high school.

"From a corporate standpoint, being the principal is like being the CEO of a company with 4,800 customers every day and more than 300 full and part time staff," Walker said. "It's a big operation with a lot of moving parts. It takes a lot of cooperation. It makes me proud of the education that we provide."

Beach Walk Oct. 26 For Children's Clinic

Students, staff and parents in the Long Beach Unified School District will help raise funds for the non-profit Children's Clinic of Long Beach by participating in a 5K walk starting at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Marina Green on Shoreline Drive.

Proceeds will help the clinic to provide low- and no-cost health care for children, many of whom attend local schools.

Teams of walkers from local schools typically raise tens of thousands of dollars at the walk.

The day includes music, games, entertainment, a Healthy Food Day Festival, lunch provided by Long Beach firefighters, and a 1K walk at 9 a.m. for kids 12 and under. Check-in for walkers is 8 a.m.

Learn more and sign up at thechildrens-clinic.org.

In Memoriam

Eleanor Weems
former teacher
Aug. 29, 2013

Victor Marshall
custodian, Millikan
Sept. 30, 2013

Joseph Perruccio
former teacher
Oct. 6, 2013