



school bulletin

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

May 30, 2014

Graduations Slated For 5,817 Students

The Long Beach Unified School District will award diplomas to 5,817 students in June.

Poly High School and Poly Academy of Achievers and Leaders will have 1,011 seniors. Millikan High School will award 915 diplomas; Lakewood High School, 884; Wilson Classical High School, 967; Jordan High School, 750; Cabrillo High School, 535; Educational Partnership High School, 311; California Academy of Mathematics and Science, 166; Reid Continuation High School, 87; Renaissance High School for the Arts, 117; Avalon High School, 56; and Beach High School, 18.

The following graduation schedule includes the names of school district officials scheduled to present diplomas.

Tuesday, June 10

• Cabrillo, 6 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

Wednesday, June 11

• CAMS, 6 p.m., Millikan High School Auditorium, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

• Jordan, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Member Mary Stanton

• Poly/PAAL, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

• Reid, 1 p.m., Cabrillo High School Small
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CAMS, Renaissance Rank Highly in U.S. News

The newest ranking of America's best high schools by U.S. News and World Report includes two schools in the Long Beach Unified School District. The California Academy of Mathematics and Science earned a gold medal while Renaissance High School for the Arts won silver.

The two schools earned the following rankings among thousands of public high schools:

- CAMS – state ranking of 15; national ranking of 101
- Renaissance – state ranking of 188; national ranking of 918

The U.S. News rankings include data on more than 19,400 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Schools were awarded gold, silver or bronze medals

based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college.

To determine the rankings, schools were first analyzed on how well their students performed on state assessments, taking into account the test scores of disadvantaged students. High schools that made it through this analysis were then eligible to be ranked nationally in terms of college readiness, using Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate test data as the benchmarks for success.

In the rankings, 500 high schools earned gold medals, 1,519 won silver and 2,688 were awarded bronze. Only 2.8 percent of eligible schools won gold and 8.6 percent won silver.



Poly Wins Nation's Largest Solar Boat Contest

Poly High School students tied for first place recently in the nation's largest solar-powered boat contest.

The Poly team earned the honor in the "veterans division" after repeatedly earning second place out of 40 teams every year since 2009. The students designed and built their own boat, again competing against 40 teams at Lake Skinner in the Temecula Valley of southwestern Riverside County. The Solar Cup event is sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

"The kids learn so much about conserving

natural resources, problem-solving and teamwork. Those skills will serve them well as they continue to complete their educations and start their careers," MWD General Manager Jeffrey Kightlinger said.

Poly tied in their division with Canyon High School of Anaheim at the 12th annual event.

The two winning schools were among teams representing MWD's 5,200-square-mile service area that includes Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura counties.

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EMPLOYEE OF YEAR – Millikan High School Campus Security Officer Beatriz Nieves earned the 2014 Classified Employee of the Year Award. She was praised by colleagues for her keen ability to connect with students and help them find direction in their lives.

Millikan's Beatriz Nieves is Employee of Year

Millikan High School Campus Security Officer Beatriz Nieves has earned the Classified Employee of the Year Award for the Long Beach Unified School District. The award was announced during a recent celebration in honor of classified employees.

"I just want to thank everyone. This means a lot to me," Nieves told the audience upon accepting the award. "I want to thank God for the opportunity that he has given me to be able to live the purpose that my life has, which is to help and serve others."

The 20-year LBUSD employee was nominated by colleagues who praised her ability to connect with students.

"She has a way of encouraging high school students who may have felt like there was no point in trying harder, dreaming bigger or doing something no one else in their family has done," one colleague wrote, citing numerous examples of students who have benefitted from Nieves' wise counsel.

One student was failing classes. Not only did he graduate, but he went on to CSULB

where he was president of a campus organization and was among this year's graduates. He has since spoken at LBUSD functions about mentoring students, and he is organizing his own mentoring program for underprivileged youth. Another student who was on probation in high school brought his grades up and graduated. He went on to serve in the U.S. Marines and is married with a family and working in the music industry. A student who was shy and kept to herself has become more outgoing and aspires to attend college. A student who once contemplated suicide has a renewed outlook.

Many of the students Nieves has helped were on hand for the celebration, cheering for her when she won.

Nieves began her employment with the school district as a child care worker and has worked as a college student aide, instructional aide and transportation aide here.

More than 30 nominations for the Classified Employee of the Year Award were submitted for a total of 15 nominees, with some nominees receiving multiple nominations.

SOLAR CUP – Poly High School senior Eric Brunner pilots his team's winning boat in the Solar Cup, sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District. Students designed the solar-powered boat using 3-D computer imaging, and they transmitted data wirelessly from the boat to a computer.



• Poly's Solar Boat Team Takes First Place

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Solar Cup is a school-year-long program in which students build, equip and race 16-foot, single-seat canoes powered only by the sun.

The competition allows students to apply their skills in math, physics, engineering and communications while learning about Southern California's water resources, conservation and alternative energy development.

The event began on Friday, May 16 as MWD staff and a technical advisory team from Harvey Mudd and Occidental colleges ensured that boats met rules and were safe and seaworthy. The next day, the teams attached solar collection panels to the boats for 90-minute and one-mile endurance races. The following day, the heavy solar-collection panels were removed and, using solar energy stored in batteries, the boats raced down a 200-meter stretch.

Teams are sponsored by their local water agencies and other organizations to equip the crafts with solar panels, batteries, steering and related systems.

Poly's team included seven girls and 13 boys from all grade levels. Team advisors are

teachers Tamara Araya and Gregory Pepek.

The two teachers challenged the Poly students to complete a CAD (computer aided design - a detailed 3-D scale computer image) of a mount for a motor that has the ability to be adjusted at various angles, install the motor into the boat, test propellers and gear ratios to maximize speed, create a foot throttle, and build a wireless system that automatically transmits and graphs the amperage, voltage and speed of the boat to a computer.

Aspiring Principal Applications Online

Employees who have demonstrated leadership experience and are currently in a management position are encouraged to apply for the Aspiring Principals Program for 2014-15. The online application is now available.

To apply, go to Leadership Development in the A-Z index at lbschools.net. Click on Aspiring Principals. No other paperwork is needed at this time. For more information, contact Janelle Harmon at 997-8465 or jharmon@lbschools.net. Applications are due Friday, June 20.

Dates to Remember

June	
4	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Independence Day(s)," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
5	World Environment Day
5	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry III," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
9	Race Unity Day
12	Anne Frank's Birthday
12	Last Day of School — Students
13	Last Day of School — Teachers
14	Flag Day
15	Fathers' Day
21	First Day of Summer
27	Helen Keller's Birthday

Chevron Gives \$85K to CAMS

The California Academy of Mathematics and Science received an \$85,000 gift from Chevron recently to support hands-on science projects.

CAMS will use the funding to hire graduate students who will mentor high school students as they work on science fair presentations, and the school will continue its work to expand opportunities for student research, publishing and internships.

Chevron has granted nearly \$300,000 to the school in recent years, including funding to support hands-on learning in biotechnology and engineering. Last year, Chevron donated \$100,000 to support career and technical education through technology and equipment upgrades, field trips, professional development and student participation in national competitions.

Learn more at lbschools.net/cams.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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• Graduations

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Gym, Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser

Thursday, June 12

• Avalon, 4 p.m., Avalon Casino Theater, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resource Services Ruth Ashley

• Lakewood, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Vice President Diana Craighead

• Millikan, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Vice President Diana Craighead

• Renaissance, 3 p.m., Long Beach City College (Liberal Arts Campus) Theater, Board of Education President John McGinnis

• Wilson, 5:30 p.m., Stephens Field (Wilson Football Stadium), Board of Education Member Jon Meyer and Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser

Friday, June 13

• Beach, 1 p.m., Millikan High School Auditorium, Board of Education Member Jon Meyer

• EPHS, 1 p.m., Lakewood High School Auditorium, Board of Education Member Mary Stanton

93% of Students Aim For 4-Year College

A survey of local students by a nonprofit education research group shows that about 93 percent of them plan to attend a four-year college or university.

The survey was conducted by My College Options, a free college planning service offering assistance to students, parents, high schools, counselors and teachers nationwide.

Participating in the survey were more than 8,500 students – mostly high schoolers and a few middle school students – from throughout the Long Beach Unified School District. Of those students, 92.9 percent plan to attend a four-year institution, and 42.8 percent would be the first in their families to attend college.

Of the students surveyed here, 26.3 percent plan to pursue a science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) career, compared to 25.5 percent nationally.

Learn more about My College Options at MyCollegeOptions.org.

Names in the News

Teacher **Antoinette Bailey** of Stanford Middle school was named Art Educator of the year by the California Art Education Association. She will accept her award in November at a CAEA conference in Irvine.

Robo Bowl on June 7

The Long Beach Unified School District's second annual Robo Bowl, a competition where more than 150 middle school students from 16 campuses will show off their robotics projects, is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 7 at McBride High School, 7025 E. Parkcrest St. in Long Beach.

Participating schools are Avalon, Bancroft, Hamilton, Henry, Hill, Jefferson, Lindbergh, Lindsey, Marshall, Powell, Robinson, Rogers, Stanford, Stephens, Tincher and Washington.