



school bulletin

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

February 20, 2015



LATIN AMERICAN MASTERS – Antonio Ruiz, nicknamed “El Corzo,” created this piece, Titeres (puppets, or marionettes), in 1933. A Feb. 27 exhibit at the Museum of Latin American Art is free for K-12 educators. **Story on next page.**

Register by Feb. 25 For Town Hall Event

Registration for the Long Beach Unified School District’s Students of Color “Town Hall” Meeting has been extended to Wednesday, Feb. 25. The meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 28 at Cabrillo High School, 2001 Santa Fe Ave. in Long Beach.

The event is open to everyone and will provide important information to parents and others on helping to prepare all students for success in college and careers. Parents will have the opportunity to attend workshops that will enhance effective parenting skills, and community agencies will be available to provide resources and information.

LBUSD has been working in recent months with the White House and other large school districts in the U.S. on a concerted effort to improve the academic and social outcomes of young people of color, who as a whole tend to lag behind their peers academically.

The schedule for the day is:

- 8 to 8:45 a.m. – Registration, light breakfast
- 9 to 10 a.m. – General Assembly, Session 1
- 10:10 to 11 a.m. – Session 2

(Continued on next page)

L.A. Times Piece Notes LBUSD’s Success

A recent commentary piece by education author Richard Whitmire in the Los Angeles Times notes the continued success of the Long Beach Unified School District when compared to other school systems nationally.

Whitmire, in discussing the Broad Foundation’s recent suspension of the Broad Prize for Urban Education, recalls the success he witnessed in 2009 when he was the “project journalist” for the prize. LBUSD is a national winner and five-time finalist for the prize, which recognizes outstanding student achievement and significant reductions in achievement gaps among students from lower-income and higher-income families.

“In the Long Beach Unified School District, I marveled at the success of a community that

saw tremendous economic change coming and quickly whipped its schools into shape to deal with that change,” Whitmire wrote.

But what makes Long Beach special, Whitmire observes, is that the school district has continued to improve since earning the nation’s top prize for public education.

“It’s clear to education experts that only a few traditional urban school districts favored with both strong leadership and resources – Long Beach; Charlotte, N.C.; and Tampa and Miami in Florida come to mind – can continue to improve pretty much on their own.”

Whitmire, a fellow at the Emerson Collective, is the author of several education books. Find his full commentary at latimes.com.

Keller to Go 6-8 English-Spanish Immersion

The Board of Education this week approved the re-use of the former Keller Elementary School site to offer dual immersion instruction in English and Spanish for grades 6 to 8 starting this fall. This middle grades program is moving from nearby Patrick Henry K-8 School, which will return to its original K-5 configuration and will continue offering its elementary dual immersion program.

The reconfiguration allows the school district to expand the sought after dual immersion program in Henry’s elementary grades by devoting a separate, entire site to the middle grades dual immersion program, which is projected to grow beyond its capacity at Henry. The aim is to accommodate a high level of parent demand for dual immersion in both the elementary and middle grades.

Keller, which is located about a mile from

Henry at 7020 E. Brittain St. in Long Beach, is currently the temporary site for Newcomb Academy.

Newcomb will return to its original location at 3351 Val Verde Ave. in Long Beach this September, now that construction of a new campus there is nearing completion.

The Keller site may be renamed by the school board before the start of classes in the fall. After several years, the site could accommodate up to 750 students, which is about the same as when Keller was full as an elementary school.

Henry’s dual immersion program and teaching staff have earned multiple state and national honors, including California Association for Bilingual Education Teacher of the Year honors and a Champions of Change award from the White House.

Retroactive Checks

Retroactive pay for qualifying employees is scheduled for disbursement this Friday, Feb. 20. The checks for teachers and non-represented employees are the result of the Board of Education’s December approval of a 5 percent salary increase for these employee groups, retroactive to July 1 of last year.

The 5 percent increase for these employees also will be reflected on subsequent paychecks, beginning next week.

The raise for teachers was part of a bargaining agreement approved by both the school board and the Teachers Association of Long Beach. The board’s final approval came after TALB’s membership ratified the agreement by a 99.2 percent vote.

The school district continues to negotiate with the local California School Employees Association chapter. Compensation for represented classified employees is part of these negotiations.



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY – Employees at the Long Beach Unified School District’s Administration Building are celebrating Black History Month with this display and others in the building lobby and at elevator stops, and they have scheduled a celebration event for 2:30 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Community Room. The bulletin board displays showcase African Americans’ contributions in various arenas throughout history and include information on historically black colleges and universities.

Free MOLAA Exhibit For K-12 Educators

The Museum of Latin American Art will offer K-12 educators free admission to a Friday, Feb. 27 exhibit of modern Latin American masters.

The 7 to 9 p.m. event includes refreshments, presentations and workshops. Educators can explore content related to the upcoming exhibition, Mexico: Fantastic Identity, 20th Century Masterpieces from the FEMSA Collection. Exhibition resources, simple hands-on projects and classroom activities will be presented by MOLAA's Education Department.

RSVP at 437-1689.

MOLAA's Friday night programs are sponsored in part by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

The museum is located at 628 Alamitos Ave. in Long Beach. Visit molaa.org for more information.

Board Meetings Rescheduled

The Board of Education this week approved the rescheduling of two regular board meetings.

The meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 3 was moved to Tuesday, March 10. The meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 was moved to Tuesday, May 26.

Both meetings will be held at 5 p.m. in the usual location, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach.

Dates to Remember

March

	American Red Cross Month
	Music in Our Schools Month
	National Middle Level Education Month
	National Nutrition Month
	Women's History Month
	Youth Art Month
2	NEA's Read Across America
3	Adoption of U.S. National Anthem
3	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "The Struggle for Women's Rights," Grades 9-12, ed.tv 8
4	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Benjamin Franklin," Grades 2-8, ed.tv 8
5	Black American Day
5	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus and the Exceptional Child," Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
6	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Indian Artists of the Southwest," Grades 6-8, ed.tv 8
7	Conservation, Bird and Arbor Day
8	International Women's Day
8	Daylight Saving Time Day
10-11	Elementary Conference Days
10	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Ask For It," Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
11	Johnny Appleseed Day
11	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 12 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 17 - 9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 18 - 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00; 19 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30; 26 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Adventures in Poetry I," Grades 3-6, ed.tv 8
13	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
16	First Black Newspaper in U.S. Published
17	St. Patrick's Day
20	First Day of Spring
20	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "The Velveteen Rabbit," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
23	Anniversary of Patrick Henry's Speech
24	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Cesar Chavez," Grades 3-12, ed.tv 8
25	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Florence Nightingale," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
27	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "No Time to Waste," Grades 4-12, ed.tv 8
31	Cesar Chavez Day
31	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Operation School Bus Safety: Be Cool, Follow the Rules," Grades K-2, ed.tv 8

• Town Hall Meeting

(Continued from first page)

• 11:10 to noon – Session 3

• Noon to 1 p.m. – Lunch, visit community agencies, entertainment

The Town Hall meeting is one more way the school district is building upon its efforts to help all students succeed, regardless of color, culture, disability or socioeconomic status.

Learn more and register for the event at lbschools.net/townhall. Click on "Online Registration" to register.

Names in the News

Noel Llopis, teacher on special assignment at Lincoln Elementary School, helped to develop a new Disney math app, Mickey's Magical Math World, for children ages two to six. Llopis also wrote Disney's Cinderella and the Lost Mice, a children's picture book.

Ten teacher librarians attended the 100th anniversary conference of the California School Library Association in San Francisco, where school librarian **Kat Tacea** of Lafayette earned a \$5,000 grant for her school's library. **Nina Jackson** of Franklin is the secretary of the state organization and presented a session. Attendees **Pamela Oehlman** of Poly and **Jane Brooks** of Cabrillo are representatives for the southern section of the California School Library Association. Other attendees included **Crystal Miranda** of Library Services, **Glenda Culbertson** of Henry and Tincher, **Christina Maben** of Muir and Newcomb, **Ryan Noble** of Nelson, and Long Beach School Librarians Association President **Susan McRoberts** of Hamilton and Stanford. Lakewood librarian **Sandra Patton** served on the conference committee with Board of Education member **John McGinnis**. Four of LBUSD's five National Board Certified teacher librarians were recognized (Kat, Pamela, Sandra and Nina). No other school district in California has that many board certified CSLA members. The fifth nationally certified teacher librarian is **Donna Sharpe** of Avalon.

In Memoriam

Billie Beeler
former principal
Feb. 3, 2015

SCHOOL BULLETIN

Official publication of the Long Beach Unified School District issued bi-weekly during the school year from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California 90810. (562) 997-8000. www.lbschools.net

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DIANA CRAIGHEAD, President
FELTON WILLIAMS, Vice President
MEGAN KERR, Member
JOHN MCGINNIS, Member
JON MEYER, Member

New State Tests, Surveys Arriving

February and March will bring key development surveys designed to help the Long Beach Unified School District measure the performance of students and schools.

Parents, staff and students will begin taking surveys this month. Students will begin taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) tests in March.

The surveys are a result of LBUSD's waiver from certain federal No Child Left Behind regulations. The waiver calls for multiple accountability measures to provide a more accurate picture of performance.

The online SBAC tests are used by more than a dozen states to help teachers, administrators and families know how well students are progressing toward meeting the Common Core State Standards, which have been adopted by most states.

Learn more in the News section under Federal Waiver, Local Control Funding at lbschools.net.

Rotary Offers Literacy Grants

Long Beach Rotary and its charitable foundation are offering up to \$6,500 for teacher-driven literacy projects. Long Beach Unified School District teachers in preschool through third grade, including special education, may apply for grants of \$500 to \$2,500 for innovative and creative reading and literacy programs in the classroom.

Grants will be awarded in June and may be used to purchase books, e-books, teaching aides, training programs or other educational materials beginning in the 2015-16 school year. Teachers receiving awards may be invited to present their project at a Long Beach Rotary luncheon and will be required to complete a one-page report at the end of the grant period.

Find the application under Rotary Literacy Grants in the A-Z index at lbschools.net. The application deadline is Monday, March 16.

The grants are part of Rotary's Reading by 9 programs. Long Beach Rotary recently raised \$45,000 for the literacy efforts, an all-time record for the service club, which has raised more than \$470,000 for literacy programs over the past 16 years. By the end of the school year, Rotary will have donated more than 215,000 books to local children, school libraries and non-profit literacy programs in the Long Beach area. The goal is to increase the percentage of students reading at grade level by age nine.

Kindergarten Fests

The third of four Kindergarten Festivals for incoming 2015-16 kindergartners and their families is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon this Saturday, Feb. 21 at Burcham Elementary School, 5610 Monlaco Road, Long Beach. Registration begins at 8:45 a.m.

The popular festivals include parent workshops, free school supplies, dental screenings and lots of fun activities.

The fourth festival of the school year will be 9 a.m. Saturday, March 14 at Roosevelt Elementary School, 1400 20th St., Long Beach. Call 435-4080, ext. 19 for more information.