



school bulletin

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

Oct. 30, 2015

Learning About Musical Miracles

Alive Inside, an award-winning documentary about the power of music to help people living with dementia, is coming to McBride High School with a new audience in mind – kids.

The screening heralds the start of an Adopt an Elder intergenerational program in Long Beach and will include a Q&A session with filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett.

About 20 students in McBride's Health and Medical Pathway will begin working with the Alive Inside Foundation this semester to pair up with Alzheimer's patients in a local facility as part of the students' work-based learning.

"We are very excited about the work because it is based on research that music is triggering lucid moments among Alzheimer's patients, and it helps our Health and Medical students gain insight to one of the difficult areas of elder patient care," McBride Principal Steve Rockenbach said.

The Alive Inside screening event takes place 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13 in the school's lecture hall at 7025 E. Parkcrest St., Long Beach. Tickets can be purchased for \$15 online at aliveinside.org/longbeach.

The film is described as "an exploration of music's capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest parts of our humanity."

Millions of viewers have seen the viral YouTube video of Henry, an elderly man in a nursing home who emerged from the fog of dementia when he heard a tune from his youth. That video is part of the larger documentary.

The Washington Post calls the film "part documentary, part advocacy and part fundraising tool for a movement to place iPods loaded with playlists tailored to individual tastes in the 16,000 nursing homes across the country."

Filmmaker Rossato-Bennett chronicles the experiences of people around the country who have been revitalized through the simple experience of listening to music, even where prescription medication has fallen short.

(Continued on next page)

EXCELLENCE BY DESIGN – McBride High School, which opened in 2013, has earned multiple honors in recent weeks for the school's exceptional design and thoughtful, inclusive planning. Reviewers describe the school as safe, secure, durable, comfortable and energy efficient.



McBride High School Wins Design Honors

One of the Long Beach Unified School District's newest schools, McBride High School, was honored Sunday as one of four finalists for a top national award from the non-profit Association for Learning Environments, and last month the school earned the Honor Award for Education Design from the Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada.

McBride opened in 2013.

The Association for Learning Environments recognized McBride as a finalist for the James D. MacConnell Award at a San Diego event. MacConnell is considered the father of educational facility planning and is best remembered as the director of Stanford University's School Planning Laboratory.

The MacConnell Award recognizes a comprehensive planning process that results in educational facilities that serve the community, enhance education and meet several other goals.

"School facilities recognized in this award program might embody great architecture, but their successful components and characteristics were founded in an interactive process that

engaged multiple stakeholders to create an educational environment that holds purpose and distinction within a community," the award criteria state.

The top winner of the MacConnell Award was Fisher Middle School in South Carolina.

McBride also was one of only four schools in the California and Nevada region to earn the Concrete Masonry Honor Award this year.

The Masonry Association described McBride as a safe, secure, durable and comfortable school that is energy and water efficient, with stimulating architecture.

"As we deliberated, we constantly viewed the projects through the lenses of real projects, not projects of unlimited budgets or unlimited time, but projects that had to be produced on time and on budget," the award judges stated. "We believe that each of these projects went beyond the project requirements and also exhibit exceptional design effort."

Construction of McBride was funded by Measure K school bonds, approved by local voters in 2008.

Ethnic Studies Class Offers College Credit

The Long Beach Unified School District is offering high school students an ethnic studies class for college credit, thanks to a partnership with Cal State Long Beach.

The new class, U.S. Diversity and the Ethnic Experience, is being taught as an elective by university faculty this semester on Saturdays, providing three college credits and 10 high school credits. The program started recently with more than 400 students taking classes at the school district's six large high schools.

The class includes history, culture and contemporary issues of four groups: Asian American, American Indian, African and

Chicano/Latino. Course objectives include defining and comprehending theories of race and ethnicity, and understanding differences between racial prejudice and racism as social practice, as well as the differences between individual and institutional racism.

The administrative coordinator of the program is Armando Vazquez-Ramos, CSULB professor of Chicano and Latino studies. He approached the school district about a year ago regarding such a program. The Board of Education here has since agreed to devote about \$1 million to pay for the classes each semester for the next five years.

More Students Earn State Bilingual Seals

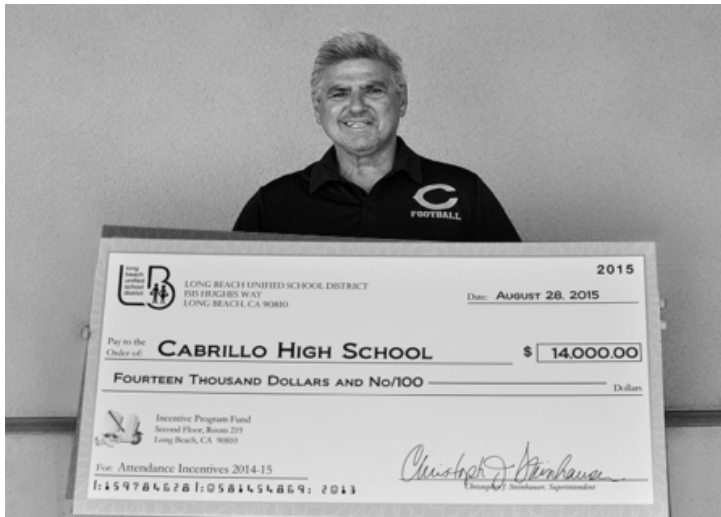
More than 600 members of the Class of 2015 in the Long Beach Unified School District earned the State Seal of Bilingual Proficiency, which recognizes high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading and writing one or more languages in addition to English.

Newly compiled data show that 639 students earned a total of 645 Seals of Bilingual Proficiency, with some students meeting the criteria in more than one language.

In California, more than 31,000 graduating students earned the seal.

(Continued on next page)

INCENTIVIZED – Cabrillo High School Co-Principal Elio Mendoza displays a check that his school earned for meeting attendance targets. Sixteen schools here received \$46,000 in attendance rewards from LBUSD. Nine high schools received a total of \$120,000 for meeting Advanced Placement targets.



Open Enrollment For Benefits, FSAs

Open Enrollment from Nov. 1 to 30 is an opportunity for employees to change current benefits and add or remove dependents from benefit plans. It's also the time when employees can enroll in a Flexible Spending Account (FSA). These accounts allow employees to pay for certain expenses using pretax contributions. That means less of the employee's paycheck goes to taxes, and the employee takes home more money.

Information packets will be mailed to employees' homes.

Coffee Rescheduled

The next Coffee with Chris meeting has been rescheduled to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10 at Poly High School. The meetings are held to encourage open dialogue between employees and Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser.

View the schedule of meetings under Coffee with Chris in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Dates to Remember

November	
1	National Native American Heritage Month
	Standard Time Day
3	Election Day
3-10	Elementary Conference Days
4	First Quarter Ends
4	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Pilgrims at Plymouth," Grades 4-8, ed.tv 8
5	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	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Thanksgiving Day," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
13	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Turkeys in the Wild," Grades K-4, ed.tv 8
14	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "Thanksgiving," Grades K-5, ed.tv 8
16-20	American Education Week
18	Education Support Professionals Day
18	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00— "First Thanksgiving," Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
19	Gettysburg Address Anniversary
20	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "School Bus Safety," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
21	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30— "McGruff on the Law: Bicycles and Pedestrians," Grades 2-5, ed.tv 8
23-27	Thanksgiving Recess
26	Thanksgiving Day
30	Mark Twain's Birthday

Biliteracy Seals

(Continued from first page) high school students this year earned the state recognition for achieving proficiency in multiple languages. That's nearly a three-fold increase since 2012, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson announced.

"Becoming multilingual is a huge asset in today's global economy, so I applaud the rising numbers of students attaining high levels of proficiency in multiple languages," Torlakson said. "These skills will help students to live, work, and thrive in a multicultural, multilingual and highly connected world."

The state honor goes to students who demonstrate proficiency via English class grades, state tests, performance on Advanced Placement college preparatory exams, and successful completion of a four-year high school course of study in a foreign language. In that course of study, students must earn an overall grade point average of 3.0 or above.

The biliteracy gold seal is affixed to high school diplomas. Long Beach students have earned more than 2,200 of the state seals over the past three years.

Of the seals issued statewide this year, 67 percent recognized fluency in Spanish, followed by French, Mandarin, German, Japanese, Latin, Korean, Vietnamese and Cantonese.

California pioneered the biliteracy seal, which was established in 2012. Since the program's inception, several other states including Washington, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Virginia, New York and Hawaii have started their own state seal programs.

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

FELTON WILLIAMS, President

JON MEYER, Vice President

DIANA CRAIGHEAD, Member

MEGAN KERR, Member

JOHN MCGINNIS, Member

Musical Miracles

(Continued from first page)

The film won the Audience Award at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival.

Rossatto-Bennett created the Alive Inside Foundation to further expand the vision of bringing music to elders by empowering youth to become music detectives to find the songs that spark memories in the elderly. In the process, students develop empathy as they learn about aging. Both the giver and receiver benefit from this exchange.

Inspired by the film, Carrie Smith, a science teacher at The Healdsburg School in Sonoma County, teamed up with Healdsburg Senior Living to create a pioneering program that involved her seventh graders making personalized playlists for residents.

Healdsburg students watched the film, learned about the brain, participated in a dementia simulation, and were paired with a senior to visit each month to find those special songs that trigger memories, stories and connection.

The Alive Inside Foundation is bringing this program to cities across the country, starting with Long Beach. They want to create a movement that connects the generations through music, cultivates empathy in students and sparks aliveness in seniors. The hope is that students who participate in the program will leave educated and empowered to make an impact on the future of senior care.



Photo: Lindsey Minerva/World Vision

Cabrillo Sends Goats To Farmers in Need

Students from Cabrillo High School recently raised \$835 to provide 16 goats to needy families overseas. The students from the school's California Scholarship Federation collected the funds for a service project. The goats will be given to female farmers who will be able to feed their families with the 16 cups of milk that a goat provides daily.

One goat can change everything because her milk provides protein to help children grow, and the family can sell any extra milk to earn money for medicines and other necessities.

"Students and staff embraced this humanitarian effort," said Luz Romero, a Cabrillo counselor and the club's sponsor. "I was astonished at the amount that they raised."

Students raised the funds for we.org, which encourages children to help other children around the world.