



September 16, 2016

Volunteers Help Start School Year in Style

In preparation for the new school year, Franklin Middle School and Powell Academy received a helping hand last month from the employees at Torrance-based Keenan, a statewide insurance and brokerage firm.

At Franklin, volunteers planted gardens, prepped classrooms and helped put together a Best Buddies room for students who have special needs.

At Powell, the Keenan staff assembled 1,000 backpacks for students at both the academy and Los Angeles Team Mentoring.

The projects were part of the firm's annual Impact Day, which also provided assistance to other schools and nonprofit organizations in Southern California, including three Long Beach agencies that serve local children: the Boys & Girls Club of Long Beach, For the Child, and the Ronald McDonald House.

"Keenan is committed to supporting the communities where our associates live and in which we do business," said Sean Smith, President and CEO of Keenan. "Our Impact Day efforts help to enrich the organizations that deliver vital services to those in need. It's a wonderful opportunity for our employees to engage the community on a different level."

State Names Bridge For Joan Van Blom

State lawmakers agreed last month to rename the Alamitos Bay Bridge after Joan Van Blom, the champion rower and Olympic medalist who worked for 35 years in the Long Beach Unified School District as a physical education teacher and curriculum leader.

Van Blom died just over a year ago from an aggressive form of brain cancer at 62.

"From the Olympic stage to the classroom, Joan Lind Van Blom was a woman who displayed great courage and a commitment to uplift her country and community," said Sen. Janet Nguyen, who proposed the legislation.

A scholarship fund has been established in Van Blom's name. To contribute, go to Education Foundation in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

What Others Say

"I can vouch that Long Beach Unified is held up as an example to other districts across the state of California," State Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell wrote in a recent edition of the *Gazettes*. "Our school board and superintendent are innovative, forward thinking, and maintain a strong focus on student success."

O'Donnell is a classroom teacher of more than 20 years, and he serves as Chair of the Assembly Education Committee.

Grads Earned \$93.6 Million in Scholarships

The Class of 2016 in the Long Beach Unified School District earned \$93.6 million in scholarships and grants. The total is a five-fold increase since a decade ago, and just shy of the previous year's record of \$96 million.

Poly/PAAL students earned \$31.8 million. School acceptances included Harvard, Yale, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania, Brown, Cornell, MIT, Johns Hopkins, Vanderbilt, Stanford, University of Virginia, Georgetown, Wesley, Smith, Wellesley, Tufts, Purdue, every UC campus, Northwestern, University of Michigan, USC, University of Texas at Austin, George Washington University, Occidental College, Williams, University of Notre Dame, NYU, Cal Arts and Spelman.

Wilson Classical High School students earned \$25.1 million. School acceptances included Columbia, Stanford, Cornell, NYU, Purdue, Brandeis, Boston University, Boston

College, Baylor, USC, Occidental, Tulane, University of Michigan, Reed, Seattle University, Pitzer, Loyola University Chicago, University of Hawaii, all UC campuses, University of Richmond, Santa Clara, University of Alabama, University of Denver, BYU, Pomona College, Chapman, Redlands and multiple CSU campuses, including 45 students admitted to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Lakewood High School students earned \$11.4 million. School acceptances included the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Military Academy, Stanford, University of Chicago, Purdue, UC Berkeley, USC, UCLA, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, UC Santa Barbara, UC Santa Cruz, UC Riverside, UC Merced, Brandeis, Swarthmore, Northwestern, Boston College, NYU, Art Institute of Chicago, Seton Hall, Northeastern, Adelphi, Fordham,

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Sato Academy Officially Dedicates Campus

The Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science officially dedicated its campus in honor of school namesake and former Long Beach Mayor Eunice Sato last week during a ceremony complete with traditional Japanese drummers and heartfelt speeches from school officials and Eunice's son.

Sato Academy opened last fall on the former Hill Classical Middle School campus and now enrolls freshmen and sophomores. The school is modeled after the Long Beach Unified School District's nationally recognized California Academy of Mathematics and Science, or CAMS, located on the campus of Cal State Dominguez Hills.

"A great school deserves a great namesake, and we're delighted that Eunice Sato agreed to lend her name to this school," LBUSD Board

of Education President Jon Meyer told an audience of about 500 students, parents, school staff and others who gathered on the school's field on Back to School Night.

"Eunice's life story is one of tremendous perseverance and service to her community," Meyer said. "She's widely known as a pillar of this city for her leadership and dedication to justice, equal opportunity and excellence in education. What a great inspiration and role model for our future engineers, mathematicians and scientists who attend this school."

Eunice Sato, now 95 years old, was the daughter of Japanese immigrants. During World War II she was forced to flee to Colorado with her parents and siblings to avoid being interned by the U.S. government. She

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SATO ACADEMY DEDICATION – Douglas Sato speaks at the Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science dedication ceremony in honor of his mother and former Long Beach Mayor Eunice Sato. He encouraged students to persevere and serve others, just as his mother did. View more photos and video at lbschools.net.



• Scholarships and College Admissions

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Allegheny, Baylor, Texas A&M, Gonzaga, Loyola Marymount, Occidental, Chapman, Pepperdine, University of Redlands, Whittier College, all CSU campuses, Tuskegee, Northern Arizona University, Arizona State, Grand Canyon, Philander Smith College, Colorado Mesa, Johnson and Wales, University of Northern Colorado, University of Hartford, University of Miami, Clark Atlanta, University of Georgia, University of Hawaii, Brigham Young, Howard, Free University of Brussels, University of British Columbia, Mount Saint Mary's University, University of La Verne, Biola, Azusa Pacific and California Baptist University.

Millikan High School students earned \$10.2

Resilient 8th Graders Earn Lough Awards

Five eighth graders each earned \$500 college scholarships at the end of last school year, courtesy of the Lyman W. and Nancy E. Lough Eighth Grade Scholarship Fund.

The awards go to students with a minimum GPA of 2.0, good citizenship and a potential for future success. The winners traditionally are students who are beating the odds and continuing to learn despite tough circumstances such as a disability, a difficult home life or other challenges. The winners and their schools are Anthony Adams, Washington; Carrie Porter, Nelson; Javier Tovar Garcia, Lindbergh; Josiah Broderick, Keller; and Sammy Moore, Lindsey.

As part of the Lough Awards an additional \$180-per-year scholarship from the Frangesch Memorial Fund went to student Jonx Galang of Muir.

The Frangesch award selection criteria are the same as those used for the Lough Awards.

Weight Watchers

The Long Beach Unified School District is committed to employee wellness and is paying 50 percent of the discounted cost for Weight Watchers offerings for all benefit-eligible active employees and spouses, as well as medical-plan-enrolled retirees and retiree spouses. Weight Watchers provides a personalized approach to weight loss through food and fitness.

Weight Watchers offerings and LBUSD Special Pricing:

- Meetings (Includes OnlinePlus), \$18.25 per month
- OnlinePlus, \$8.05 per month

• Weight Watchers for Diabetes (Includes OnlinePlus and meetings), for members diagnosed with type two diabetes, \$18.25 per month

To learn more, go to LBUSD.join.weight-watchers.com.

SAT for Athletes

Jordan High School piloted a summer SAT Test Prep Institute for 15 student athletes. The students also learned about NCAA eligibility requirements, how to earn acceptance to a university, and how to maintain their status as a student athlete.

million. School acceptances included all CSU and UC campuses, USC, Columbia, Harvey Mudd, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Tulane, Dickinson, Muhlenberg, Brandeis, Clark University, Seton Hall, NYU, Gonzaga, Regis, Reed, Occidental, Whitman, Lewis and Clark, Berklee College of Music, St. John's University, University of Hawaii, Chapman, University of Washington, University of Puget Sound, Concordia University at Chicago, Tuskegee, Mills, University of Oregon, University of the Pacific, Morgan State, Hampton, Alabama State, Woodbury, Biola, Loyola University Chicago, Howard and Cal Lutheran.

California Academy of Mathematics and Science students earned \$9.8 million, including full scholarships to the U.S. Air Force Academy, U.S. Naval Academy, Brown, Stanford, UC Berkeley, Kalamazoo, Middlebury, Northwestern, Pepperdine, Boston University, Johns Hopkins and other institutions. Other school acceptances included Amherst, Cal Tech, Dartmouth, Duke, Emory, Georgetown, Harvey Mudd, MIT, NYU, Olin College of Engineering, Reed, Rice, Swarthmore, all UC campuses, University of Pennsylvania, Williams College and Yale.

Jordan High School students earned more than \$2 million, Cabrillo High School students earned \$1.4 million, and Avalon High School students on Catalina Island earned \$1.2 million, with students at these schools earning admission to multiple UC and CSU campuses.

Renaissance High School for the Arts students earned \$563,827, with acceptances to multiple CSU and UC campuses, Young American College of the Performing Arts, American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Vanguard, Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising and Musician's Institute.

Students at Educational Partnership High School earned \$40,000, and students at Beach High School earned more than \$46,000.



CLOSING ACT – Dancers from the Long Beach Japanese Ondo Group provided the postlude at the dedication of Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science.

• Sato Dedication

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later graduated from the University of Northern Colorado and earned a master's degree in education from Columbia University in New York. Sato subsequently taught school in Michigan and Yokohama, Japan before returning to California.

The four-foot, 10-inch wife and mother was a natural leader and quickly became a force in school and church organizations and the local Republican Party. In 1975, she was elected to the Long Beach City Council, serving until 1986. She and her fellow council members helped to turn around a city facing budget shortfalls and local economic depression.

While Eunice was not able to attend last week's ceremony, her son, Douglas Sato, addressed the audience and reflected on his mother's life.

"What are the takeaways from such a life? First, mother's answer would be to endure with character and integrity," Douglas Sato said. "Students, you will encounter obstacles that will require your passion and faith in yourself to endure the setbacks and disappointments in life's journey. Use what you learn at this academy to build up your strength and determination to improve a world that needs help."

"And remember, no advancement or breakthrough in technology is done alone," he continued. "It will take courage to push boundaries, but that is the only way progress is made. It takes leadership and collaboration – all traits Eunice Sato utilized and will be developed here at your wonderful academy."

After leaving city politics, Sato served as president of the California Conference for Equality and Justice and on three state commissions as well as the National Advisory Council on Educational Research.

"I try to work wherever needed and to do my best to serve society," Eunice Sato said in an earlier interview. "And when you do that, you have no regrets."

In Memoriam

Roger Kroll
former teacher
Aug. 27, 2016

Tom Giugni
former superintendent
Sept. 8, 2016

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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