



August 31, 2018

Student Performance Steadily Improving

New data show steady gains in student achievement among students in the Long Beach Unified School District. The latest improvement continues a trend of significant growth seen over the previous two years.

Students have improved their performance on state tests and Advanced Placement college preparatory exams. Graduation rates are rising along with other measures of college readiness, including completion of course requirements for admission to University of California and California State University systems.

Fourth-year results on the newest state tests in English and math showed significant increases in student performance across ethnic subgroups and among special education, English learner and homeless/foster students. Many schools again saw double digit gains in the percentage of students meeting state standards, and several schools saw their achievement gaps close by 50 percent or more compared to their prior year's achievement for their lowest and highest performing subgroups. Numerous schools achieved academic growth at rates of more than one and half times their target. Overall, the school district has achieved some of the greatest gains among the state's major school systems.

"These results are encouraging. More schools are finding ways to improve achievement," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser said. "All student subgroups are progressing. This year we'll be working harder than ever to accelerate the improvement of lower performing subgroups so we can reduce and eliminate achievement gaps."

Throughout the school district, 51 percent of students met or exceeded standards in English, up 3 percent over last year, and up 9 percent since 2015. In math, 43 percent of

(Continued on next page)

Middle Schools Pilot Summer Enrichment

The Long Beach Unified School District piloted a Summer Enrichment Program this year at selected middle schools. The program helped to prepare hundreds of students for rigorous programs at the high school level.

Students experienced the collegiate lifestyle during visits to Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach. They also researched the 40 academic and career pathways offered in local high schools. Stephens Middle School students, for instance, found themselves in a mock courtroom trial at Cabrillo High School's Academy of Law and Justice.

"We wanted to get our high achieving students ready for high school. We call it the High School Readiness Camp," said teacher Kevin Smith of Stephens. "So it's been three weeks, Monday through Thursday, teaching these students about jobs, careers, high school



Caverly



Cohen



Evans



San Jose



Smith



Yepez

New Assignments Fill 51 Key Positions

A total of 51 administrators start new assignments at schools and offices in the Long Beach Unified School District this year.

Promoted to principal are Suzanne Caverly, Stanford, was assistant principal, PAAL; Beth Cohen, Prisk, was assistant principal, Lakewood; Darron Evans, Edison, was assistant principal, Dooley; Kimberly San Jose, Cleveland, was assistant principal, Whittier; Tynisha Smith, Powell, was assistant principal, Poly; and Maria Yepez, MacArthur, was assistant principal, Harte.

Reassigned principals are Luana Wesley, from Holmes to Birney; Clarissa Tolentino, from Roosevelt to Bryant; Scott Fleming, from MacArthur to Burbank; Lori Grady, from Whittier to Holmes; Vanessa Davis, from Burbank to McKinley; Athena Uribe, from Birney to Naples; Tammy Lavelle, Signal Hill to Roosevelt; Scott Tardibuono, McKinley to Signal Hill; Damon Jespersen, from Prisk to Whittier; and Jeff Wood, from Naples to Rogers.

Assigned to acting principal is Rachel Peters, Garfield, was assistant principal, Stephens.

Promoted to assistant principal are Diana Cohn, Jordan, was teacher on special assignment, Jordan; Cheryl Savio, Avalon, was teacher, Avalon; Tuan Nguyen, Nelson, was activities specialist, Cabrillo; and Julie Sparks, Lakewood, was program specialist, Beach.

Assigned to assistant principal are Ed Rogers, Kettering/Measure E, was principal, Edison; Douglas Jordan, Riley/Measure E, was principal, Rogers; and David Costa, Washington, was principal, Stanford.

Reassigned assistant principals are Laura Martin, from Franklin to Hoover; John Nhan, from Nelson to Marshall; Dorian Eveland, from McBride/Measure E to McBride/Cabrillo; Linda Cargile, from Jordan to Poly; Marybeth Murray, from Barton to Barton/Smith; Juan Gonzalez, from Smith to Dooley; Brenda Ocampo, from Lafayette to Harte; Linda Reynolds, from Nelson to Lafayette/Hudson; Helen Magana, from Washington to Nieto Herrera; Liseeth Ramos, from Nieto Herrera to Whittier; Eileen Torres-Zeller, from Avalon to Franklin; Rita Aslan, from Hudson to Hughes; Margo Adkins-Jackson, from Wilson to Poly; and Guillermo Jimenez, from Poly to Wilson.

Earning promotions to head counselor are Kate Komatz, Elementary Office, was counselor, Longfellow/Elementary Office; Nora Valdez, Beach, was counselor, Cabrillo; Erika Medina, Jordan, was counselor, Wilson; and Nancy Freihaut, Lakewood, was counselor, Stanford.

Others promoted are Kellie Hodge, administrative assistant, EACCR, was teacher on special assignment, Poly; Christopher Itson, activities specialist, Cabrillo, was teacher on special

(Continued on next page)

Child Development Centers Enrolling

The Long Beach Unified School District's Child Development Centers are accepting children for free/low-cost and fee-based preschool and school-age programs at a number of sites throughout the district.

Fee-based and subsidized programs are available for both the preschool and school-age programs. Preschool programs offer full and part-day options. School-age programs provide care before and after school, and during holiday breaks.

Teachers are highly qualified and credentialed, and the curriculum is aligned with state standards. Tours of the Child Development Centers are available, and enrollment is offered year-round.

Call 429-8636 to learn more.

pathways, their interests and everything in between we could think of."

Students used digital tools including Chromebooks, and they participated in lessons created to address their specific needs.

"Our ultimate goal for this summer school and during this school year is really to create that sense of belonging," said Jay Camerino, assistant superintendent of Middle and K-8 Schools. "Our students need to feel like our teachers and our staff and schools care about them so they can make that connection."

The school district plans to continue and hopefully expand the program next summer.

"This program was a great start," Smith said. "Next year we have a template to go forward."

View video by finding the "What Some Kids Did This Summer" article at lbschools.net.



COLLEGE BOUND – Emmanuel Sanchez is one of more than 100 members of the Cabrillo High School Class of 2018 who are depicted on street banners now displayed in West Long Beach on and near Santa Fe Avenue and Willow Street. Each banner indicates where the student is attending college. View the full banner and a new promotional video about Cabrillo at lbschools.net.

Dates to Remember

September

3	Library Card Sign-Up Month
3	Treaty of Paris Anniversary
3	Labor Day – Holiday
4	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00; 20 - 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “School Bus Safety,” Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
6	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “School Bus and the Exceptional Child,” Grades K-12, ed.tv 8
7	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Getting to School the Safe Way,” Grades 1-5
8	International Literacy Day
9-11	Rosh Hashanah
9-15	National Arts in Education Week
9	California Admission Day
9	National Grandparents Day
11	Patriot Day
11	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “Staying Out of Trouble With Your Friends,” Grades 3-4, ed.tv 8
12	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “Harriet Tubman,” Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
13	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Ask For It,” Grades 1-2, ed.tv 8
14	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Beginning Responsibility: Learning to Follow Instructions,” Grades 1-3, ed.tv 8
15-Oct. 15	National Hispanic Heritage Month
15-16	Mexican Independence Days
16	Mayflower Day
17	Citizenship/Constitution Day
17-23	Constitution Week
18	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “You Can Refuse,” Grades 5-8, ed.tv 8
18-19	Yom Kippur
19	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “Pocahontas,” Grades 3-8, ed.tv 8
20	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “School Bus Safety,” Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
21	International Day of Peace
21	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Beginning Responsibility: A Lunch Room Goes Bananas,” Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
22	First Day of Autumn
25	Back to School Night – Middle Schools
25	9:00, 9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “Columbus,” Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
26	Back to School Night – Elementary Schools
26	8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00 – “Native American Day,” Grades K-3, ed.tv 8
27	9:30, 10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Riding Your School Bus Safely,” Grades 6-12, ed.tv 8
28	10:00, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30 – “Getting to School Safely Is Your Job,” Grades K-3, ed.tv 8

• Steadily Improving

(Continued from first page)
students districtwide met or exceeded standards, up 4 percent over last year, and up 13 percent since 2015. The latest data were presented by staff during a public Board of Education workshop earlier this month.

Graduation rates increased here for the sixth year in a row, again surpassing state and county rates. Students of color in Long Beach schools outperformed their peers countywide and statewide, and eight high schools here reported graduation rates above 90 percent.

LBUSD’s overall graduation rate is 86 percent, up 1.8 percent over last year and surpassing both Los Angeles County’s rate of 80.8 percent and California’s 82.7 percent.

More students are enrolling in Advanced Placement courses, and more students are taking and passing AP exams. Among students in grades 11 and 12, 47 percent enrolled in at least one AP course last year, up 1 percent over the prior year, and up 13 percent since 2013-14. Students took a record high of 14,786 AP exams last school year, passing a record 6,624 tests. Even as the number of attempted tests increased, so did the pass rate, improving by 4 percent over the prior year.

More students here are completing the “A-G” requirements for admission to the University of California and California State University systems. The school district’s projected A-G completion rate for 2017-18 is 56 percent, an improvement of eight percentage points in just one year, and an increase of 19 percentage points since 2011-12.

View video and see the entire set of slides from the recent Board of Education workshop by finding the “Student Achievement Rises Again” article at lbschools.net.

Names in the News

Denise “Sparkle” Peterson, principal at Nelson Academy, recently received a community service award in the category of education enrichment at the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority’s 20th annual Pearl Awards Breakfast. The award recognized Peterson’s 35 years of service to the school district, her 11 years of teaching at Cal State Long Beach and other work. She was described as “a wonderful person and a brilliant educator.”

Dooley Elementary School teacher **Lydia Gutierrez** was selected as a recipient of the Teaching Grant for Growth Award from Kinecta Federal Credit Union. The award recognizes her “earnest efforts toward the betterment of students” and includes \$1,000 in support of her “Funding for the Arts” initiative.

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

JON MEYER, Vice President

JUAN BENITEZ, Member

MEGAN KERR, Member

FELTON WILLIAMS, Member

UCLA Health Offers Equipment Grants

The grant application period for UCLA Health Sound Body Sound Mind opens Sept. 4. The organization provides up to \$40,000 of professional grade cardio and weight equipment for middle schools and \$50,000 for high schools. A technology grant provides up to \$5,000 for supplemental technology for physical education.

Complete applications at uclahealth.org/soundbodysoundmind. Submissions are due Oct. 5. Questions? Contact Amanda Gittleman, program manager, at 310-500-4291.

Marshall Academy of the Arts in East Long Beach dedicated a new fitness room last spring, complete with state-of-the-art equipment funded by one of the \$40,000 UCLA Health grants.

Weight Watchers

To help start the new school year, Weight Watchers is offering a free starter kit to employees who newly enroll from Sept. 4 to 18.

Register within that timeframe to redeem the free starter kit by Oct. 5 while supplies last. Look for the promotional flyer at your worksite.

• Assignments

(Continued from first page)
assignment, Cabrillo; Lushandra Prioleau, program administrator, OSSS, was assistant principal, Hughes; Dulnari Edirisinghe-Aga, administrative assistant, EACCR, was program specialist, Poly; Carrie Wiley, administrative assistant, OCIPD, was teacher on special assignment, OCIPD; and Lisa Dougan, program specialist, OCIPD, was teacher on special assignment, OCIPD.

Beverly Moutet becomes assistant director, Leadership Development, was assistant principal, Jordan.

Hired as new early learning center managers for Head Start are Shameka Robinson-Horn, was early childhood education site facilitator for Lynwood Unified; and Shannon Huston, was director of education at the Pretend City Children’s Museum in Irvine.

In Memoriam

David Blackburn
teacher, Oropeza
June 2, 2018

Nancy Lee Saunders
former teacher
June 8, 2018

Andrea Blaser
former teacher
June 12, 2018

Barbara Hoehne
former clerk typist
June 20, 2018

Sharon Flynn
former teacher
June 22, 2018