



# school bulletin

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

May 31, 2019



**INSPIRING STUDENT** – Diego Franco of Rogers Middle School was one of 87 students honored at the Most Inspiring Students Awards. Diego was described as “an amazing young man who always goes above and beyond.” Also pictured are Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna, LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser and LBUSD Board of Education member Felton Williams. **Story on next page.**

## Assemblymember Honors 11 Teachers

Assemblymember Patrick O’Donnell (D – Long Beach) recently honored 11 outstanding Long Beach Unified School District teachers as part of Teacher Appreciation Month.

Family, friends and colleagues gathered to celebrate teachers from the 70th Assembly District who provide superb classroom instruction and service to the community.

O’Donnell, who is a teacher and chair of the Assembly Education Committee, presented each honoree with an Extraordinary Teacher Award “for their commitment to student success inside and outside the classroom.”

Honorees and their schools were Amy Brown, Stanford; Tammy Carsten, Powell; Charlie Dodson, Poly; Kenneth Fisher, Cabrillo; Ted Hollister, Wilson; Marla Kleiman, Wilson; Amy Leveque, Wilson; Roberto Licon, Oropeza; Andrew Osman, Poly; Nica Rumion, Stevenson; and James Willert, Lakewood.

## LBUSD Among ‘Districts Beating the Odds’

In some California school districts, students consistently achieve at higher than expected levels, performing better than students of similar racial, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds in most other districts. Long Beach is one of those high performing school systems, says a new report, “California’s Positive Outliers: Districts Beating the Odds.”

The report was released this month by the nonprofit Learning Policy Institute. Based in Palo Alto, Calif., the institute seeks to advance evidence-based policies that support equitable learning for every child.

“Positive outlier districts appear to have leveraged the state’s updated educational standards, funding and accountability systems to support students in meeting more rigorous academic standards,” the report states.

The 44-page study was co-authored by LPI

researcher and policy analyst Anne Podolsky, LPI President Linda Darling-Hammond (who is also president of the State Board of Education), Stanford professor Sean Reardon and RAND Associate Policy Researcher Christopher Doss.

After looking at 435 school districts, researchers identified Long Beach as one of the 167 positive outlier districts where Hispanic and white students achieve at higher than predicted levels relative to their socioeconomic status and 48 districts where African American and white students achieve at higher than predicted levels.

A common characteristic among the successful school systems is highly qualified teachers.

“The research finds that providing students with qualified, fully prepared teachers is a

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## Graduations Set for Thousands of Students

The Long Beach Unified School District will award diplomas to about 5,400 students at 15 ceremonies from May 31 to June 14.

The estimated numbers of graduates at each school are: 939 at Poly High School and Poly PAAL; 775 at Millikan High School; 773 at Wilson High School; 710 at Lakewood High School; 527 at Jordan High School; 494 at Cabrillo High School; 407 at Educational Partnership High School; 161 at California Academy of Mathematics and Science; 158 at McBride High School; 106 at Sato Academy of Mathematics and Science; 99 at Renaissance High School for the Arts; 91 at Reid Continuation High School; 53 at Long Beach

School for Adults; 39 at Avalon High School; and 28 at Beach High School.

This schedule includes the names of officials who are confirmed to present diplomas:

### Friday, May 31

- Long Beach School for Adults, 6 p.m., Browning High School, Assistant Superintendent for High Schools Pete Davis

### Tuesday, June 4

- CAMS, 6 p.m., Stub Hub Tennis Center, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

### Wednesday, June 5

- Sato, 5:30 p.m., Carpenter Center, Board of Education President Diana Craighead, Board

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## Buffum’s Pam Auman is Employee of Year

Pamela Auman, speech-language pathology assistant at Buffum Total Learning Center, has earned the Classified Employee of the Year Award from the Long Beach Unified School District. The award was announced during a recent celebration in honor of classified employees at the Teacher Resource Center.

“I’m a little overwhelmed right now,” Auman said. “I appreciate all of my co-workers who submitted nominations, and all the nice things they said about me.”

Buffum TLC serves infants, toddlers and preschoolers who have special needs.

Several of Auman’s colleagues nominated her for the award and described her as a compassionate, empathetic and creative speech language pathologist assistant for students who have various disabilities. She uses pictures, devices, sign language and more, constantly finding new ways to help make lessons and materials more fun and engaging for students.

“She always puts others first, and our site’s speech and language team could not function

without her amazing support and hard work,” speech language pathologist Carolyn Caldwell said. “Her kindness and patience is so apparent that the students instantly trust her and connect with her.”

Nearly 30 nominations for the Classified Employee of the Year Award were narrowed down to five finalists, including Auman. The winner and finalists also will be honored at the June 19 Board of Education meeting.

The four other finalists were Elsa Baul, accountant at Accounting; Brenda Cassman, intermediate office assistant at Millikan; Mary Ann Lazatin, office supervisor at Hamilton; and Albert Marquez, plant supervisor at Gant.



**Auman**

## Inspiring Students Honored for Persistence

Students from each school in the Long Beach Unified School District were honored at the Most Inspiring Students Awards event held recently at the Long Beach Hilton. The annual dinner, sponsored by the school district and the Long Beach Education Foundation, recognizes students who exemplify persistence, tremendous effort, good citizenship and service.

The keynote speaker was Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna, who received a Service Above Self Award from the school district. He was introduced to the audience by Long Beach Fire Chief Xavier Espino, who said "the students we'll meet tonight are being honored because they inspire us to be our best selves, and we're fortunate to call these students our own."

Luna thanked school district employees for their daily work, and he praised the student honorees and their parents.

"Thank you to the parents, who I believe are doing an absolutely amazing job, and making sure students get up every day, that they go to

## • Graduations

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of Education Vice President Jon Meyer and Board of Education Member Megan Kerr

### Wednesday, June 12

- Lakewood, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education President Diana Craighead
- Millikan, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education President Diana Craighead and Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser

### Thursday, June 13

- Reid, 1 p.m., Cabrillo High School, Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser
- Jordan, 2 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Member Megan Kerr
- Renaissance, 3 p.m., Poly High School Auditorium, Board of Education Member Juan Benitez

- Avalon, 4 p.m., Avalon Theatre, Instructional Director/Principal Supervisor Chris Brown

- Wilson, 5 p.m., Stephens Field (Wilson), Board of Education Vice President Jon Meyer, Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser

- Cabrillo, 5:30 p.m., Cabrillo Stadium, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

- McBride, 5:30 p.m., Millikan Field, Board of Education President Diana Craighead, Board of Education Member Juan Benitez

- Poly, 7 p.m., Veterans Stadium, Board of Education Member Felton Williams

### Friday, June 14

- EPHS, noon, Poly High School Auditorium, Board of Education Member Megan Kerr and Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser

- Beach, 2:30 p.m., Millikan Auditorium, Board of Education Vice President Jon Meyer

## Dates to Remember

June	
5	Great Outdoors Month
5	World Environment Day 8:00, 10:15, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00— "Independence Day," Grades 3-5, ed.tv 8
9	Race Unity Day
12	Anne Frank's Birthday
13	Spring Semester Ends
14	Last Day for Teachers
14	Flag Day
16	Fathers Day
18	Anniversary of the First American Woman in Space
21	First Day of Summer
27	Helen Keller's Birthday

school, that they're dressed, that when they get home they're doing their homework, because at the end of the day, as a police chief, I want nothing more than to see our children succeed. We want to make sure that their hopes and dreams come alive."

Also addressing the students were members of the Board of Education and LBUSD administrative staff. Members of the Millikan High School Concert Choir sang for the audience.

LBUSD Music Curriculum Leader James Petri earned the Once in a Generation Education Award for exemplary service. Education Foundation President Henry Fung and Executive Director Judy Seal also were recognized for their many years of service.

## • 'Beating the Odds'

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critical component for raising student achievement," said Podolsky, the lead author. "Fully prepared teachers are also two to three times less likely to leave the profession early."

Go to [learningpolicyinstitute.org](http://learningpolicyinstitute.org) to view the full report.

In August, LPI will release a series of case studies that examine seven of the positive outlier districts, including Long Beach, San Diego Unified, Chula Vista Elementary, Clovis Unified, Gridley Unified, Hawthorne Unified and Sanger Unified school districts.

## In Memoriam

### Joyce Gregory

former school community worker  
April 13, 2019

### Betty Montemurro

former cafeteria manager  
April 16, 2019

### Gordon Logan

former teacher  
April 20, 2019

### Joan Hutchinson

former teacher  
May 8, 2019

### Amy Schwarz

teacher, Millikan High School  
May 15, 2019

### 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](http://www.lbschools.net)

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER  
Superintendent of Schools

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## McBride Wins 2nd in State STEM Contest

A team of students from McBride High School won second place statewide in a web-based science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) contest sponsored by the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program and the National Science Teachers Association.

The team included Tristan Feves, Antonio Serrano and Julianne Sees. They designed and built a prototype seat belt system. Their advisor was teacher John Jacobson.

As part of the "e-cybermission" contest, students identify a problem in their community and use scientific practices or the engineering design process to develop a solution.

First-place state winning teams receive \$1,000 per student team member in U.S. savings bonds, and second-place teams receive \$500 per student.

In the next round of the competition, 60 regional finalist teams will compete to advance as one of 20 finalists at the National Judging and Educational Event June 16 to 21 in Washington, D.C.

Learn more at [ecybermission.com](http://ecybermission.com).

## Names in the News

California Academy of Mathematics and Science students earned first place among 12 teams at the recent Marine Applied Technology Education remotely operated vehicle challenge at Long Beach City College. Team members included **Aarya Topiwala**, **Isaac Addis**, **Frank Chaquero**, **Jiajer Ho**, **Mafias Vergara**, **Jared Arbolario** and **Alex Vazquez**.

CAMS students also won the championship at the recent Raytheon Engineering Games in El Segundo, Calif. Students competed against 16 other schools in a computer programming cryptography challenge. The winning team included freshmen **Maricella Garibay** and **Shrey Mehta**, and sophomore **Silas John**. Their computer science teacher is **Sandra James**.

Poly High School's auditorium will be named after the school's longtime music teacher **Andrew "Andy" Osman**. The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education recently approved the renaming. Osman has been a pivotal figure in the success of the Poly music program since 1983 and is retiring this year. He helped the music program to achieve Grammy-recognized status, and many of his former students are carrying out his legacy as music educators themselves.

Student **Janelle Nelson** of Lakewood High School was selected as one of 12 students awarded the prestigious CSU Dominguez Hills Presidential Scholarship. The full-tuition scholarship is the university's highest award.

Poly High School student **Jack Schwarz** has been awarded one of the most highly selective merit scholarships in the nation. He is the only student from Southern California to earn a Jefferson Scholarship for the full cost of attending the University of Virginia.

## Retirement Event

Honoree	Date	Contact
Pete Davis	June 17	Kelly Tavolara ktavolara @lbschools.net