



# school bulletin

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

June 12, 2020



## Hours Tick Away, Use Them Wisely

By Christopher J. Steinhauser

In one of my messages to employees shortly after I became superintendent years ago, I wrote, “Remember, someone took care of us. Someone helped us achieve our dreams. It’s now our responsibility to help these kids achieve their dreams and the dreams of their parents.”

This week’s high school graduates were infants back then, and now we’re celebrating them as best we can with car parades and virtual ceremonies, for obvious reasons.

How time flies.

I like to remind people that in our schools, we only get one chance to educate our children, and that’s why we have to give it our all. My work as superintendent has focused on closing achievement and opportunity gaps, and I am proud of what we have accomplished together. I know that my talented colleague Jill Baker will continue this work when she officially takes over Aug. 1.

During my 18 years in this job (and 38 with the school district) I’ve witnessed first-hand so many people giving their all in support of teaching and learning. These past few months of unprecedented school closures and distance learning are no exception, making my departure more bittersweet than I could have imagined. The persistence of our students, families and employees is so inspirational.

Most urban school district superintendents don’t last beyond their first three to four years, so it’s been a true privilege to enjoy such continuous support from our Board of Education and our school communities.

As I depart as your superintendent, I have one last request. Always remember, the clock continues to tick for another generation of students, who are relying on us to help them achieve their dreams.

## Retiring Employees Served for 64 Centuries

A total of 249 Long Beach Unified School District employees with a combined 6,403 years of service are retiring.

### Certificated Retirees

49 years – Mary Brennan, Lowell;  
 40 years – Catherine Khoury, Prisk; Barbara Muha, Gant;  
 39 years – Sylvia Morgan, Willard; Karen Caldwell, McKinley;  
 38 years – Karen Fontes, Newcomb; Janilyn Conrad, Rogers;  
 37 years – Nancy A. Mitchell, Wilson; Karen Briggs, Millikan; Robert Wallace, EPHS; Catherine Bates, Cleveland;  
 36 years – Ken Ahart, CDC; Carol Kawakami; Garfield; Stacy Casanave, OCIPD; Marcia Hemphill, Muir;  
 35 years – Donna Ruggles, Fremont;  
 34 years – Kathleen Reich, Powell; Cynthia Pirie, Cubberley; Katherine Duncan, Burcham; Ruth Ashley, Deputy Supt. Ed Services Office.  
 33 years – Robin Antletz, Muir; Denise R.

Hernandez, Dooley; Steven Avitable, Cubberley;

32 years – Stephanie Barnett, Burcham; Dennis Prowant, Cubberley; Anna Buksa, Cubberley; Deborah Johnson, Bryant; Kenneth Williams, Emerson; Jolene Roberts, Cleveland;

31 years – Teri Young, Millikan; Stephanie Bauer, Lakewood; Lorrie Davis, Carver; Shelley Gustafson, OCIPD;

30 years – Casey Scott, Franklin; Connie Hoppe, Bryant; Quentin Brown, Deputy Supt. of Schools Office;

29 years – Jeanne Spicer, Lowell; Elizabeth Patrou, Hoover;

28 years – Connie Loggins, Poly; Mary Stewart, Hudson;

27 years – Ray Sharp, OMS; Mercedes Curiel, Cleveland;

26 years – Joseph Martinez, Jr., Lakewood; Patria Daliva, Head Start;

25 years – Shelley Edwards, Fremont; Marta Robledo, Grant;

24 years – Cynthia Archambault, CDC; Mary Campbell, Twain; Steven Tisdale, Harte;

23 years – Brad Greenburg, Cabrillo;

22 years – Antonio Santamaria, Wilson;

(Continued on next page)

## Board Approves Key Assignments

The Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education approved the first phase of a planned central office reorganization during its regular meeting last week. The administrative assignments were recommended by Deputy Superintendent Jill Baker as she prepares to become superintendent on Aug. 1.

The incoming superintendent has designed a team that will continue the school district’s work to close achievement gaps, address organizational equity, and focus on social emotional learning strategies for all students. The assignments result in a reduction of administrative staff for a savings of about \$1 million.

Tiffany Brown was promoted from assistant superintendent, Office of School Support Services, to deputy superintendent, while Erin Simon was promoted from director, Office of School Support Services, to assistant superintendent, Office of School Support Services.

Four other school district leaders will receive new titles: Brian Moskovitz becomes assistant superintendent of Early Learning and Elementary Schools; Claudia Sosa-Valderrama, director of the Office of School Support Services; Lucy Salazar, director of Organizational Equity and Engagement; and Michelle Thomassian, administrator of Business Engagement and Strategic Partnerships.

The assignments take effect July 1, with the exception of Salazar’s appointment, which takes effect Aug. 17.

Find more details in the June 2 list of approved assignments under Administrative Assignments in the A-Z index at [lbschools.net](https://lbschools.net).



**INSPIRING STUDENT** – Poly High School’s Anahi Nunez receives a Most Inspiring Student lawn sign as part of the annual awards honoring an exemplary, resilient student from each school. This year, students were honored via a virtual event that’s still available at [lbschools.net/youtube](https://lbschools.net/youtube). Anahi was described as “such a solid student” who guides incoming freshmen through the large campus and “smiles continuously, through thick and thin.”

## • Years of Dedicated Service from Retirees

(Continued from first page)

Christopher Eckert, Burcham; Sim Heng, Whittier; Karen Schutz, Oropeza; Sue Lynn Abrams-Puz, Cubberley; Dina McKnight-Moore, McKinley; Paula Clear, Wilson; Nikole Severance, Lincoln;  
 21 years – Catherine Desmond, Twain; Cameron Flanders, Garfield;  
 20 years – Felicia Linson, Lakewood; Ronald Roberts, EPHS; Nancy Blake, McBride; Terri Rivera, Signal Hill;  
 19 years – Rufina Cruz, CDC; Sharon Hatfield, Lindsey; Craig Barnes, Wilson; Jeanine Bowman, Mann; Bernadette Wheeler, EPHS;  
 17 years – Kathleen Jekerle, Buffum;  
 16 years – Janet Turner, Millikan;  
 15 years – Leticia Bernal, Wilson; Brian Lenzen, Cabrillo;  
 14 years – Jill Tyhurst, Twain;  
 13 years – Cindy Ninokawa,  
 Webster/Holmes; Nancy McKnight, Smith.  
 A total of 38 others with a combined 981 years of service asked not to be listed.

### Classified Retirees

40 years – Harold G. Brearley, Jr., Nutrition Services; Annette Howard, CDC;  
 39 years – Cheryl Dennison, Cubberley; Brucina Denise Buford, Henry; Perry Barnes, Stanford;  
 38 years – Ramona F. Hyde, Stephens; Kim E. Eckert, OCIPD; Maurice D. Turner, Poly;  
 37 years – Ron R. Perruccio, Millikan;  
 36 years – Victor H. Gonzales, Los Cerritos; Dolores Reyes, Grant;  
 35 years – Theresa C. O'Connor, Contract Material; David Lawson, Transportation;  
 33 years – Kimberlyn Broadnax, Head Start; Joe E. Sauter, Maintenance;  
 32 years – Laurel A. Keller, Dooley; Darrell Oshita, Maintenance; Charles B. Hawkins, Washington; Vilma G. Viray, Maintenance; Sharon Grimes, CAMS; Barbara Ann Wilson, Oropeza;  
 30 years – Maria E. Garcia, Jordan/Poly; Trina Kelm, Smith; Victor Flucker, CDC; Rickey Gipson, Lindbergh; Monroe R. Goolsby III, Grounds Services; Lori D. Betschel, Supt/BOE;  
 29 years – Linda D. Isbell, McBride;  
 28 years – Cheryl L. Bone, Lakewood; Terri

L. Haster, Mann;  
 27 years – Rodney D. Adams, Transportation; Zina L. Taylor, Oropeza;  
 26 years – Grace Derby, Kettering; James L. Troncoso, Maintenance; Adrienne D. Rambo, Newcomb;  
 25 years – Luciano A. Bobadilla, Information Services;  
 24 years – Freda R. Wynn, Millikan;  
 23 years – Elizabeth Roalston, Nutrition Center; Angela Rivers, OSSS;  
 22 years – Orlando Gonzales, Tucker; Polini Salu; Oropeza; Elizabeth L. Velasco, Nutrition Services; Toni M. Collins, Millikan;  
 21 years – Mary Chase, Purchasing; John D. Bethel, Maintenance; Pamela Brown, Head Start  
 20 years – Juan Garcia, Millikan; James O. Davidson, Jr., Beach; Malina F. Hanson, Operations; Lucy Renshaw, Carver/Lowell; Troy Denton, Edison;  
 19 years – Dorothy Price, OCIPD; Dennis M. Pickens, Maintenance; Diane T. Epps, Accounting; Sheila R. Allen, Payroll; Teri Bozarth, Nutrition Services; Rita Cammon, Barton; Maria Mercado, Nutrition Services;  
 18 years – Fred Fagen, Newcomb; Herold McCaslin; Lakewood; Haydee M. Correa, Lakewood;  
 17 years – Tammie Hirth, Nutrition Services; Adela Hernandez, Head Start; Donald Morrow, Cubberley; Gregory Botts, Head Start;  
 16 years – Yvonne Doakes, Lakewood;  
 15 years – Bibiana Zatarain, Head Start;  
 14 years – Abelina Leyva, Head Start;  
 13 years – Laura L. Yolton, Jordan;  
 12 years – Elizabeth Geier, OCIPD.  
 Sixty-four others who served 1,494 years asked that their names not be printed.

## COVID Relief Fund For LBUSD Families

The Long Beach Education Foundation is accepting monetary donations to provide food and other necessities to LBUSD families who are impacted by the coronavirus.

Tax deductible online donations can be made at [lbschools.net/give](https://lbschools.net/give). In the drop-down menu for fund designation, select "COVID-19 Relief Fund for LBUSD Families."

Two significant donations already have been committed to the fund, including \$3,000 from Long Beach-based California Resources Corporation, and \$2,500 from Long Beach Schools Federal Credit Union.

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER  
 Superintendent of Schools

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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## Names in the News

**Erin Simon**, director of Student Support Services, was elected as state vice president for the Association of California School Administrators. ACSA is the largest umbrella organization for school leaders in the United States, serving more than 17,000 California educators.



Simon

Five eighth graders have each earned \$500 college scholarships, 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. This year's winners and their schools are **Marlon Mejia**, Hoover; **Naiem Naiem**, Powell; **Panagiotis Papadamis**, Rogers; **Pearanna Sermons**, Stanford; and **Nathan Warren**, Hughes. As part of the Lough Awards an additional \$180-per-year scholarship from the Frangesch Memorial Fund went to student **William Wilson** of Cubberley. The Frangesch award selection criteria are the same as those used for the Lough Awards.

Poly High School counselor **Michael Gray** was selected to serve on the California Department of Education Social and Emotional Learning Work Group. The CDE received more than 250 applications to participate. The group will focus on best practices to support educator and student social and emotional learning. Members will help to make recommendations on policy and resources.

## Leaves, Resignations

Certificated employees planning to resign, retire or request a leave of absence for the 2020-21 school year should submit the appropriate form to their site administrator as soon as possible. Resignations and requests for full-year leaves of absence received after June 30, 2020 will not be approved unless the school district is able to hire a suitable replacement. For more information, contact Kimberly Dalton at ext. 8108 or [kdalton@lbschools.net](mailto:kdalton@lbschools.net).

According to Article VI, "Compensation," in the Teachers Association of Long Beach contract, "Employees who have served a complete contract year are eligible for district-paid benefits through Sept. 30." For more information about duration of benefits, contact Risk Management at ext. 8234 or 8236.

## Schools Honored For Green Efforts

Several local schools recently earned recognition and "eco-grants" from the nonprofit Grades of Green in support of continued efforts to reduce waste.

Students at the California Academy of Mathematics and Science earned the Green Influencer Award and a \$500 grant. Earning \$250 grants were Keller Dual Immersion Middle School, which won the Campus Advocates Award, and Whittier Elementary School, which won the Most Inspirational Team Award. Rogers Middle School qualified as a finalist this year.

In recent years, local schools have reduced hundreds of tons of waste by participating in Grades of Green programs. Students have learned to pack trash-free lunches, sort materials for recycling, and advocate for environmentally friendly practices.

## In Memoriam

**Vichet Por**  
 teacher, Whittier  
 May 5, 2020

**Doris Doughty**  
 former teacher  
 May 15, 2020

**Frances J. Harding**  
 former teacher  
 May 18, 2020