



school bulletin

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Teacher of Year Shares Insights

The Long Beach Unified School District has named Bancroft Middle School teacher Linda McClure as Teacher of the Year.

McClure, a computer science and engineering teacher, has been an instructor with LBUSD for 27 years at both the elementary and middle school levels.

She is a key contributor to technology advancement in LBUSD classrooms. She has created courses and opportunities for students to develop real-world career skills in various STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) related fields. Most recently, her technology-based instruction style, which includes producing videos of her lessons, allowed her students to convert to online instruction seamlessly during COVID-19.



McClure

(Continued on next page)

Librarian of Year an 'Advocate for Kids'

Darlene Dunn, who works at Addams and McKinley elementary schools, recently earned the Teacher Librarian of the Year Award from the Long Beach School Librarians Association.

Dunn has worked in the Long Beach Unified School District since 1979. She began her career as a library media assistant and worked in that role at Alvarado, Burbank, Butler, Kettering, Longfellow, Lowell, Prisk, Stevenson and Whittier schools. She has been a teacher librarian since 1997, working at Burbank, Lincoln and Stevenson schools. She is currently the teacher librarian at Addams and McKinley.



Dunn

"Darlene is an advocate for the children here at Addams, and she wants them to have the best library experience," an Addams teacher said. "She is adamant about order, respect for each other and the library property. She makes sure to her best ability the library is stocked with great literature, and she decorates for the seasons and holidays."

Dunn also has been an active member of the LBSLA Board, serving as the Teachers Association of Long Beach liaison for several years. She is the elected Jordan Area Elementary Director for TALB, she chairs TALB's Library Task Force, and she is president of the California School Library Association Southern Region.

Tincher, Kettering Win National Blue Ribbon

Tincher Preparatory Academy and Kettering Elementary School are among 367 schools recently named National Blue Ribbon Schools by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos.

The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance or progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

"Congratulations to this year's National Blue Ribbon School awardees," said Secretary DeVos. "It's a privilege to recognize the extraordinary work you do to meet students' needs and prepare them for successful careers and meaningful lives."

The U.S. Department of Education announcement notes that "the coveted National Blue Ribbon Schools award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities

in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content."

The award is the first National Blue Ribbon honor for Tincher, a K-8 school, and for Kettering, though both schools are accustomed to state and national recognition. Tincher has been recognized multiple times as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle School Reform, and in 2011 Tincher hosted a visit by then U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Kettering has also been recognized as a California Distinguished School.

The Education Department plans to hold this year's virtual recognition ceremony on Nov. 12 and 13.

LBUSD Among America's Best Employers

Forbes recently included the Long Beach Unified School District on the list of "America's Best Employers by State."

The list was compiled by surveying 80,000 Americans working for businesses with at least 500 employees. Surveys were conducted from October 2019 to May 2020.

"We appreciate this recognition, especially given the continuing pandemic, because the methodology of the Forbes list emphasizes the safety of the work environment, among other factors, including competitiveness of compensation, opportunities for advancement, and the real test – whether our employees would recommend us to others," LBUSD

Superintendent Jill Baker said. "We thank our employees for the vote of confidence and for continuing to teach and nurture our students during these trying times."

LBUSD ranked fifth statewide, joining the ranks of some household names:

- 1)Delta Air Lines
- 2)In-N-Out Burger
- 3)Costco Wholesale
- 4)Microsoft
- 5)Long Beach Unified School District

Two other school districts made the top 100 list in California: Hacienda La Puente Unified at No. 41, and Riverside Unified at No. 92.

Learn more at [Forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com).

Principal Joins U.S. Latino Leaders Group

Veronica Madrigal, principal at Grant Elementary School, was recently announced by UnidosUS, the nation's largest Latino civil rights and advocacy organization, as one of 11 Latino educators and leaders selected to the inaugural cohort of the National Institute for Latino School Leaders (NILSL) in the state of California.

The mission of NILSL is to prepare leaders in education to become advocates for Latino students, dual language learners and English learners at the local, state and national levels.

"As we continue to navigate this unprecedented time, I am encouraged by the expertise and insight these leaders will bring to the program, and the collective impact they will have in shaping and strengthening education policies for Latino students and English learners," said Peggy McLeod, Deputy Vice President of Education and Workforce Development Programs for UnidosUS.

Madrigal and members of the NILSL-CA

cohort will work to advance the institute's mission while also placing emphasis on English learner advocacy.

"It is an honor and privilege to represent the Long Beach Unified School District in the UnidosUS inaugural cohort of the National Institute for Latino School Leaders," Madrigal said. "UnidosUS and LBUSD serve a common mission of strengthening opportunities for students and families to achieve true educational equity, including for English learners. I look forward to contributing my experience and applying my new learning to further advance the needs of our student population within our district."

With California as the current home to the highest population of English learners, the cohort will examine how the EL Roadmap Policy passed by the California State Board of Education creates opportunities for advocacy and local leadership. By spring 2021, the cohort members will be prepared to meet with their state Legislature representatives to discuss policies that align to the EL Roadmap and advance equity for English learners.

Learn more at unidosus.org.



Madrigal

Boeing Donates \$500K to College Promise

Aerospace company Boeing recently announced a \$500,000 donation to the Long Beach College Promise as part of a larger \$10.6 million donation to a group of 20 nonprofits working to address equity and social justice nationwide.

"With today's financial commitment to this group of nonprofit partners, we are hopeful that together, we can begin to make real advances in our ongoing pursuit of equality," said David Calhoun, Boeing president and CEO.

Since its inception in 2008, The Promise has earned national recognition for increasing educational and employment opportunities for young people. LBUSD's partners on The Promise include Long Beach City College, Cal State Long Beach, the City of Long Beach and the Port of Long Beach.

Elements of The Promise have included increased access to early childhood education; college tours for 4th and 5th graders; a middle school pledge by students and parents committing to college readiness; a tuition-free first and second year at Long Beach City

• Teacher of Year

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McClure founded and developed the Makerspace Club at Bancroft Middle School, which serves as a space for students to develop critical thinking and creativity as they invent items using 3D printers, computers and craft supplies.

"I have the unique position to prepare students for many STEM-related careers," she wrote in her application. "Students study computer graphics, web design and code, which are jobs that are in high demand."

McClure earned a master's degree in educational technology from Cal State Dominguez Hills, where she also worked as a member of the adjunct faculty. Her experience at LBUSD includes a role as a district trainer, where she created workshops to support teachers, administrators and parents with technology advancement during the late 90s. Currently she helps to lead educational technology professional development at the district level.

Her experience as a leader goes beyond the technology field. She has demonstrated a desire to create a safe learning environment that adapts to individual student needs.

"I adapt my lessons and units for students with various needs including autism, hearing impairment, learning disabilities, and gifted students," she wrote. "Every child can learn and all children are worthy of the very highest quality of education. That means that I have to bring what every individual child needs and deserves to my class every day."

As the faculty sponsor, she also led the creation of an anti-bullying club at Bancroft Middle School, providing a safe place for students to discuss bullying and create anti-bullying fliers and other resources.

For McClure, teaching is a profession that expands beyond instruction.

"Teaching is more than imparting knowledge; it is about creating a hunger in kids to want something in their lives they don't have. This is a huge responsibility, and I wake up every morning knowing that I must do more," she said. "Being recognized by my colleagues and LBUSD as Teacher of the Year is a great honor. I am very privileged to get to do this job every day."

College; and guaranteed admission to Cal State Long Beach for qualifying students.

"Thank you, Boeing, for recognizing the value of The Promise and for helping us to commit with renewed urgency to advancing racial equity," LBUSD Superintendent Jill Baker said. "The College Promise attracts this kind of exemplary support because it has a nationally recognized track record of improving access to college and rewarding careers."

Names in the News

Lori Andrews, restorative justice coordinator at Beach/Reid, has been selected to serve on the executive board of directors as the vice president of programs for Leadership Long Beach. Her role will be to organize and develop LLB programs that serve local student and employee leaders.

Recent Millikan High School graduates **Hannah Torres** and **Jadyn Cantrell** are among 33 Advanced Placement Research students globally to be published in the Journal of Student Research High School Edition.

Both students now attend UC Berkeley. Torres' research piece is titled "Bridging the Financial Gap Among Young People," and Cantrell's piece discussed "The Relationship Between Implicitly Political Films and Political Polarization." The students were mentored by Millikan QUEST Lead Teacher **Russ Rudman**. Also published in the journal was recent Poly High School graduate **Emily Hardesty**, who explored student representation on the Board of Education. Poly senior **Justin Lim** examined "Fandom Wikia as a Model for Labor Exploitation." Fellow Poly senior **Aaron Hoy**'s piece looked at "Blue Light Therapy and Circadian Rhythm: Effect on Southern California High School Students." Poly teacher **Samantha Lawrence** mentored these students.

Reading Recovery teacher leader **Kathleen Brown** published an article in the fall 2020 edition of The California Reader titled "Coaching Reflections from the Field: California's Literacy Epidemic amidst a Global Pandemic." The article discusses lessons learned during educators' abrupt transition to distance learning.

California Academy of Mathematics and Science senior **Zoe Storaasli** recently was awarded a U.S. Department of State Virtual Summer Intensive Scholarship from the National Security Language Initiative for Youth to study the Russian language for five weeks. The summer program was an online alternative to the organization's overseas immersion program. She was one of 500 students selected from 3,000 applicants nationally.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Flu Vaccine Clinics

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services is hosting several community flu vaccination clinics at no charge for people without health insurance or those whose healthcare provider does not offer flu vaccines.

The clinics will operate on the following days and times through Nov. 21 or while supplies last:

- Thursdays, 3 to 6 p.m., Long Beach City College Veterans' Stadium, 5000 E. Lew Davis St.
- Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Cabrillo High School, 2001 Santa Fe Ave.

Individuals also can contact their healthcare provider or pharmacist for a flu shot. Residents may also schedule a flu shot appointment at the Health Department by calling 570-4315 during regular business hours. A small administrative fee will apply at the time of the appointment.

For more information about the 2020 flu season, visit longbeach.gov/flu.

Think Green Awards

Twenty-four schools recently earned awards of \$500 to \$3,000 from the Long Beach Unified School District to be used for green projects focused on environmental stewardship.

Bronze awards provide \$500 for custodial green projects and \$1,000 for green projects. Silver awards provide \$750 for custodial green projects and \$2,000 for green projects. Gold awards provide \$750 for custodial green projects and \$3,000 for green projects.

Gold awards went to Franklin, Gant, Hughes, Keller, Rogers, Muir and Whittier schools. Silver awards went to Cabrillo, Garfield, Kettering, Prisk, Stevenson and Tincher. Bronze awards went to Browning, Harte, Henry, Jefferson, Lindbergh, Newcomb, Powell, Renaissance, Robinson, Stanford and Stephens.

Schools submitted applications for the first ever Think Green Waste Reduction Stewardship Awards, which aim to help schools and their Green Teams to expand their green efforts. In recent years, local schools have reduced hundreds of tons of waste. Students have learned to pack trash-free lunches, sort materials for recycling and advocate for environmentally friendly practices.

In Memoriam

Michael M. Coppersmith
former principal
July 7, 2020

Raquel M. Davies
former teacher
July 15, 2020

Glen T. Nakahara
teacher, Robinson
July 26, 2020

Donald R. Speir
former teacher
July 28, 2020

Sevilla S. De Guzman
technician, Operations
August 2, 2020

Barbara A. Richardson
former principal
August 31, 2020

Andrew P. Osman
former music educator
September 4, 2020