



school bulletin

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

March 5, 2021

15 Teachers Earn National Certification

Fifteen teachers in the Long Beach Unified School District recently earned National Board Certification, the highest professional distinction in teaching.

Over the years, a total of 175 LBUSD teachers have earned the prestigious honor. The certification is a year-long process that involves submitting portfolios, videotaping classroom instruction and participating in a day of written exercises. The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification is the nation's only advanced teacher certification.

The newest certified teachers and their work sites are Katie Cousino, Kettering; Brian Everson, McBride; Indira Jimenez,

Poly; Ashley Kane, Avalon; Gwen Larsen, Poly; Araceli Nunez-Tallman, Alvarado; Michael Perez, Sato; Kelley Rohnke, Signal Hill and Longfellow; and Erin Wilson, Lowell.

Teachers who recently earned renewal of the certification are Nancy Brown, CAMS; Bryan Feely, Stanford; Yumi Kim, Bancroft; Timothy Mulvehill, Millikan; Caroline Muscato, Cubberly; and Jamaica Ross, OCIPD.

National Board Certification can offer license portability and can contribute to continuing education units for educators statewide. Learn more under National Board Certification in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

More High Schools Gain Key Certification

Jordan and Sato high schools are the latest to earn the Silver Certification from the Linked Learning Alliance. The certification recognizes high quality learning in the Law, Emergency and Public Service (LEAPS) pathway at Jordan and the biomedical engineering pathway at Sato.

Linked Learning pathways integrate rigorous academics with technical coursework that is relevant to the needs of local employers. The pathways offer students work-based learning experiences aligned with their classes, and provide support services to help students graduate ready for entry into college and career.

Certification is based on a series of standards identified by leaders in the Linked Learning field. Schools seek certification from the Linked Learning Alliance to validate the quality of their college and career pathways.

The pathways gain Silver certification when they establish the core components of Linked Learning, or Gold certification when they demonstrate advanced

implementation of those components and equitable opportunities for all students. Silver certification is valid for two years, after which pathways must resubmit evidence for Silver renewal or apply for Gold certification.

The Linked Learning approach, piloted in nine California districts more than a decade ago, is now embraced as the high school strategy for a growing number of districts across the state. Today, Linked Learning is working in more than 100 California school districts, with 550 pathways operating in 225 high schools. The approach is also taking hold in 20 other states.

The Linked Learning Alliance is a statewide coalition of education, industry and community organizations. Research shows that Linked Learning benefits students in urban, rural and suburban settings. When compared with their peers in traditional high schools, students in Linked Learning pathways complete more college preparatory courses and are more likely to graduate.

Governor Highlights Local Vaccine Effort

California Gov. Gavin Newsom praised the Long Beach Unified School District's partnership with the City of Long Beach as a model for the state of California during a recent visit to a Long Beach Convention Center vaccination site.

The governor applauded the city's ability to vaccinate teachers as part of an effort to return students to campuses, noting that Long Beach has been a topic of discussion in Sacramento.



Newsom

"Consistently, Long Beach is called out as an example of a district and a community that should be looked at, should be considered and should be modeled in terms of their effort," Newsom said as reported by lbpost.com.

LBUSD has worked closely with Long Beach Health and Human Services to offer COVID-19 vaccines to all employees who wish to be immunized. So far, LBUSD has offered more than 6,200 appointments to its employees since late January.

Additional information on clinic appointments is being shared via email with employees as vaccine shipments arrive.

A list of frequently asked questions and answers about the vaccine is available at longbeach.gov/health. Go to Diseases & Conditions > Information On > Coronavirus Disease 2019.

The city also provides a COVID Hotline at 570-4636 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For vaccine information, wait to select option 6 when you hear it, and leave a message, or email COVID19Vaccine@longbeach.gov.

Students Exchange 'Couriers of Hope'

Four-hundred Long Beach Unified School District students participated in "Couriers of Hope," an art exchange program inspired by the mail art movement of the 1960s. The program connected art students from Jordan, Lakewood, Millikan, Poly, Renaissance and Wilson high schools with 80 professional artists by prompting both groups to create illustrations using an envelope as the canvas.

For the program, LBUSD students viewed the Couriers of Hope Virtual Exhibition, which showcased the 160 pieces of original envelope art created by professional artists. Students were then

(Continued on next page)

IN-PERSON LEARNING –

After nearly a year of distance learning due to the global coronavirus pandemic, schools will begin a phased return to in-person learning on March 29, starting with transitional kindergarten through fifth grade. Find updates at lbschools.net/coronavirus.



Prisk Teacher Joins Worldly Exchange

A Long Beach Unified School District teacher is one of 37 educators from across the globe to participate in the Transatlantic Educators Dialogue Program, an educational diplomacy opportunity designed to facilitate the exploration of new and diverse cultures.

Vanessa Uy, a fourth grade GATE teacher at Prisk Elementary School, is one of 18 educators from the United States joining 19 others from the European Union for the program. Uy has been an instructor for 26 years and a teacher for LBUSD for 17 years. She is



Uy

also a National Board Certified teacher.

The TED program allows educators in the United States and Europe to come together online for a shared examination of a variety of educational topics such as immigration, educational equality, active teaching methods and issues related to identity and difference.

"I am honored to be chosen to participate in the Transatlantic Educators Dialogue. I am excited to learn more about how teachers across the United States and Europe support students and families," Uy said. "I hope to achieve a greater understanding of exemplary practices to support and serve our LBUSD community."

• Couriers of Hope

(Continued from first page)

asked to create their own envelope art, inspired by what brings them hope. Upon the exhibition's conclusion, the student artists had the opportunity to trade their art with a professional artist.

The "Couriers of Hope" program was organized by the Port City Creative Guild, an initiative by the non-profit arm of the multicultural agency Intertrend. The four-month process involved the help of 10 local art institutions that recruited the professional artists. In addition, the JAG Molina Family Foundation Fund and other donors sent more than 300 art kits to LBUSD high schools.

For some professional artists, their participation in the program came with hopes of inspiring students interested in pursuing an art career by exemplifying that it is possible to make a living as an artist.

"It is important for students to be able to imagine themselves in that world," LBUSD Art Curriculum Leader Christine Whipp told the Los Angeles Times, echoing sentiment from professional artist Yoskay Yamamoto.

"For students who don't have a family member or friends who are involved in the art world, this can be almost like a bridge that they can walk across to see what is possible," Yamamoto told the Times.

Read the full story at LATimes.com. Search for the title, "How Long Beach students are turning mail into the most personal art."

Summer Jobs For Classified Workers

The Personnel Commission is accepting applications for 10-month employees interested in working for Summer School, as well as the School Enrichment and Learning (SEAL) Program for 2021.

To qualify for summer employment, the applicant must be a permanent/probationary classified employee working on less than a 12-month calendar. The dates of the programs are June 28 to July 23 for elementary, middle and K-8 schools. High school dates are June 28 to July 30. Instructions on accessing the online application are available under Personnel Commission in the A-Z index at lbschools.net (then select Summer Employment). The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 19.

CSBA Spotlight

The California School Boards Association highlighted Long Beach Unified School District in its 2020 Year-In-Review report. LBUSD was recognized for serving students experiencing difficulties in their social-emotional and mental health.

Since the start of the pandemic, LBUSD school nurses have continuously reached out to families with a known history of health and attendance challenges. The school district also used Family Resource Centers and a number of other sites to provide meals and resources for students and families.

Learn more at annualreview.csba.org.

Names in the News

Two Long Beach Unified School District employees were recently announced as members of the inaugural cohort of the Linked Learning Fellows program. **Cindy Bater**, LBUSD program administrator for Linked Learning, and **Renée Shipman**, vice principal at Wilson High School, are part of a group of nine education practitioners from across California who will embark on a six-month journey to help communities nationwide address racial and economic equity through the Linked Learning program.

The program integrates rigorous academics with real-world learning and strong support services to prepare students for success in college, career and life. The fellows will build on the program's long standing leadership in driving equity in local communities.

Lakewood High School's Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps finished second in the All-Service Silver Tier for the state of California during this year's CyberPatriot Cyber Security competition, the nation's largest cyber defense competition. The cadets were led by team captain **Dante Cruz**. Lakewood High's **Capt. Don McMackin**, U.S. Navy (Retired), is the senior Naval Science teacher at the school.

Cynthia Terry, a former principal for LBUSD, was recently inducted to Long Beach City College's Alumni Hall of Fame. Terry graduated from LBCC in 1968 and worked in LBUSD for 38 years.



Bater



Shipman



Terry

Retirement Planning For STRS Members

Virtual retirement seminars for employees participating in the California State Teachers' Retirement System will be held 3:45 to 5:15 p.m. Friday, March 12.

The presentations will be held by a CalSTRS counselor via Zoom. The seminar will explain CalSTRS service retirement allowance, retirement options, updates on legislation and disability and survivor benefits. CalSTRS members are encouraged to participate if they are eligible for retirement, considering the pre-retirement election option, interested in the effects of new legislation, making long-range financial plans or contemplating a redeposit of previously withdrawn funds or the purchase of additional service credit.

To register, visit myPD in the myLBUSD portal, search for course 7702 and select section 24705. A Zoom link will be sent directly to your district email upon registering. For additional information, contact Stephanie Jimenez at ext. 8214.

In Memoriam

Terence Fitzpatrick
former teacher
November 6, 2020

Rae Boeving
former teacher
February 1, 2021

Rosa Lopez
former instructional aide
February 5, 2021

Lance Edwall
former counselor
February 8, 2021

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

JILL BAKER, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION
DIANA CRAIGHEAD, President
MEGAN KERR, Vice President
JUAN BENITEZ, Member
ERIK MILLER, Member
DOUGLAS OTTO, Member