



school bulletin

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

May 2, 2003



Board of Education President Bobbie Smith this week won the Education Leadership Award from Better Learning After School Today. BLAST honored her for 15 years of service and nationally recognized reforms.

Achieving Schools Earn U.S. Honors

Seven Long Beach Unified School District schools were recently named outstanding 2003 No Child Left Behind Title I Achieving Schools.

Addams, Emerson, Gompers, MacArthur, Mann, Signal Hill and Robinson elementary schools earned the honor as high-achieving schools. Criteria for the 2003 award include a 2002 school year Academic Performance Index (API) score of 675 or higher, achievement of the school's API growth targets for the past three years, and at least doubling the API growth target for both the schoolwide group and the socio-economically disadvantaged subgroup for two of the previous three years.

Of 4,936 California schools receiving Title I funds, only the top 157 qualified to apply. Of those, 115 were selected as winners.

Each winning school underwent a rigorous review. School visits were completed by the California Department of Education, the Regional School Support and Improvement Centers, county offices of education and selected school district staff members.

"The administrators, teachers, parents and students have demonstrated how dedication, hard work and the commitment to a common goal can result in great gains for our schools and educational progress for our kids," said state superintendent Jack O'Connell.

Title I funds are provided to schools serving more students from low-income families to make certain that all children have a fair, equal and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic content standards.

FUTURE COLLEGIANS--

Erin Gruwell and members of her Wilson High School Freedom Writers encouraged Colin Powell Academy for Success students to do their best in school and plan for college at a recent GEAR UP event. All of the Freedom Writers went on to college. Their book is being made into a movie.



ONE OF AMERICA'S BEST

District a Top Contender for Broad Prize

Long Beach Unified School District has been chosen from the more than 16,000 school districts nationwide as one of the top five contenders to win the second annual Broad Prize for Urban Education. The Broad Prize is a \$1 million prize awarded to the most outstanding urban school districts in the nation.

Long Beach has been chosen as a finalist for the second year in a row. In 2002, The Broad Foundation awarded the district \$125,000 as one of the top five large school districts in America.

Only five school districts in the nation were chosen as finalists for the Broad Prize. The other 2003 finalists are Boston Public Schools, Garden Grove Unified School District, Jefferson County Public Schools in Louisville, Kentucky and Norfolk Public Schools in Virginia.

The Broad Prize showcases the best urban school districts in America that have made significant gains in overall student achievement. The winner, to be announced in September, will be awarded \$500,000. Each of the four finalists will receive \$125,000. The cash awards fund scholarships for students in the five winning districts to attend college or other post-secondary training.

"These five districts demonstrate our nation's most successful efforts in raising student achievement and closing the ethnic and income achievement gaps," said Eli Broad, founder of The Broad Foundation. "These school systems are models of educational innovation, resourcefulness and dedication, and it is critical that we recognize their success and share their strategies with educators and the public across the country."

The Broad Prize combines the spirit of the Pulitzer Prize and the reward of the Nobel Prize by serving not only as an incentive for excellence, but also providing a monetary reward for improved student achievement.

"Being chosen as a finalist for the Broad Prize for Urban Education is a great honor," said Christopher Steinhauer, superintendent. "This is an achievement our entire community can be proud of. It shows that our schools are working and they are achieving at the highest

levels in the country. We are proud that Long Beach educators, students, parents, and community partners have developed a model for the nation."

The Broad Prize for Urban Education is designed to:

- regain the American public's confidence in public schools by spotlighting districts making significant gains in student achievement,
- create an incentive that will dramatically increase student achievement in the nation's largest urban school districts, and
- reward public school systems that are successfully using creative, results-oriented approaches and techniques that better educate children.

In addition to the cash award, the winner of The Broad Prize for Urban Education will be showcased nationwide during the following year. The winning school district's best instruction and management practices will be spotlighted so that other urban school systems can learn about and adopt successful practices.

Selection of the winner of The Broad Prize for Urban Education involves four steps:

1. More than 100 U.S. urban school districts were identified as eligible candidates.
2. A review board, comprised of 20 prominent education leaders from throughout the nation—with the help of the National Center for Educational Accountability (NCEA)—analyzed extensive quantitative data and used their collective knowledge and experience to determine the finalists. (The district's research office provided more than 20,000 pieces of information including extensive student achievement data.)
3. Under NCEA's guidance, a team of researchers and practitioners will conduct site visits to each finalist district in May and June to gather additional quantitative and qualitative data and meet with each district's school board, superintendent and union leaders.
4. A selection jury will meet this summer to review the information collected on the site visits and information considered by the review board to select one district as the winner of the annual Broad Prize for Urban Education.

The selection jury is comprised of leaders in business, government and philanthropy. The jury includes: Henry Cisneros, CEO of American City Vista; Phil Condit, CEO of The Boeing Company; Marian Wright Edelman, president, Children's Defense Fund; John Engler, former governor of Michigan; Jim Hunt, former governor of North Carolina; Richard D. Parsons, CEO, AOL Time Warner; Paul Patton, governor of Kentucky; Hugh Price, former president of the National Urban League; Richard Riley, former US Secretary of Education; Judith Rodin, president, The University of Pennsylvania; Andrew L. Stern, president of the Service Employees International Union; and Jack Welch, former CEO of General Electric.

BBQ, Awards Honor Classified Employees

Fifty-four classified employees have been nominated by colleagues for the annual Classified Employee of the Year Award. Finalists will be announced at a Western Roundup Barbecue on Thursday, May 22 at the Teacher Resource Center, 1200 E. 32nd Street in Long Beach.

The Personnel Commission and a district-wide committee will host the event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to give employees an hour or so to attend during that time. A representative from each work site should call ext. 7404 by May 9 with the number of employees who plan to attend. Parking is limited. Carpooling is encouraged. A shuttle will also take guests from the Target parking lot at 950 E. 33rd St.

Superintendent Christopher Steinhauser encourages managers to provide classified employees with time to participate. Every effort should be made to allow all nominees to attend. Some offices may wish to stagger work schedules to promote attendance.

The top award will be announced at the Board of Education's regular meeting on June 3.

This year's nominees are Louise Alverson, Clarence Archer, Lori Betschel, John Bosley, Ron Capps, Randy Charles, Maria Conner, Theresa Daley, Faasoa Duran, Kim Eckert, Mary Ferregur, Pat Fertig, Sylvia Flood, Cora Frias, Alex Galang, Anita Garcia, Anna Garcia, Ana Gomez, Sharon Grimes, Darrell Hildreth, Betty Hucks, Hortencia Isas, Jackie Isenhower, Norma Jenkins, Joann Kageno, Dolly Labrador, Dee Lara, William Loree, Abe Mendoza, Cathy Miller, Ric Mora, Cathy Moran, David Newman, Maria Nunez, Paula Orbison, Jeff Polk, Ann Pullano, Patricia Rammacher-Serlin, Leticia Rodriguez, Joyce Shuford, Sue Smith, Cynthia Stockinger, Susan Thackerson, Joe Ung, Joe Velasquez, Patricia Villacorta, Alicia Waldren, Leslie Warner, Gene Wendell, Rose White, Paula Wiesenhutter, Mayumi Wine, Barbara Woodward and Debbie Wright.

The Job Board

Hughes Middle School is seeking a technology teacher to design and develop an innovative and advanced program using 40 new iBook laptops and new state-of-the-art software.

Candidates should have advanced knowledge of Macintosh hardware and software and some knowledge of the content standards for core content classes. Applicants should contact Kelly Hurley, principal, at 595-0831 or ext. 2510. The deadline to submit a resume is Friday, May 30.

In Memoriam

Harold Lovejoy
former principal
April 15, 2003

Lynn Strech
former supervising
graphic design coordinator
April 24, 2003

Carole Coppersmith
former teacher
April 30, 2003

Names in the News

Three students from Muir Elementary School won the recent "History Day L.A.--Rights and Responsibilities in History" contest. **Dennis Fuimaono, Manuel Ramirez** and **Robert Williams** will be representing Los Angeles County in the state competition next month. The students wrote a research paper, made a poster and answered questions addressing all levels of Bloom's Taxonomy during an intensive panel interview. Students used primary sources and analytical skills to assemble a unique entry that evaluated historical events throughout the world and their impact on the world today. Muir second-year teacher **Heather Trupp** received the George Moffett Excellence in Teaching Award in the same contest.

Recently named Outstanding Volunteers In Public Schools (VIPs) were **Rose Brisson, Twain; Eric Crenshaw, Tincher; Shawna Devoe, Monroe; Jean Easton, Tucker; Patrick Fambrough, Jefferson; Marjorie Fleming, Rogers; Sharon Hanson, Hamilton; Cindy Kaminaka, Lindbergh; Loretta Marshall, PAAL; Tracy McCrabb, Marshall; Heidi O'Neill, Riley; Guadalupe Quinonez, Washington; Patricia Ramirez, Robinson; Claro Rufo, Stephens; Diana Scott, Lowell; Deborah Slaney, Powell; Jodie Storey, Hill; Barbara Torchio, Hughes; Mark Van Over, MacArthur and Elena Wright, Longfellow.**

Jenny Nguyen, student at Hughes, earned second place in the AVID Write-Off Competition held recently. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination.

Fundraising Success

Students and staff at Burnett Elementary School raised \$923.87 recently to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, easily surpassing the goal of \$500. Funds were raised specifically to help Sabrina Matteau, a child with Acute Lymphocytic Leukemia (ALL).

Millikan students recently raised \$1,011 for the National Kidney Foundation in honor of alumnus Jeff Garcia, a LBPd officer who donated a kidney to save his mother's life. She was helped by the foundation.

Job Opportunities

Applications are now being accepted at the Personnel Commission, 999 Atlantic Ave., third floor, for food service supervisor I, food service supervisor II, food service supervisor III, instructional aide-instrumental music and pool attendant.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Lakewood Invites You to Give Blood

High school students, parents, employees and residents of the Long Beach Unified School District are invited to roll up their sleeves to help Lakewood High School have the largest high school Red Cross blood drive in history.

The drive will be held Thursday, May 22, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. To schedule a time to donate, call (888) 546-5272.

The school hopes to break the world record and help Memorial Day weekend accident victims and military personnel now serving in Iraq and others who need transfusions.

Lakewood set the record for a high school blood drive last year. Plano High School near Dallas later nudged them out of first place.

"We're determined to get 1,000 pints this year," said Joel Ward, activities specialist at Lakewood High School. "Red Cross supplies are dwindling. The need has never been greater."

School groups who would like to donate are encouraged to call him at ext. 3382.

Bancroft Students Write About Freedom

More than 70 eighth grade essayists from Bancroft Middle School were honored Wednesday, April 30 at an awards banquet at the Grand. They and their parents were guests of Optimist International. The students wrote their impressions of "When Our Freedom is Threatened."

The top three winners--Angela Fornaseri, Matthew Razo and Michael Ridderhof--won gold, silver and bronze medallions similar to Olympic medals. All 70 other essayists received certificates of honor.

"These students and their teacher, Gloria Perry, are wonderful Americans," said Bancroft Principal Debbie Stark. "Their wisdom and insight show that our students think deeply about the impact of world events on their lives and personal freedom."

One of the winning young essayists, Angela Fornaseri, wrote "Freedom can sometimes be taken for granted. It is only when it is threatened, that people start opening their eyes. A threat is not always a negative thing, for the result may turn out positive. When our freedom is threatened, our unity as a nation will grow tremendously stronger."

Correction

When the Instructional Materials Workshop reopens on May 5, its hours for the rest of the year will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

Retirement Events

Honoree	Date	Contact
Judy Hughes	May 29	Kristen Proffitt 421-1114
Cheryl Roberts	May 29	Tara Cole 866-4568
Sue Ross	June 7	Sue Miller ext. 4510
Melanie Wallner	June 10	Karen Periman ext. 7145