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School News



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Covering the Long Beach Unified School District
Serving the communities of Long Beach, Lakewood & Signal Hill

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MAY 2012

Legal Enrichment and Decision Making—LEAD

By Douglas P. Haubert, City Prosecutor

Teaching children about justice is important. This is true not only because justice is one of the foundations of our nation but also because the concept of justice can help with learning other ideals such as accountability, tolerance and merit. Unfortunately for some children, the first time they learn about justice and the law is when they violate a law and come face to face with the juvenile justice system.

That might also be the first time some children meet a prosecutor. It doesn't have to be that way. Recently, the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office joined forces with the District Attorney's Office to help children in Long Beach schools learn about the law and justice through Project LEAD (Legal Enrichment and Decision Making), a program designed for fifth-graders to bring the law to them. One day a week, Long Beach City Prosecutor Doug Haubert and Deputy City Prosecutor Art Sanchez teach a fifth-grade class at Edison Elementary, near downtown Long Beach, as part of Project LEAD. Two other classes at Edison are led by deputy district attorneys.

SEE LEAD • PAGE 11



City Prosecutor Doug Haubert, with 5th grade students, teaches class on justice at Long Beach's Edison Elementary.

Longfellow Jr. Green Team

*By Chris Eckert, 5th Grade Teacher
Longfellow Elementary*

Longfellow Elementary was recently selected as one of four schools in the state and 78 in the nation as a National Green Ribbon School. This is an exciting award and we are grateful to our parent, guardian, and student volunteers for all their hard work.

This year Longfellow created a student run club called Jr. Green Team. Working under the direction of our parent volunteers and organized by teacher leaders, students volunteer daily to reduce trash and recycle. The goal of the club was to empower students to make an impact on the world by reducing their carbon footprints.



Each week one fourth and fifth grade classroom is assigned Jr. Green Team duties. On Monday morning, Green Team classroom representatives assign three students from their class Jr. Green Team duties. After eating lunch, students put on gloves and aprons and help sort trash into to separate bins such as terra cycling, city trash, compost, plastic lunch baggies, and more. Students also assist with picking up trash in the lunch area, rotate the compost bin, and organize food for the local food bank. Jr. Green Team Members meet with teacher leaders on a regular basis to troubleshoot issues and to create educational videos and slide shows, which are posted on the Jr. Green Team web-page and presented on our school's closed news network known as the Longfellow News Network.

Most of all, Longfellow's Jr. Green Team members are having fun working together to help improve the environment and reduce, reuse, and recycle. Visit <http://longfellow-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/> and click on the link for Jr. Green Team or select Green Team under community groups.

Volunteers Are Important



Tina Hansen
Mayor
City of Signal Hill

At the City of Signal Hill, the success of many of the events we hold greatly depends on the participation of volunteers. Not only is volunteering a fun way to celebrate the various holidays, it's also a wonderful way to give back to local communities.

When you volunteer, it's the members of the community who benefit from your time and talents.

The quality of life improves for all of us! Volunteers at City events help out at fundraisers, pet festivals, holiday carnivals, concerts and holiday celebrations. They help decorate, help to direct the flow of pedestrians, and conduct games for children. The smallest contributions add up, and the talents from people of all kinds of backgrounds work together to make every event unique and successful.

The Signal Hill Public Library frequently utilizes volunteers to help with special programs and routine operations. Some of the events held by the Community

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Alpha Delta Kappa

By Susan Blough, Zeta President

The Zeta chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa, an honorary sorority for educators, is a group of exceptional teachers with the common purpose of supporting philanthropic causes. In 2011 they volunteered 2,800 hours and donated \$25,000 in monetary and non-monetary gifts to altruistic projects including a preschool for homeless children and a group for at-risk teenagers.



Susan Blough, President; Sylvia Olson, Vice-president; Roberta Patterson, Centerpiece chairperson; JoAnn McDonald, Tea Chairperson

Zeta members let their talents shine when they work as a team to put on their annual Scholarship Tea. Last year's "Booked for Tea" wrote a page in Zeta's history book – a record 193 guests attended and record proceeds funded ten scholarships at L.B.C.C. and C.S.U.L.B. for students pursuing careers in education. This year's tea "A Garden of Giving" is on May 19th and Zeta looks forward to another exceptional event.

As one member said, "ADK allows me to cast wider ripples in altruistic waters every time I cast a stone."



Kay Coop

Founder / Publisher



The theme for this issue is volunteerism/community service. Volunteers are essential to any community. When children are encouraged to volunteer at an early age, they are more likely to continue to include community service in their life choices. This issue is just a sampling of the volunteers in the LBUSD. If you are a volunteer, thank you for your efforts. If you have been thinking about volunteering, perhaps you will be inspired.

Students are in their final weeks of this school year with thoughts of summer. Our next issue is June 13.

School News

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Covering the
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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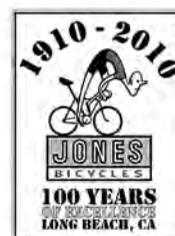
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- The charitable event must benefit students directly by raising money for educational programs.
- 100% of the money raised must go directly toward the intended program(s).
- PTA's need to get their applications in by 6/30/12!
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Autism and Assistive Technologies



Judy Seal
Executive
Director

On April 3, Fourth District LA County Supervisor, Don Knabe honored Verizon, the Long Beach Education Foundation (LBEF) and the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) for their collaborative work on bringing Assistive Technologies (AT) to preverbal and emerging verbal students with Autism Spectrum Conditions. This recognition follows three years of research and implementation on the impact of Assistive Technologies and professional development for teachers on educational progress and language development for students with Autism. Verizon and the LBEF have worked together to bring over \$75,000 of AT to students on the spectrum and their teachers. The program is named, Through The Wall, because as children on the spectrum begin to communicate they oftentimes refer to feeling like they just need a little help to get through the wall to communicate with others and to be understood. Verizon, the LBEF, and LBUSD are eager to find new ways to help students on the spectrum communicate and ultimately be able to access general education curriculum.

Through The Wall was first piloted at Bixby Elementary School where there were three classrooms of pre-verbal young children on the spectrum. The findings were remarkable: The lead teacher, Julie Willis put it this way, "I was overwhelmed in the beginning. There were so many computer programs and devices that I had a difficult time absorbing all of it... I have found over the course of this school year, that all devices and computer programs have lived up to my expectations and in some cases, exceeded them. The software has built in data collections and evaluation components that alerted me to what areas my students had problems. This program has streamlined the IEP goal progress reports, which in an autism class, can be daunting if not time consuming. With these devices and software programs, my kids are for the first time in their lives, communicating with us!"

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 21

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Bancroft *Middle School*

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Bancroft Middle School VIPS

By J. Richardson, Assistant Principal

We have exemplary VIPS at Bancroft Middle School! They are always assisting our staff members with day-to-day endeavors to help provide the best possible educational experience for our children.

Many of our VIPS derive great personal satisfaction from knowing that the hours they put in, no matter how large or small, are helping us do a better job. They have strengthened both our school and its relationships with the community; student achievement is greater, and our individualized instructional opportunities have been increased as well.



Pamela Sawyer
Principal



VIPS preparing for our upcoming Bruin Run.

Our VIPS provide ongoing support to students during the school day and beyond. For example, we appreciate the diligent hard work of Robbie Manning in running our student store, which includes selling spirit shirts and physical education clothing. Linnea Fields, our phenomenal PTA president, also volunteers daily with lunch supervision. She is irreplaceable, to say the least.

Rosie Brisson, our membership chairperson, also volunteers in the office sorting mail, making copies, and providing student incentives. And Caroline Castellanos, an amazing and dedicated team player, provides all of the beautiful handmade posters and banners for our school.

Our VIPS help with valet parking, supervision, the Bruin Run, and a multitude of other activities. But the most dedicated volunteers are our PTA members. This year they sponsored Rachel's Challenge and even a Jeopardy tournament!

We cannot thank our volunteers and PTA enough for the tremendous support that they provide our Bancroft students.

Beach *High School*

3701 E. Willow Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/595-8893

A Dedicated Volunteer

Bud Johnson, one of the first community members to assist students at Beach High School, truly believes in the value of volunteering to help make the world a better place. While he is currently serving as the technical advisor to the robotics team at Beach High School, this is not his first service to the community.

In the past, Bud has served as a commissioner on the Marine Advisory Board. He was also appointed by former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to be a commissioner for the State of California's Boating and Waterways Committee.

These volunteer positions are commensurate with his professional experience for more than 20 years as the head of the Department of Electrical and Mechanical for Long Beach City College. There he led the development of the robotics lab. He also has a membership in the Southern California Marine Association and even designed and built a 45-foot yacht.

He also holds the patent for the "Electronic Nurse," the first home dialysis system. He created this back when he was a chief engineer and part of the TRW team which developed the space ship that went to the moon and back.

These diversified interests and educational background, and his expertise in building water-based robotics, were just what was needed by the robotics team at Beach High School to give them the confidence and knowledge to build their own.

Nowadays, whenever the team is at work, Johnson can be found at their side, always answering technical questions and providing support.



Matt Saldana
Principal

Cabrillo *High School*

2001 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/951-7700 • <http://lbcabrillo.schoolloop.com/>

ACCESS Fun Run

By Tuan Nguyen

Cabrillo High School's first annual All Academy of Career and College Exploration for Student Success (ACCESS) Fun Run was a successful event that brought together students, teachers, staff members, faculty, parents, and the community together.

The large crowd on Saturday, March 24 made for two exciting and memorable races. First was the Club Race, won by Ronnie Fierro, who ran for Entrepreneur Club with a race time of 11 minutes and 18 seconds. The second race brought out the competitive edge among the seven Small Learning Communities (SLCs). The California Academy of Law and Justice showed their spirit with the most participants.

The All ACCESS Fun Run was successful due to collaborative effort of all involved. A special thank you goes out to Sole Runners. We hope you can join the team next year!



Dr. Elio Mendoza
Co-Principal



Alejandro Vega
Co-Principal



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Alvarado *Elementary*

1900 E. 21st St., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/985-0019 • <http://alvarado-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Dr. Brett Geithman
Principal

He Can Sleep Later

Each morning, Alvarado Elementary School students are greeted with a smile (rain or shine) by our most outstanding VIPS, Mr. Sophann Ven.

At 7:15 a.m., Mr. Ven and his son, Vincent, arrive on campus and begin setting up cones in front of the school to help direct traffic to our valet service. Then at 7:30 his student recruits report to the front of the school, put on orange vests, and begin to open doors to see that our Alvarado students all arrive at school safely.

But what many people don't know is that Mr. Ven also works the night shift, often getting home from work at between two and five in the morning. So many days he either hasn't slept or has just taken a short nap before his VIPS work at Alvarado!

He once told me that he can sleep when his children are at school, and how important his work is here at Alvarado. His son Vincent is with him too every morning helping out with the valet service, and you can tell that he really looks up to his dad.

As a father, it is so wonderful to see the connection Mr. Ven has with his son, and the model that he is setting for all of our students as a school volunteer. Mr. Ven is an A+ VIPS, a truly exemplary parent to have at our school!



Mr. Sophann Ven and his son, Vincent



Tina Hansen
Mayor

VOLUNTEERS • FROM PAGE 1

Services Department with the help of volunteers are the Halloween Carnival, Brunch with Santa, and the summer Concerts in the Park, for which planning is currently underway. The Concerts continue to be a much anticipated tradition for the hundreds of people who come out each week to relax and enjoy great music. The City is currently looking for members of the community who will consider volunteering some time to help out during the six weeks of outstanding, live entertainment in the beautiful setting of Signal Hill Park. The first concert will be held on July 11, 2012 and will be every Wednesday through August 15.

The Signal Hill Police Department is also actively recruiting interested residents for the Community Volunteer Program. As a police volunteer, you will learn about Police Department's operations and the justice system. You can provide support for bicycle registration, clerical functions, fingerprinting services, newsletter creation, and speed watch. The time commitment requested is 12 hours per month of volunteer time, attendance at volunteer meetings and one year of service. If you are 21 years of age or older, you may be able to join this team. To request information or join the program, please contact Sergeant Brian Leyn at (562) 989-7222.

In addition to helping out the community, our volunteers make new friends from the neighborhood, and with fellow volunteers and co-workers. Not only can you add your experience to your resume, there's just nothing that beats the feeling of helping out.

If you are interested and able to help out, please call the Community Services Department at (562) 989-7330. For safety purposes, volunteers must be 16 years or older. We look forward to hearing from you.

The City of Signal Hill Office of the Mayor • 2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/989-7300
www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us

Burnett *Elementary*

565 E. Hill St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/595-9466 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/burnett/



Lucy Salazar
Principal

For Whom the Tardy-Bell Tolls

By Nancy Jo Rettig, Counselor

"What a great way to start the day!" said Kevin Keam, fourth-grade Valet Parker leader. I knew he was referencing the games he plays with our dedicated volunteer, Cindy Armstrong. Ms. Armstrong specializes in fun while keeping our little ones safe during traffic drop-offs.

Ms. Armstrong quizzes students with trivia and even teaches sign language as part of the routine.

"I just love being around the children, she said. "Their energy is marvelous. Even the parents give me kudos. I feel like I am part of the family."

Cheery good-mornings aren't the only thing she brings to our tardy table. Ms. Armstrong does a gentle high-five for Head Start children—a must for everyone under five.

Although she's only (ahem) years young, Ms. Armstrong struggles with pain.

"But when I get here it's all gone," she said. "This work just turns me around and rejuvenates me."



It's not too late to book or blog... Lunch with a Lizard

Lunch with a Lizard is a fun, educational, litter-awareness performance for K-3rd grades and is available FREE to all LBUSD elementary schools in Long Beach.

To book a performance at your school, visit www.litterfreeLB.org

Read all about it. LBUSD Principals, Program Coordinators and Teachers have posted comments on Mr. Scales' blog wall.

Visit www.litterfreeLB.org/blogwall to read what they've been saying or post a comment.
(You must be a LBUSD Principal, Coordinator or Teacher to post)



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CAMS

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Dr. Janice Filer
Principal

Serving Without Boundaries

CAMS would like to salute Cathy Arakaki as our 2012 Volunteer of the Year!

Mrs. Arakaki is the president of our Parent Teacher Student Organization. But not only does she spend numerous hours fund-raising for our school, she also volunteers her time on weekends and nights to help chaperon field trips and attend various school performances and other extracurricular activities.

Mrs. Arakaki even created our yearly "Taste of CAMS" event, where she organizes music performances and classroom presentations. These have included robotics demonstrations, drama skits, art displays, orchestra and chorus performances and other coursework displays. She also travels around the city to various restaurants for food donations to help support the event! Her Taste of CAMS provides funds to help support our various clubs and organizations with their field trips and other activities.

Mrs. Arakaki can be found dedicating her time to CAMS seven days a week throughout most of the year. So Mrs. Arakaki, we salute you and your service to CAMS! You are truly an example of volunteerism without boundaries.



Emerson *Parkside Academy Charter*

2625 Josie Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/420-2631 • http://eme-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com/



Margaret Kerns
Principal

An Inspiring Volunteer

Jennifer Allyn is an extraordinary Emerson Parkside Academy volunteer. As a member of the School Site Council (SSC), she helps assess the needs of students and uses data to set goals for the school. She makes important decisions about the budget and assists with revisions to the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Working with other SSC members she evaluates the effectiveness of the school plan, revises the SSC bylaws, the Home-School Compact, and the school's Parent Involvement Guidelines.

A voracious reader herself, Mrs. Allyn instills the love of literature through her assistance in the library. She also runs the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) program and made it the inspiration it was intended to be. The entire school community has been positively impacted by her work. She cleaned and organized the library, shelving hundreds of books which had been stacked in the back room. She reads stories to primary students and assists intermediate students with research projects. As the RIF coordinator, she orders books for the giveaways, creates reading incentives, gathers data on types of books students want to read, holds book giveaways, and completes paperwork. She is also a book fair volunteer.



Mrs. Allyn is a talented artist and has created hallway displays and office bulletin boards. She photographs special events at Emerson and posts them for all to enjoy. She chaperones field trips and has been a room parent for each of her three sons. Jennifer Allyn is an awesome volunteer, and Emerson students and staff appreciate her dedication to the school community.

Grant *Elementary*

1225 E. 64th St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-4616 • http://gra-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com/



Mona Cook
Principal

A Better Place

Volunteers are an integral part of what makes Grant such a great school. Our parents and community members can often be seen around campus working in classrooms, reading with students, preparing materials, or helping out with whatever else our teachers, staff and students need. Many of our volunteers can also be seen accompanying the classes on field trips.

Seeing these volunteers working around the school has inspired our students to give more of themselves. For instance, the student council members made turkeys for the Union Rescue Mission on Thanksgiving. They have also planned a canned food drive for after our return from spring break.



Our fifth-graders are also participating in helping the first-graders practice their reading. They help them out on the playground, too, and are even working with them twice-a-week at lunchtime on various skills.

Thank you, volunteers, for helping to make Grant a better place for our students and staff members!

Volunteers Make a Difference

A different world cannot be built by indifferent people.

— Nelson Mandela

A civilization flourishes when people plant trees under which they will never sit.

— Greek Proverb

A bit of fragrance always clings to the hand that gives the rose.

— Chinese Proverb

Franklin *Classical Middle School*

540 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/435-4952 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/franklin/index.htm



Maria Pilar Perossio
Principal

Our Extraordinary Volunteers

Our Franklin Classical Middle School parent volunteers started the 2011–2012 school year in fast gear! In September, they helped us distribute uniforms to our sixth-grade students. They also started fund-raising to help with all the upcoming events for the year.

During the last week of March, they worked on our book fair. They were at Franklin every day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

to make sure every student had a book to read for spring break.

Our fabulous volunteers make a big difference in the lives of our students. We are proud to say that we have the best volunteers in Long Beach.



Established in 1990, Zinsmeyer Academy is a California State certified, nonpublic, nonprofit, fully accredited Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) school, that provides excellent academic and vocational education services to children needing small class sizes and individual instruction and tutoring.

The school is co-ed, grades 4 through 12, offers CIF basketball, baseball and track/cross country.

For enrollment information:
Contact Lisa Butcher at 562-961-6109

The program includes:

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Zinsmeyer Academy
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Thank you to all who entered. See Contest finalists and winners at www.litterfreeLB.org

Gabriela Gutierrez, Grade 6,
Patrick Henry School, Mr. de Santiago



Aubrey Balster, Grade 8,
Hill Middle School, Ms. Griffith



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Hughes *Middle School*

3846 California Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-0831 • <http://lbhughes.schoolloop.com/>



Green Team Happenings

By David Michaels, 7th-Grade English Teacher

The Hughes Green Team has been quite busy this spring with harvesting, recycling, grant writing and “YouTubing.”

What new is growing at Hughes? The Green Team recently harvested most of the fall salad greens and mustard greens. The peas, Swiss chard, cilantro, dill, peppers and garlic grew nicely. The team will soon harvest their winter crops: beets, radishes, carrots and brussels sprouts.

Dr. Sally Gregory
Principal

The results are in for the winter recycling audit. Congratulations to the 400 hallway for having a perfect recycling audit, as all classrooms remain in compliance of recycling all paper, plastic and aluminum. Students, remember to keep trash out of the recycle bins, and make sure recyclable products end up in the right containers.

Recently, a group of students have been working on two grants: Disney’s “Planet Challenge” and Nickelodeon’s “The Big Green Help.” The Green Team hopes to use this money to create an ocean-friendly garden on campus. The garden will provide a learning center for the science teachers to show students how any harmful runoff and litter can be detrimental to our environment.

As for informational entertainment, the Green Team launched a video on YouTube that stars several students, faculty and even Mayor Bob Foster. After rainfall, litter, oil, and pesticides find their way to rain gutters. These pollutants eventually make their way to the San Gabriel River and the Los Angeles River. These rivers empty at our local beaches, creating pollution and contaminated water. Go to YouTube and type Hughes Goes Green S2S into the Search box.



Hughes Green Team 2011-2012



Jefferson *Leadership Academies*

750 Euclid Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/438-9904 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/jefferson/index.htm

Defining Above and Beyond

By Ameelia Ghareeb, M.Ed. - Teacher Librarian

Everyday, in schools across Long Beach, our volunteers are there. They help make sure the playgrounds are safe, that treats are served, and that special activities come off without a hitch.

Each volunteer is a valuable addition to their own site, and each has a special place in their heart for helping children. But there is one volunteer who truly defines the idea of "above and beyond," and that is Jennifer Wardlow.

I first met Ms. Wardlow many years ago when her son attended Marshall Middle School. She was active with the PTA, and I thought that when her son moved on to high school then so would she.

But Ms. Wardlow would not stop showing up at every event to help. I soon knew that at every Back to School Night, every Open House, every parent event and every special assembly she would be there. And many times she would be in tow with a teen or two in need of service hours.

How truly amazing she is became very clear this past summer, after I learned that I was being placed at the Jefferson Leadership Academies. It wasn't enough that Ms. Wardlow volunteered at Marshall, because she rose to the challenge and began volunteering at the new school as well!

She was there with me for weeks over the summer, giving the library a good cleaning and getting everything in ship-shape so that our students could come in ready for their first day of school.

She organized hoards of high schoolers to come organize books. She found every copy of *Diary of Wimpy Kid* in every used book store in the city and brought them to us. She made posters and signs to welcome the students on their first day. She also hosted (and still does) Jefferson's Reader of the Month event, and was instrumental in securing a \$1,000 grant for new books.

Most recently, she was also on hand popping fresh popcorn for several hours on our Read Across America Day. All at a school that her own children never attended. In a neighborhood that she does not live in! For children she has just met. And she does it all with a smile like no other.

We could not be providing the services that we do without her help. So thank you, Mrs. Wardlow, for truly going above and beyond. This simple phrase cannot ever express how great our appreciation is for you.



Brian Moskovitz
Principal



Jennifer Wardlow with her oldest son, Jon, a freshman at UCI.

Lakewood *High School*

4400 Briercrest Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/425-1281 • www.lblakewood.schoolloop.com/

Kristal St. Jean

By Stacy Burcham - Band, Orchestra and Jazz Director

I have known Kristal for the past five years here at Lakewood. She has been my exceptional classroom assistant and a big part of our amazing team in instrumental and vocal music.

Kristal exceeds the expectations of any classroom assistant or professional. She volunteers all of her time without expectation of reward because she is truly in it for the joy of helping others.

Kristal is punctual, reliable and intelligent. She always completes large-scale tasks before they need to be done, and she does it with patience and a cheerful attitude. She even anticipates what I will need to have done in the future, and does it without asking. I sometimes arrive to tasks that are already complete!

Kristal also maintains a wonderful rapport with all of our students and staff members. The students often go to her for advice or help with music. She is an invaluable member of the music department, and my program would not have excelled or continued to grow as it did without her help.



Cheryl Cornejo
Co-Principal



Mario Jimenez
Principal



Kristal St. Jean!


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Matt Saldana
Principal

A Special Volunteer

The Family Literacy Center, located at Long Beach School for Adults, salutes their special volunteer, Elba Solorzana, for her dedication and ongoing support of the program.

Solorzana, who began in the literacy center program as a limited English speaking student, has gradually become the most dedicated volunteer of the program. Although she must take two busses to the school, she is always on time and never misses her classes.

She provides leadership and mentoring for new participants in the program, arrives early to organize and arrange the snacks for the parenting classes, translates information on behalf of the teacher, Carolyn Blocker, and is working on her high school diploma. Solorzana's personal educational goal is to improve her writing and math skills so she can be an asset to the learning needs of her children.

The Literacy Center, which helps students prepare their children for a successful transition to elementary school, provides a special place where parents can interact with their preschoolers in a positive way and enroll in academic and parenting classes on the same campus. The program provides a sense of community and family for parents who need more understanding of the educational system and how to provide a worthwhile educational experience for their children.

Elba Solorzano with the Long Beach Family Literacy Program

With her daughter, Nicole, starting public kindergarten next year, Solorzana will be leaving the Family Literacy Program. She is looking forward to becoming an active PTA member at her daughter's new school.



Millikan High School

2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/425-7441 • www.lbmillikan.schoolloop.com/



Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo
Principal



Monica Daley
Principal of Instruction

Longtime Community Leader Honored

By Katie Hickox, English Department

Millikan High School dedicated a building to a student, teacher, coach and community volunteer who has changed lives at Ram High for decades. One person fit all of these descriptors: David Radford.

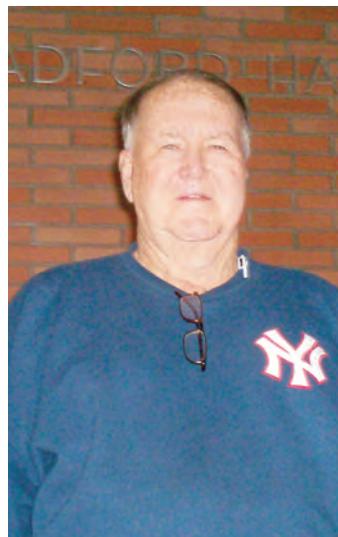
The former 900 building is now known as Radford Hall, after the retired teacher and football coach. Mr. Radford is also a Hall of Fame member of the Millikan class of 1957, the school's first graduating class.

Generations of Millikan teachers, coaches, administrators and students gathered at the foot of Radford Hall recently to give the coach a standing ovation. Millikan principal Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo thanked Mr. Radford for his assistance, which has stretched past the coach's retirement in 2003.

"His kindness, his practicality and his work ethic have been known to all of us for years," Dr. Cornejo said. Awards noting the coach's two CIF titles and years as a teacher were displayed at the foot of the building.

Teacher Tom Lind, who led the organization of the dedication, noted that Mr. Radford has mentored many current and past teachers and coaches in the Long Beach Unified School District.

"David was a great guy to work with and an incredibly learned and wise teacher," Mr. Lind said. "He could shorten a 30-minute meeting to about three minutes by delivering just a few words that let you know exactly the point of the meeting. He could teach you something with a single sentence."



Mr. Radford

Lincoln Elementary

1175 E. 11th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-5005 • www.lbschools.net/Lincoln/Home.html



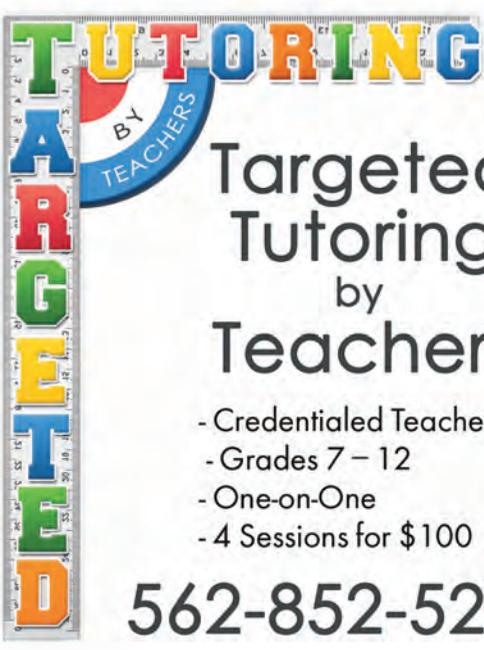
Christi Granado
Principal

Hooray for Our VIP of the Year!

Here at Lincoln, we deeply appreciate the tireless work of our volunteers (VIPS). VIPS contribute hundreds of hours of volunteer time year, which equates to thousands of dollars in donated time. Leading the team of volunteers at Lincoln is our VIP of the Year, Esperanza Hernandez—or, as all 1,100 students fondly call her, Ms. Lili. Ms. Lili alone donates more than 10 hours per week of her own time to help the students, staff and families of Lincoln. She comes to our school every day with a positive attitude and a warm, welcoming smile, ready to give Lincoln students everything she has to give. Ms. Lili encourages *all* students to do their very best by

getting to know them individually, rewarding their good behavior and kindly redirecting students who may need extra support. Each morning, Ms. Lili greets families and students, many of them by name, with a smile and a compliment at the entrance of the school. The smiles on the faces of those she greets is evidence that her positivity spreads quickly.

Not only does Ms. Lili work with students each day but she is also an invaluable resource to many of Lincoln parents who do not speak English or are not comfortable with the language. She has become their voice, and in turn, she has recruited them to become VIPS, too. With the parents she has convinced to help by her side, Ms. Lili works diligently in the parent center on a daily basis, preparing materials for teachers' classrooms, laminating projects for staff members, or helping with PTO fund-raisers. Ms. Lili goes above and beyond what is asked of her, and is always willing to help! Lincoln Elementary school is so fortunate to have all of our volunteers, especially Esperanza Hernandez, VIP of the Year.



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Gray Lange Jr.
Principal

Helping Where We Can

Volunteerism has reached an all-time high at Newcomb Academy due, in large part, to new community service team member Alyson Al-Mulla. She has spearheaded many new missions, and her fresh perspective has helped raise the bar for what can be achieved through individual donations of time and energy.

Our team started the year off by coordinating staff and students in a beach clean-up, where over 75 Spartans gave up their normal Saturday morning activities to help beautify Long Beach. This act of community service snowballed into many other ventures.

Newcomb volunteered to work with the American Cancer Society to give children with cancer a better holiday season and teamed up with an organization called One Warm Coat to provide the local homeless with winter protection. A record-breaking canned food drive helped the Salvation Army feed those in need, and Spartans collected two truckloads of donations to support the Seal Beach Animal Shelter. With the help of Lions Club International, the month of March was dedicated to finding new homes for old prescription glasses to help correct the vision of people across the globe. As students and teachers continue to inspire each other, we strive for perpetual improvement in helping where we can.



Prisk Elementary

2375 Fanwood Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/598-9601 • <http://prisk-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



Cindy Young
Principal

Prisk Super Stars

The Prisk community is proud and honored to be served by so many dedicated volunteers. It is their hard work and commitment to serving their community that makes our programs successful. As we celebrate our classified and certificated staff, we also celebrate our VIPs, those who give of their time and themselves to make Prisk a great place to learn. Each one of these dedicated community members works diligently to provide a positive learning environment for our students. Whether working individually with students on writing skills and number concepts or with small groups of students mastering reading and mathematic skills, Prisk volunteers are proof that our school community involves everyone working together to make our school the best it can be. We couldn't do it without the help of all our VIPs. Their dedication, talent, skills, and creativity are greatly appreciated by everyone at Prisk! They've shown that one of the keys to being happy is doing things for other people. We salute and honor all the VIPs at Prisk.



Our fabulous volunteers from Cornerstone Church.



Douglas P. Haubert
City Prosecutor

LEAD • FROM PAGE 1

Take the LEAD

"The students are excited every time Mr. Haubert and Mr. Sanchez come to class," said fifth-grade teacher Jorge Ramos. "The children are really absorbing the material and listening carefully. It's working out really well." The lessons consist of instruction on the criminal justice system, using student-acted hypotheticals and covering topics such as drug use, gang involvement, racial tolerance, conflict resolution, truancy and graffiti. Volunteers in the DA's office have taught Project LEAD classes for several years, but this is the first time city prosecutors have volunteered. Having local prosecutors in the classroom adds value to curriculum because students can ask questions about current local events or things that have happened to them. Students learn how to analyze problems and develop solutions themselves. The curriculum aims to instill positive values in students and help them develop self-esteem, conflict resolution skills and the ability to resist peer pressure.

Toward the conclusion of the program is a mock trial put on by the students. It is never too early for children to learn life lessons. Children in some urban areas are exposed to harmful influences like gangs and drugs at an early age, so it is important to reach them first and help them recognize the social and legal consequences of criminal behavior.

The Project LEAD course lasts 20-weeks, but the decision-making skills the students learn will last a lifetime. The material keeps students engaged, and the children are so busy having fun they hardly realize they are learning important lessons.

For more information about Project LEAD, contact Shari Farmer, LEAD coordinator, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office at (213) 974-7268.

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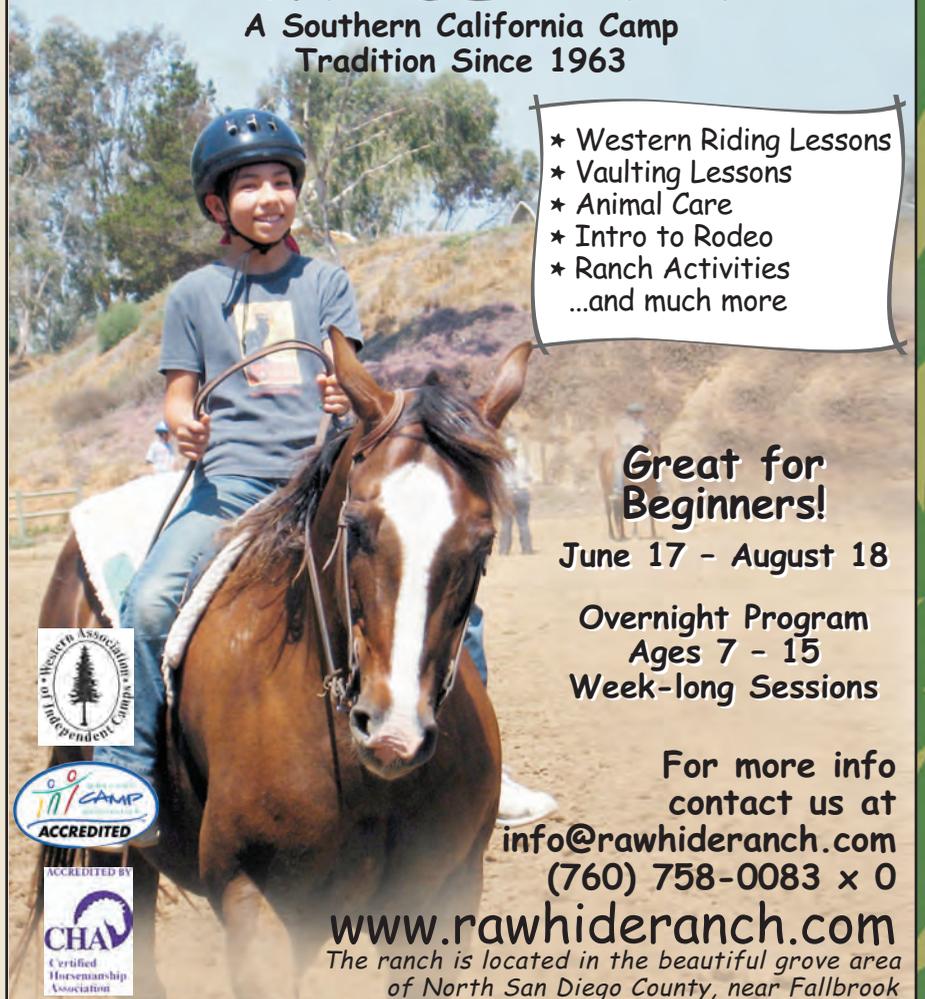


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Friends of Long Beach Animals

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Volunteers Are Priceless!

By Miriam Yarden, B.Sc., MS, APDT

This would be a sad world indeed, without volunteers. Considering what and how much they contribute, trying to put a monetary value on their efforts is impossible. Long Beach' own volunteer group, Friends of Long Beach Animals is such a collection of wonderful people who give their time, effort and financial support for the betterment of the lives of companion animals.

They offer humane education to all schools in Long Beach free of charge, they help with the expenses of spaying and neutering, they actively adopt out pets who have been altered and are in dire need of homes, they hold special events to raise the necessary means to accomplish these and are involved with hands-on help with shelter animals, providing toys to prevent boredom, beds to prevent laying on hard floors, organize reading with children and animals, work tirelessly to prevent inhumane laws...the list goes on and on.

FOLBA's volunteer work is truly priceless. Such dedication and effort cannot be paid for, it comes from the heart. We are calling on you to consider joining our ranks with your heart and time and effort to continue FOLBA's work. It is so necessary.

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Developing a Mindset of Giving Back



Rajeshri Gandhi

As parents, you teach your children important values and are the primary architect of their character. Much of what they learn is through experience, by watching you and by living as a part of your family. Compassion and a habit of giving of one's self is one of those important values and as parents, you can explicitly teach your child to have a mindset of service and giving back. Anyone, regardless of economic or demographic category has the ability to contribute to a greater cause and giving of one's self is something that each of us can do—it costs us nothing but a bit of time. It's also never too early and children as young as preschool age can begin to have volunteer experiences to develop service as a lifelong habit. Volunteering is a win-win activity—those who one serves benefit from the actions and those who serve gain confidence and sense of self worth, while feeling fulfilled that they have contributed to a greater good.

Giving back and performing service to ones community have become a focus for children, particularly in school. Many high schools require students to perform a set number of hours of community service to fulfill graduation requirements. Colleges and universities have separate areas on the application for students to list their various community service activities, indicating an expectation that students have spent a significant amount time engaged in some sort of volunteer activity. While schools can facilitate and be conduits to opportunities for students to perform service, families can instill this habit and also use it as a means of building self esteem and strengthening familial relationships. As parents, you can help your children see community service as more than just something to complete a requirement or just look good to colleges. While it may seem daunting to add volunteering to the seemingly endless list of tasks on the "Parent" job description, there are a many ways to incorporate community service and develop a mindset of giving back into the normal course of family activities.

Model service, talk about its importance and create a mindset of giving back. Whether it's serving as a mentor to a colleague, donating blood or contributing to a local charity, parents have examples of their own service activities to share with their children. As parents, you have a tremendous amount of influence over your children and by talking to them about the service activities that you do, you are leading by example, endorsing the idea of giving back and helping your child to develop that mindset. Community service shouldn't be just a box to check off—it's an opportunity to develop a sense of self, gain confidence and learn compassion, while performing a social good.

Find activities to do as a family. Families can participate in many different

types of service activities. Some families have traditions of giving back such as serving at soup kitchens on holidays, conducting collections of books or winter clothes, and participating in charitable walks/runs. Working together on towards a common goal can be fun and rewarding. The important thing is to find something that fits your family's culture, has a role for everyone, is meaningful to your family, and is something that you all can reflect upon afterwards.

Emphasize sustained, long term efforts. Getting kids involved in a project or with a group that involves a more sustained, continuous effort allows them to commit to a cause, see the impact of their work and connect with those who they are serving. As children can experience the impact that their actions have and witness the positive change that occurs over the course of time as a result of their efforts, they can begin to understand and appreciate the true value of giving.

Don't overlook the little ones—young children can serve too! While a 16-year-old can take on more independence than a 6-year-old, there are things that even the youngest children can do to begin to learn the value of giving back. It's important that younger children have someone guiding their efforts, frequently pointing out the value/impact as they go along to keep them focused and motivated. Small tasks done in partnership with adults can allow these young givers to feel involved in a larger effort and help to develop giving as a core value. Kids also respond well when they can physically contribute. Letting them carry, collect or count items, help serve or clean up, or perform some sort of physical task (run a lap in a jog-a-thon, etc) allows children to physically feel their actions and better comprehend their impact.

Encourage your children to be leaders and help them create opportunities for others to be involved. I believe that people inherently like to give and be involved, but for some, it is not always easy to figure out how to contribute. Leadership is also an essential skill that can be taught and developed in and outside of the classroom. Once they have developed a habit and mindset of giving back, your children can share that value by finding or creating service opportunities that are meaningful to them and involving others. There is no shortage of need and by thinking creatively, your children can exponentially increase the impact of the service activity and help shape a new group of givers.

Rajeshri holds a BS from the University of Michigan and a MA in School of Leadership with Principal Certification from Harvard University. She uses her background in public and private schools both teaching and administration to collaborate with students, parents and schools about the various educational options available. Rajeshri may be reached at rgandhi24@gmail.com www.rajeshrigandhi.com

Positive Parenting

Volunteerism



Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

Do you think it is valuable or important to teach children to do volunteer work? Definitely, yes! I am very concerned that today's children put a price tag on anything they do on the helping scale. Parents reinforce this idea by continually giving their children money for helping with something. A few years back, the son of a family that had moved in next door to me came over to talk. I was trimming bushes in the front yard and had accumulated a lot of cuttings on the lawn. The boy asked if he could help, so I got him busy loading trash cans. We talked the whole time, totally enjoying each other's company. When we finished, he asked me if I was going to pay him. Seeing the

opportunity for a life-lesson, I responded, "If you wanted a paying job, you needed to negotiate that in the beginning. It is not acceptable to be kind then ask for money for your kindness." The next day I asked him if he wanted a job helping me pass out flyers in the neighborhood. He was excited to help and quickly reassured me that he would not ask for money. I laughed, "This is different," I said, "This time I am asking you to work for money."

Making a Difference Volunteering for children can be offering to help with something at home or joining a group of young people who do service work. I remember one Thanksgiving when my daughter Kathleen became increasingly worried about an elderly couple who lived on our street. After discussing it with me, she invited them to our family dinner—they declined, as the man was not well. So on Thanksgiving Day, a parade of youngsters took the whole feast to their home and entertained them with an original play. I still remember the look on the woman's face when she looked over the children at me and mouthed those two small words, "Thank you." Whether your child takes food to a neighbor on the street or ends up working with an organization to stop world hunger, the principle behind any service is that love matters. It is not enough to care—each of us must do something to help other people. I think volunteerism is best taught by what the parents model. Volunteerism is a matter of consciousness, which can be taught. We need to be sure our children understand that helping others is essential to our survival as human beings. Call it personal tithing—giving of yourself to make the world a better place.

Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel has written three books. She has taught school, raised two children, worked as a consultant to schools and has taught parenting for the past 20 years. Sandy lives in Meridian, Idaho. www.ParentingSOS.com

Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine

2760 Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815 • www.lbparks.org

Creative Summer Camps

This summer Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine has planned dozens of week-long specialty day camps for your child to explore interests as diverse as engineering, science, animation, sports and singing.

The titles tell the story of all the fun that will be available: "Top Chef Cooking," "Star Wars Theme Camp," "Harry Potter Theme Camp," "Glee Camp," and "Artragos Art Camp," to dabble in watercolor, oil pastels, collage, clay, colored pencils, glass fusing and more!

Does your child like to build and create? There's "Fort Building," "Pre-Engineering," "Engineering Fundamentals," and Jedi Engineering," all using legos for hands-on physics, mechanical and architectural lessons that and inspire students to follow their own creative vision.

Young sports enthusiasts can hone their skills in the "British Soccer Camp" series that offers separate sessions for young players and half and full day sessions. A multi-sport sampler camp, "Mini Hawk covers baseball, basketball and soccer; and "Flag Football" works on passing, catching and defense.

Little mad scientists can explore gravity, inertia and energy through building and flying stunt planes, magnets, plasma balls, electrical circuits and more in "Summer Science Spectacular," learn to protect our planet in "Claws, Codes and Constellations," learn to investigate science mysteries in "Secret Agent Lab" and break down molecules in "Crazy Chemworks."

Budding young filmmakers will love the "Flix" camps where they can build confidence and bring their imagination and creativity to life. Flix Camps include "Animation," "Cartoon," "Clay," "Lego," "Acting," "Filmmaking," and "Scripting." All students receive their movie on DVD to enjoy their experience for a lifetime.

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The Champion



Kent Kawaguchi

Who is going to be the Champion? After months of practice, countless hours of competitive workouts, and scrimmages, it was finally time to fly from Orange County, California to Chicago to compete against some of the top Mid-West volleyball teams. After hours of plane rides and anticipation, we finally got to the gym called Adversity. It was a huge, clean, modern gym with multiple courts for teams to play on. Inside the gym was extremely hectic. Referee whistles were blowing, coaches were screaming, fans were cheering, and athletes were competing at the highest level. There was spirited electricity in the air and one

person focused on seemingly every person and game going on in the gym. He was constantly watching, coaching, leading, cheering teams and players, motivating them to do their best. He would also greet parents and coaches too, obviously appreciated and respected by everyone inside the gymnasium. By the end of the tournament everyone knew that he is the Champion.

His name is Mike Hulett, Founder of the non-profit organization called Adversity Volleyball. As President, Head Coach and Organizer of the entire tournament, he brought together hundreds of student athletes from the Great Lakes region and our team from California. Mr. Hulett is also a quadruple amputee who went through the adversity



Kent and Mike Hulett, founder of Adversity Volleyball.

of having lost his limbs due to diabetes. However, he continues to pursue his love and passion for the game of volleyball bringing joy to hundreds of athletes and their families.

As Head Coach of the Men's Paralympic Sitting Volleyball Team from 1996 to 2000 he inspires others through his leadership. In 2004, he led the USA Paralympic Women's Volleyball team to a Bronze medal in Athens, where he was also named the United States Olympic Committee Paralympics Coach of the Year in 2004. He also led the Women's team to a Silver medal in Beijing. The Athens and Beijing medals were USA's only Olympic medals ever won in Disabled Volleyball. In addition, Mr. Hulett won the Disabled Sport USA's Volunteer of the Year award in 1997, the Great Lakes Region Outstanding Clinician Award in 1998, and the USA Volleyball Leader Award in 2002.

Mr. Hulett said, "I want to show kids that they need to be grateful for the things they have, because things can be taken away in a matter of seconds." Through the Adversity Volleyball Club, his coaching and leadership, he inspires athletes to do their best and to appreciate everything they have.

Being Something Larger than Yourself



Kellie Kawaguchi
Guest Columnist

We all go to college hoping for the best four years of our lives to explore and meet new people. We go to our classes, Economics, Psychology, Statistics, Biology, Accounting; pick an empty chair, take a few notes, listen to our professors and move on.

I wanted have the ultimate college experience: go to football games, meet new people from around the world, join a sorority, succeed in academics, and find the dream job/internship. Though I am living the ultimate college experience at USC, in addition there is always one place that grounds me and opens my eyes to a whole new world: Taper Hall Room 208, every

Wednesday nights with forty complete strangers. We all have a love for one thing: the entertainment industry. As Business Administration majors specializing in the entertainment industry, the other students and I finally came together for the first time, after being accepted into a competitive business cinematic arts program in our senior year of high school. Taking our first real entertainment business class, we all wondered what our journey would be for the next 18 weeks.

I walked into my entertainment business class, thinking that I would just learn about the entertainment industry for three hours and get tested on the information; but was I wrong as soon as my professor stepped in the door. Although the students and I did not know each other, we all looked at one another knowing that this would be a long journey when we noticed our professor walking in with confidence, strong body language, and intense energy. Our professor, Mr. Danny Sussman, paced in front of the classroom, made eye contact with every one of us and analyzed our every move before saying one word to the class.

Danny Sussman, a successful talent manager at Brillstein Entertainment, is very well respected in the entertainment industry for his loyalty, honesty, knowledge and passion. Growing up in Queens, New York, Danny started his career as a journalist after graduating Ithaca College in history and journalism. He worked in the financial wire services division at Shearson Lehman Bros. writing about complex political situations. Soon he found a job for a film company, writing about the finances of the film industry but shifted careers to hopefully become an agent. Starting out in the mailroom at William Morris Agency, he volunteered to work on any task whether it was taking out the trash or driving to pick up envelopes. His hard work was noticed by his colleagues and was soon given the opportunity to analyze numerous screenplays and provide script coverages for his bosses. After much dedication, hard work, and service to his co-workers, Danny found his niche and became an agent at William Morris for eight years but soon joined Brillstein Grey to work in talent management. His client roster includes actors such as John Stamos, Chloe Sevigny, Lili Taylor, Noah Wyle, Kaley Cuoco, and Heather Locklear.

With Danny's intimidating resume and a strong background in the entertainment industry, I was ready to learn everything about the business, but came out learning so much more.

The very first thing Danny said to our class was, "In order to make it in this industry and in life, you have to belong to something larger than yourself. You must root for each other, support each other, and be each other's family." From that moment on, it became a theme of most of our lectures for the next 18 weeks. Although he taught us about ratings, different agencies and networks, and making deals, throughout the course, he taught us all to be a citizen of the world; a team player that supports one another to create and impact something greater than ourselves. He emphasized that to be a citizen is something beautiful yet it takes hard work by servicing the community, being courageous, overcoming obstacles, and fighting through it all.

In the midst of midterms seasons, many of us had a big Economics test the next day, yet we all went on the field trip to LA Live on Danny's birthday. During our trip to LA Live, we analyzed how AEG has recreated the ultimate entertainment experience for the people in Los Angeles. But nervous about my midterm the next day, in the back of my mind I felt guilty for studying something that I love- the entertainment business, rather than studying for Econ.

SEE BEING SOMETHING LARGER PAGE 17

Note-ables

The Kid's Guide to Service Projects



Kate Karp

The title of this wonderfully helpful resource is directed at children, but Barbara A. Lewis's *Kid's Guide to Service Projects*, Free Spirit Publishing, 1995, is a volunteer guide for any age. The more than 500 suggested projects, ranging in difficulty from caring for a neighbor's pet to getting state laws and city ordinances passed, will appeal to anyone who want to make a difference and earn breathing space on the planet. The projects, all worthy, are described simply and clearly enough to encourage any aspiring humanitarian.

The projects focus on human and animal welfare, community development and safety, the environment, literacy and politics, further divided into 10 categories. In the introduction, Lewis gives short shrift to anyone's claims of not having enough time or that the goals are too involved for any one person to attempt. Instead, she maps out projects for every passion, and invites the reader to send her anything that she hasn't thought of. She then provides a template of 10 steps to make any effort a successful one; gives handy how-tos for pesky paperwork tasks such as creating fliers, writing petitions and press releases, and lobbying for a cause; and suggest seven ways to raise funds.

Anyone who wants to be proactive in solving problems for the community, either local or at large, will find frequent use for *The Kid's Guide to Service Projects*. It will be particularly helpful in the service requirement for graduation from high school; and families, youth and religious organizations, and classroom teachers will all find something to forward worthy efforts. Most of all, lone individuals who feel the need to take action on a problem but may be overwhelmed by the details will be happy to find that Lewis has done the initial organization for them. And that in itself is a great service.

Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.

BEING SOMETHING LARGER • FROM PAGE 16

The trip concluded with a dinner and a lecture that I will never forget. As I am attempting to read my notes during dinner, Danny states, "Today is not just my birthday. Today is your birthday and the start of something great. We all have a moral obligation to give back to the world. We are each given something beautiful by God; the more you can tap into that gift, the more you can share it with others and use it. Every single one of us has the power to create change, but it is in our own hands." He continued on his lecture by stating that some academic classes are important, but it doesn't matter in the large scheme of life when we have the ability to inspire and make a difference by touching the hearts of others through art, culture and entertainment.

At the conclusion of the course, he told our class, "Come back from the holidays strong, with a passion that excites you. Think about who you want to be and what the institution (school) can do for you and what you can do for it. Check your ego out the door and learn respect, patience, time, investment and love. Be knowledgeable, honest, and trustworthy; be prepared for anything. Believe in what you are doing; offer something unique, and live with pride. You can't do it if you don't love it. If you get all those things, you give it back and do something with it."

Yes, I did learn about Economics, Accounting, and Statistics in college thus far, but what I have come out of this journey is far greater than what I anticipated. My professor taught us that we should stand like we belong and give back to the world that has given so much to us already. In just a few weeks, the forty other students and I were no longer just students taking notes; we learned to become citizens in the world so that one day we can take our love for entertainment and hopefully take "the things that we are inspired by, [and use it as] the lifeblood of the entertainment industry." Although the teachers are there to teach you the necessary subject matter, abide by the syllabus, and stick to a strict schedule, they also have a story; they have advice for you; and they can open your eyes to a whole new world that can lead you to the start of a new beginning. "Opportunity is a door that is made of gold. It manifests itself in life only once in a while and you have 2 responsibilities: recognize it and have the will power to walk through it - Danny Sussman."

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Jodie Lynn

Volunteering at your children's schools, youth activities, daycare facilities, church and anywhere else you see a need is always a worthwhile endeavor. It can make a huge difference in your community and in the life of your child and your child's teacher or leader. In addition, it may very well lift up your own spirits.

Seeking Opportunities: Make time to seek out volunteer opportunities. Here are some guidelines:

Get to know your child's teacher, coach, and others.

Doing so will help you observe and learn in which areas she/he needs the most help.

Visit the school or attend meetings and practices to determine the volunteer requirements. In today's society, many organizations are requiring criminal background checks, so be prepared. Look at it as a positive move on the part of those who are now implementing these new guidelines, rather than a hassle—it could prove to be safer for your children and provide a mentally healthier environment.

Sign up early. If you would like to have more options in more areas, sign up early. Depending on the ages of the children in the group, they may have different opportunities, especially in early elementary classrooms. For example, volunteers are needed one to two days a week in many, while others may ask for only one day a month.

Schedule volunteer time around your job or schedule. After selecting which area you would like to volunteer, go over the time, days and location with your supervisor or make sure this won't interfere with anything you need to do. If none of the times are workable, there are plenty of things you can do at home. For example, making artwork to hang on the walls for specific projects, plays or themes or in the music room, gym or library is often highly appreciated. Most volunteers are moms. Many moms now have home-based offices, which allows for a highly flexible schedule. Keep a calendar of all activities that provide a potential volunteering opportunity. Ask the school for a copy of the school calendar so

you can evaluate your options carefully. If you feel your time would be better utilized in the school play during the holidays, sign up for that as soon as possible. Or, if you are really into science or book fairs, find out exactly what volunteer positions are available that would best fit your talents. Perhaps you love to go on field trips with your kids. Find out which ones are coming up and get on the volunteer schedule.

Once you commit to a volunteer position, keep on top of it by jotting everything down in a personal calendar. Getting all the details helps immensely in figuring out in a flash when something is going to happen and who is doing what and when. One of my favorites is the large flat wall calendar by ThinkBin. The ThinkBin Family Calendar was created by two moms who found themselves spread too thin and could not find an acceptable system to keep their families organized. (See www.ThinkBin.com for more details.) Another favorite is one I love to carry with me wherever I go—The Busy Body Book. It has awesome pouches, wide columns and an area to organize schedules for up to five different family members. Check out www.BusyBodyBook.com and see what I mean. Both of these are incredible tools in getting organized right from the start, which is crucial to having a successful school year.

The Benefits of Volunteering: Volunteering is more meaningful than you might imagine. Everyone benefits, and kids love to see their parents in their classroom and out and about in the community. It teaches them the importance of spending time helping others, making a difference, caring and sharing. Research has shown that kids whose parents volunteer have amazing self-esteem, more motivation and are higher achievers. Best of all, they are more likely to demonstrate patience, execute quality leadership skills, thoughtfulness, kindness and see challenges in a more positive manner—a true recipe for tomorrow's future leaders, our children!

Jodie Lynn is an award-winning, internationally syndicated family/health and education columnist and best-selling author. Her column Parent to Parent™ (www.ParentToParent.com) has been successful for more than 15 years. She is a regular contributor to several sites and has written four books and contributed to three others, one of which was featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. She has authored several books including *Mom CEO (Chief Everything Officer)*, *Having, Doing, and Surviving It All!* and *Syndication Secret—What No One Will Tell You!* Check www.ParentToParent.com for details on new radio talk show, Inside Parenting Success. J

Pokemon Word Search Contest

NEW Rules!!!

One word in the list is NOT in the word search.
When you have completed the word search, one word will be left and that is the word you email to: Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com (Please put LBUSD in the subject line)

Entries must be received by May 25, 2012

From the correct entries one name will be drawn to win a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes & Noble.

Aerodactyl	Jigglypuff	Rotom
Bayleef	Kingler	Seviper
Chikorita	Lileep	Togepi
Ditto	Meowth	Unown
Electabuzz	Noctowl	Vibrava
Flygon	Oddish	Wobuffet
Grimer	Pokemon	Xatu
Hoothoot	Pikachu	Yanmega
Igglebuff	Qwilfish	Zubat

A special thank you to Tristan Luedee, 7 years old, for suggesting this Pokemon Word Search and emailing the words.



Renaissance *High School for the Arts*

235 East 8th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/901-0168, Ext. 7233 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/Renaissance/



Quentin Brown
Interim Principal

Nourishing the Arts!

Renaissance High School for the Arts is fortunate to have many dedicated parent volunteers. Two exceptional ones are Alandria Jones and Dena Brooks. Both have been very active and involved on the Renaissance campus over the past three years, volunteering their time and talent in myriad ways.

One of their most notable contributions has been providing dinners at our musical rehearsals, cooking for and feeding over 120 students involved in the production. This includes students in the cast, orchestra, stage crew, and video and costume crews!

Renaissance performs two musicals a year at a local arts venue,

and when we hold our tech week during the week prior to the show, rehearsals at the downtown theater run from after school until 8 in the evening. Mrs. Jones and Ms. Brooks prepare a home-cooked meal twice during this week for all of the students and staff that are involved in the show and serve it with a smile!

In addition to cooking for these rehearsals, they



Dena Brooks and Alandria Jones serve dinner to the cast and crew of Seussical the Musical during a dress rehearsal.

have also catered our all-arts festivals for the past two years, preparing a jazz-aged themed menu for our "Harlem Renaissance" event in 2011 and a French-inspired menu for our recent Impressionism arts event this past month, "Interpreting Light."

Our Renaissance family really appreciates these two dedicated women. Thank you, Mrs. Jones and Ms. Brooks!

Riley *Elementary*

3319 Sandwood St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/420-9595 • http://riley-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/



Stacy Sanchez
Principal

Thank You Volunteers

It was our pleasure to recognize the extraordinary volunteers of Riley! On Wednesday April 25 we held our Annual VIP's Tea. Our library was full of the fabulous people who make it easier for all of us to do our jobs! They are room parents, come and work in classrooms, support our Meet the Masters Program, go on field trips, make copies, do miscellaneous tasks around the office, help on our PTA with fundraising and special events, and make life at Riley better for all students and staff. It is amazing how much 'extra' work gets done because of them, and all the things that wouldn't

get done if we didn't have them! The extra time given and commitment to success is remarkable. To all of our Volunteers, we say THANK YOU!



Robinson *Academy*

2750 Pine Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/492-6003 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/robinson



Dr. Damita Myers-Miller
Principal

12 year - Legacy of Service

We all have those special volunteers in our schools who quickly become more than volunteers but a part of our inner workings and fabric of the school culture; Rachele Ramirez has been a key support of JRA for the past 12 years. Listed below are just a few of the programs Ms. Rachele has been involved in over the years



Ms. Rachele Ramirez

Ms. Rachele's support of the school programs

Jackie Robinson's birthday celebration; Walk-a-Thon; Fundraisers: Cheesecakes/foods are best.; Picture day; Black History Month; Red Ribbon Week; End of year celebration; Harvest Festival; Strawberry Festival; Turkey Trot; Winter Wonderland Ball; Various School dances; End of Year Beach Party; other cultures represented here also, i.e.: Filipino Families & Pacific Islanders; Multi-Cultural Day Fair; Cultural Nights: Latino Night, French Night (Soirée?), Japanese Night & African American Night.

Ms. Rachele's support as a parent leader:

PTSA member for 12 years: Board member as President, Vice President, Treasurer x2 & Financial Secretary; Input for CA Distinguished Schools application; Celebration of CA Distinguished School Title; School Site Council Member; DCAC Parent Rep.M/S; K-8 Parent Forum Rep.; Superintendent Parent Forum Rep.; English Classes for ESL parents offered by LBUSD-6 week course; Parenting Classes-PIQUE; The Janice Ray-Reaves Parent Center-Room C; JRA Needy Family Thanksgiving Baskets

Ms. Rachele's support with LBUSD:

LBUSD input for Career & Success Initiative; LBUSD input for Broad Grant questions; LBUSD input for New York School District; "It wasn't the reward that mattered or the recognition you might harvest. It was your depth of commitment, your quality of service, the product of your devotion — these were the things that counted in life. When you gave purely, the honor in giving, and that was honor enough.

Thank you Ms. Rachele for your devotion to Jackie Robinson you have been our greatest reward. We celebrate you...once a DOLPHIN always a DOLPHIN



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Kathleen Cruz
Principal

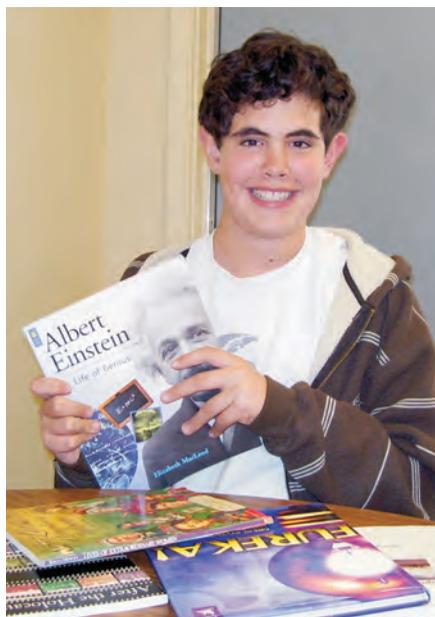
What Makes Us Work

Volunteerism is alive and well at Stanford! This is evidenced by our individual students, on- and off-campus organizations, and parent groups. They have all stepped up to assist our school site and the community at large.

For instance, seventh-grader Dana Levy began the “Thankful Thursdays” event on the Stanford campus. Every Thursday, interested students and their families can donate wrapped or canned items to place into a bin at lunch time. These donations are then picked up and delivered to Centro Shalom for distribution to our Long Beach families in need.



Dana's at Centro Shalom where the food donations are delivered.



Logan is pictured with book donations.

Dana originally began the program for her health service hours, but she has continued on with the collection because of the great help it provides to our community!

Logan Nantais, also a seventh-grader, put out a call for old books on behalf of the Stramski Center, an organization which helps children with behavioral and developmental conditions. He made arrangements with English teachers to house donation boxes, and then with the help of his father transported them to the Center.

A Transformation

On campus, our Recycle Team handles the site's recycling efforts. The student council has also provided the school with a number of opportunities to assist in worthwhile causes. This year we have supported the Salvation Army food drive, Pennies for Patients and our local SPCA.

With the time and efforts of Girl Scout Troop No. 193, and Stanford parent Kathy McGuire, an inhospitable dirt area on campus has now been transformed into an oasis of drought-tolerant plants.

Our PTA parent volunteers also organize meetings and staff appreciation events, oversee use of funds, schedule parent education sessions, and step in to assist where and when needed. They do anything for the benefit of our students, and everything without a paycheck.

By definition a volunteer is an unpaid helper. But with the challenges facing education today, our volunteers have become much more than just unpaid helpers. They are vital pieces of what makes our school work.

Tincher *Preparatory School*

1701 Petaluma Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/493-2636 • www.2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/tincher/home.html



Dr. Kelly An
Principal

Volunteers: The Heart of Tincher

Tincher Preparatory School has always had a large number of volunteers supporting our school. This has become even more important in these days of reduced budgets. We'd like to highlight a few of our wonderful volunteers.

As you drive up to Tincher in the morning, you are greeted by our Volunteer Valets. These student volunteers usher cars into the drop-off lane, assist students with exiting the car, and guide cars back into the traffic lane. This has been a huge help with our early morning traffic jams. Parent volunteers supervise the valets to ensure their safety.



Our valets working the morning traffic.

Our Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) provide hundreds of hours each month in support of our students. This year, a group of VIPS received special training in supporting literacy and comprehension. These volunteers work with individual students to provide additional academic support. Among our VIPS are Reading Grandma and our very own Music Man, who provide many hours to several teachers. VIPS are found in the majority of our classrooms, assisting teachers in a variety of ways, always with smiles on their faces.

A large number of our recent Tincher graduates return to assist their teachers. They have a special relationship with their younger peers and have a good understanding of what it means to be a Tincher Tiger. Many of our student graduates work far more than their required number of service hours because they find it so rewarding. They also provide a connection for our students who will soon be entering high school.

Now more than ever before, these wonderful volunteers make Tincher the great school it has become.





Sandy Blazer
Co-Principal



Gonzalo Moraga
Principal of Instruction

The Spirit of Volunteerism

By Jillian Montgomery, Staff Writer – The Loudspeaker

At Woodrow Wilson High School, students are required to volunteer for at least 40 hours over the course of four years in order to graduate. This year, students have volunteered at beach clean-ups, hospitals, summer camps, sporting events, charity walks, and school activities.

Senior Justin Behning, who currently has 912 accumulated volunteer hours, said, “I worked at the Long Beach Marine Institute summer camp for the past three years, where I helped kids do beach clean ups and arts and crafts.” Without the pressure of homework and exams, summer is a perfect time for students to spend their days volunteering. Sophomore Devon Beebe also volunteered during the summer at Rocketfish Swim Club, where she taught children how to swim.

Volunteering can also take place on campus. Junior Thomas Burke shared, “I did Link Crew, which helped the freshmen out. It was a good experience motivating the parents to tell their children to come, because you have to call all of the parents.”

The environment is also a beneficiary of the volunteer requirement. Junior Madi Grieve, who does beach clean-ups,

expressed, “My work benefitted the community by cleaning up all the garbage along the beaches and making Long Beach a cleaner place to live.”

With each hour of volunteerism, the students take something powerful from the act of giving. Senior Cameron Goffney noted, “I felt that my work at the camp helped give the kids with cancer a place to be outside of the hospital and feel like normal kids for once.” After four years of hard work and dedication, Wilson students should feel accomplished for their academic achievements, as well as the ways in which they served the community.



12th grader Justin Behning
(With the 3rd most service hours at Wilson)

Caring Volunteers



Lauren Shaw
Director

Dr. Seuss summarized our sentiment about the volunteers at the Child Development Centers when he said, “Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” Our volunteers support our classrooms in a variety of ways. Erin Say and Ardis Pinkston are only two of many selfless individuals who give time, grant resources, and provide positive modeling to our children and staff.

At Twain Child Development Center, Erin Say supports our efforts by contributing resources to all center-sponsored events. Mrs. Say is always willing to lend a helping hand to support the hard work of the children and staff at the center. Her smile brightens a room every time she enters it!

At Central Child Development Center, Ardis Pinkston supports our efforts by chaperoning field trips. On field trip days, Mrs. Pinkston helps with organizing, leading, and ensuring the safety of our children. Mrs. Pinkston’s positive attitude and sense humor are great assets in the most stressful circumstances.

On behalf of the children and staff at the Child Development Centers, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to all of those who “care a whole awful lot!”



Judy Seal
Executive Director

AUTISM • FROM PAGE 3

Another autism K-2 teacher, Miryana Dragoyevich said, “Perhaps one of the greatest challenges faced by teachers who work in school settings is how to provide communication support to students with autism and related disorders. There are generally two categories of students in relation to their need of AT. Either they need to supplement (i.e. augment) their existing speech, or they need it as their primary (i.e. alternative) method of expressive communication.” On her students’ progress using AT, she said, “The data on my students show that significant progress has been made in independence, IEP goals communication level and AT usage. I am very excited about the proven effectiveness of assistive technology in such a short

time. I feel this is the most promising work I’ve been a part of as a special education teacher.”

The goal for the LBEF this year is to raise enough money to put an iPad in the hands of every Autism teacher and primary grade Speech Pathologist in LBUSD. At the end of the pilot of Through The Wall, the LBEF found that iPads have a huge capacity for alternative instruction in language development and all academic areas and is much more affordable than the multiple technologies piloted in the first grant. More information to come on Through The Wall. For questions, please email JSeal@lbschools.net.

Long Beach Education Foundation 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/997-8054

Senior Exit Interviews



Dr. Terri Mendoza
Principal

The month of April proved to be both a relaxing and stressful month for the students of Saint Joseph. For seniors, it started with two weeks of a restful break from school was followed by their Senior Exit Interviews. The interview is a graduation requirement and is a presentation prepared by the students showcasing the various Christian Service Projects they've done throughout their high school career. A group of three seniors present their service projects to a panel consisting of teachers, students, and people from the community and explain to them how their volunteer experiences have helped them reach Saint Joseph's Expected

School-wide Learning Results (ESLRs). Whether they worked at a homeless shelter or worked with kids at an elementary school, the seniors incorporate into their presentation how they have become community contributors, effective communicators; Christ centered people, complex thinkers, and collaborators.

With one more month of school left, the seniors are meeting the challenge of balancing their time. Not only are they making the most out of their senior events like prom, but along with the other students, they are studying hard to pass those AP exams in May and finish off the school year strong.



The girls in the kitchen and thrift store at "His Nesting Place" in Long Beach.



A Top Undergraduate Professor



F. King Alexander
President

Thomas Gufrey, a long-time chemistry lecturer at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB), has been named one of America's top undergraduate professors by *The Princeton Review* in its newest guidebook *The Best 300 Professors*, which was released on April 3.

Published in partnership with RateMyProfessors.com—the highest-trafficked college professor ratings site in the United States—The Best 300 Professors profiles outstanding faculty at 122 colleges. According to *The Princeton Review*, all of the professors won high praise from their most important audiences—the undergrad students they teach and inspire, class after class, year after year, in fields that range from ancient studies to neuroscience to sport management.



An educator for more than 40 years, Gufrey has taught at CSULB for 35 years (since 1977) and much of that time has been spent teaching one course—Chemistry 100. According to his "professor profile" in the guidebook, "...he looks for students whose love of chemistry is buried so deep inside them, they don't know they have it." He says his job is to "unbury" that love of chemistry.

"There are many people more deserving than I, but it is still a very nice honor to receive," Gufrey said of his selection among The Best 300 Professors. "It is an honor to work with young kids. I try to show them how neat chemistry is in today's world, and I try to treat them with dignity and decency. The truth is I get to do a job that I love to do, and being an old geezer like I am, it is great being around young people."

His professor profile states: "In his legendary demonstrations, he uses humor, songs, and poems, and treats students with respect. And, he says, 'Frankly, I make it very easy to do well if students show up and really try. It's half chemistry, logic, and critical thinking but half of it is appreciating how important chemistry is.' He has taught for more than forty years, and he is constantly soliciting student input and bringing in stories from everyday breakthroughs in chemistry."

His profile also includes comments from students who describe him as a "real goofball" who is "big on explosions" and awards bonus points to students for all sorts of contributions. The students say he is "extremely caring and fun and just loves life." Said one student: "All you have to do is show up and make an effort."

The Princeton Review selected the professors in the book based on qualitative and quantitative data from survey findings and ratings collected by both organizations. In addition to the professor profiles, The Best 300 Professors includes profiles of colleges at which one or more of the book's top-notch professors teach. The school profiles give students considering attending these colleges information on admissions, tuition, SAT/ACT score ranges of admitted students, and other useful data.

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of Long Beach (K-8)

Nonprofit, Nonsectarian Independent School
2950 E. 29th St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/981-3151 • www.westerlyschool.org



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Head of School

Westerly Teaches Citizenship

An environment that prides itself on its strong sense of community is a lot of what Westerly School is about. For an environment that fosters values, service, and partnership, knows no boundaries. Through its timeless traditions of service to others, the integration of values and the teaching of skills relevant to a changing world, coupled with an engaging staff and group of motivated students, Westerly has been consistently graduating students who are actively involved and aware members of their community.

Going beyond Westerly's exciting project based classes, rich appreciation for the arts, diverse offerings in athletics and countless leadership opportunities, the school plays a strong roll in immersing students in an environment that thrives on "change making" citizens.

The school's relentless value integration offers a tremendous amount of support in the development of a Westerly student – children who think beyond themselves, take responsibility for their actions, speak with truth and confidence, and embrace change – all traits we look for in our neighbors, friends and family. The results of this integration is that the messaging is the same across all grade levels as well as modeled by faculty and embraced by families. The school stands on these five core values that are sought after and regularly spotlighted through student actions: respect, responsibility, adaptability, compassion and honesty. These values are taught and integrated into the curriculum.

All student actions, right or wrong, are looked at as a teachable moment for the school to reference back to its values, to celebrate their implementation, or to reference when correcting behavior for a student's growth of character.

Beyond the integration of values, Westerly spends much time outside of the classroom and into the community. This year, Westerly's Student Council has led the charge in its communal involvement. The student leaders don't just stop at school dances and bake sales. Instead, they have been continually reaching out to their fellow classmates, Kindergarten through Eighth grade, in order to find where students want to see a change made, where they want to devote their time, and where they can truly make a difference. Considering their classmates opinions, along with researching and networking, these student leaders have piloted community-wide projects that have touched many lives throughout the city of Long Beach and its surrounding cities.



First graders displaying Valentine's Day cards that they made for the Animal Shelter

Beyond these partnerships, students have also tailored a donation drive to specifically benefit a local women's shelter called New Life Beginnings. The students happily raised and delivered over ten times their expected donations. After seeing their success with New Life Beginnings, the students set out to fill an entire moving truck with goods to donate to the Salvation Army. The items included toys, books, strollers, clothes and more...Once again, the voices of these young leaders echoed throughout the Westerly community as they thought beyond themselves with a focus on bettering their city.

In today's world, "change making" community members go beyond being active, they are also aware citizens. They serve as a resource for those around them for the improvement of society, which is just another trait that is instilled in students on the Westerly campus.

Recently, Westerly has partnered with the Long Beach Environmental Services



Fourth graders recycling at Westerly

Bureau to start a school-wide recycling and composting program. Disposal stations have been set-up in all classrooms, along with a select few outdoor stations on campus, with the notion that students must make a conscious decision regarding where their waste should go. Beyond these individual efforts, all classes are being assigned to tasks in a campus-wide effort towards environmental sustainability, allowing students to see firsthand the power of a group with a common goal and to see how they can positively impact the environment in which they live-in and breath-in, every day.

The primary goal is for the students to have a deeper understanding of the school's role in environmental sustainability by scaffolding their environmental tasks each year they are at Westerly, Kindergarten through Eighth grade. Thus, graduating 8th grade students having nine years of hands-on experiences in these growing efforts to perpetuate environmental sustainability.



Students tending to the garden

In a constantly changing world, Westerly continues its progressive approach in teaching relevant skills today to ensure students are prepared for tomorrow. A proper education goes beyond textbooks and teaches ideals such as awareness, service, and values. The program causes a ripple effect in that Westerly School teaches its students, who, in turn, practice what they have learned in the larger community. Imagine our future if all young people embraced such a challenge.

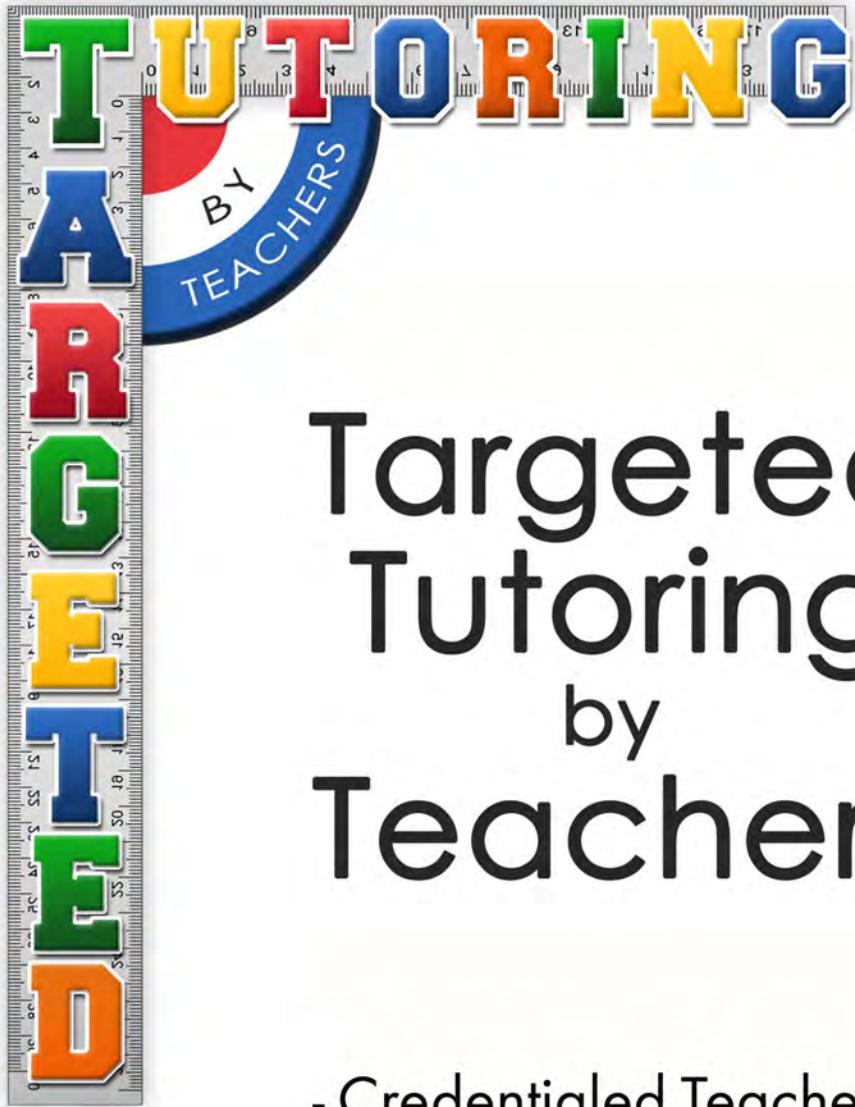
Westerly's organic vegetable garden works in concert with these initiatives. The garden goes beyond its obvious teaching points of patience, responsibility, and collaboration, and moves into opportunities of entrepreneurialism through farmers markets and healthy diet choices in partnership with the school's lunch program.

Arrange for a Personal Tour and Introduction to Westerly School

Westerly School is accepting applications for the next school year. Contact the Admission Office at admissions@westerlyschool.org to arrange for your personal tour. Or contact the school at 562-981-3151.

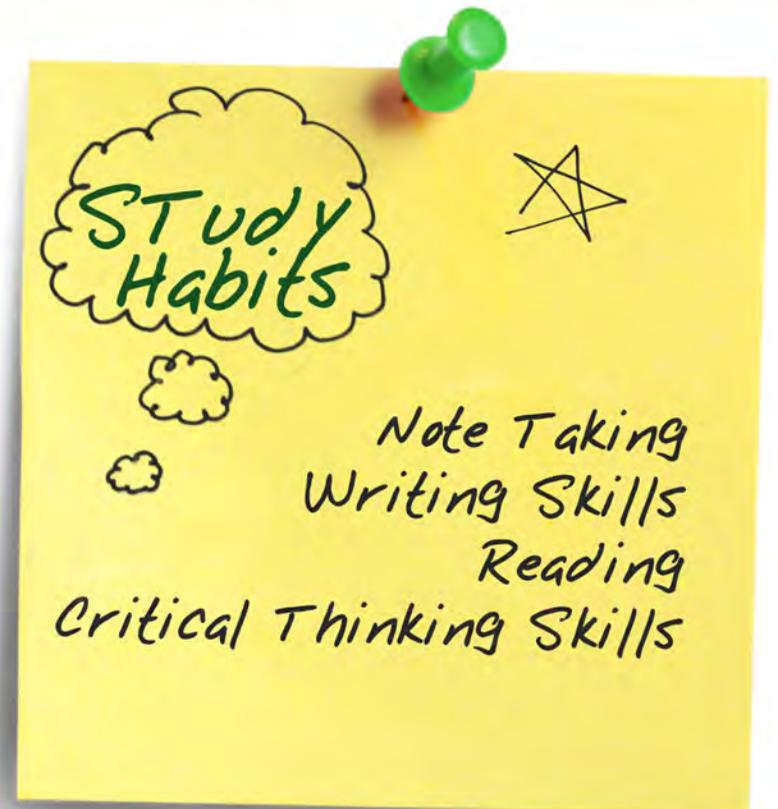
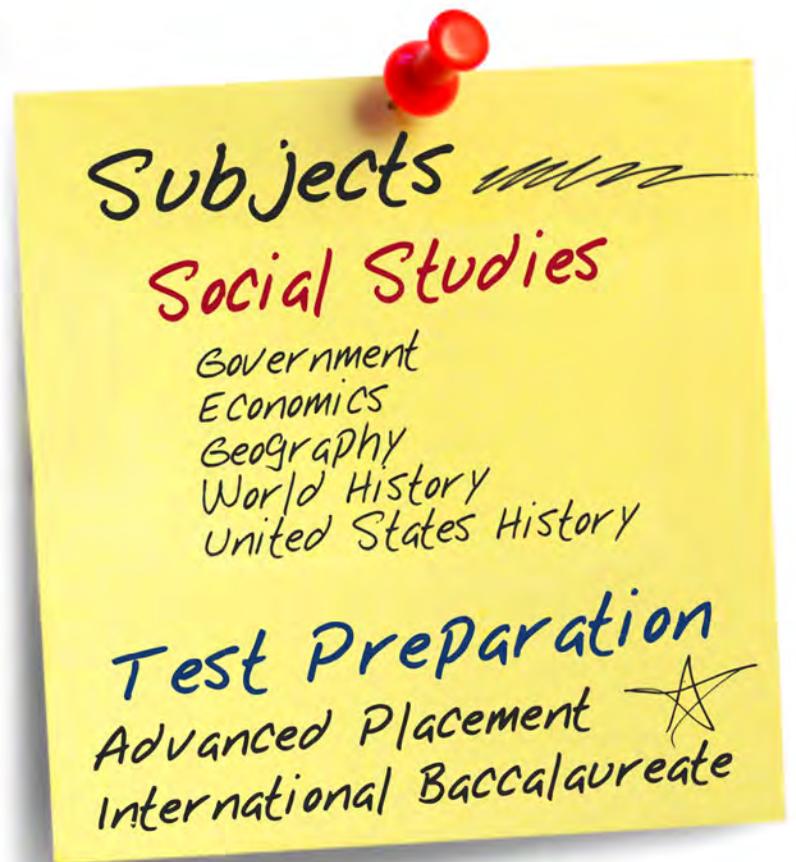
Upcoming Spring Events

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| May 1 at 9 a.m. | Community Visit Day! Join us for a tour! |
| May 23 at 6:30 p.m. | Lower School Visual Art Exhibition: Poetic Images |
| May 26 at 6 p.m. | Spring Concert at Westerly School |



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