

**FREE**

# School News



*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

**Covering the Long Beach Unified School District...and more!**

**Volume 16, Issue 122**

**www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com**

**October / November 2015**



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**Distributed in the communities of: Long Beach, Lakewood & Signal Hill**



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**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher



# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

[www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com)

**Covering the  
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
...AND MORE!**

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Fall is in the air and school is in full swing.

This issue is backed full of information from the classrooms, from our city leaders and health services. Take a few minutes in your favorite chair to enjoy. We appreciate you continuing to include *School News* among your reading choices. Many people are surprised when they discover we publish 28 *School News* publications in LA, Orange and San Diego Counties. All of our issues are posted on our web site, which has been updated so you may read your choice of a pdf or flipbook. You may enter the contests in all of

our publications and we even have a Word Scramble contest on our web site! Our office tortoise, Cheeseball, is featured in our contest on page 34.

As I am driving it is discouraging to see drivers texting. We seem to lecture teens about driving and texting, but parents need to set an example. **Please don't text and drive—our lives depend on it!**

Our next issue is December 9. In the meantime, have a fun Halloween and happy Thanksgiving!

We are always mindful of the men and women in the armed services and grateful for their service.

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## City of Signal Hill Office of the Mayor



**Larry Forester**  
Mayor

### Importance of Libraries

Libraries, where would students be without them! Whether its homework assistance, project research or needing to complete a book report, libraries are the place and librarians are the people who are there to help. Signal Hill has a small but popular library which is here to meet the needs of students of all ages. Additionally, if you are an avid reader our library has some great programs you might want to be aware of.

The Signal Hill Public Library is open 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday & Thursday; 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, Friday & Saturday and is closed Sundays & Holidays.

Reading programs are provided year round at the library. This fall, students can participate in In and Out's "Cover to

Cover" reading program which helps to promote literacy in the community. Students who read five books will earn a certificate for a free hamburger.

Also, studies show that young children learn a lot by having books read to them, so pre-school story time at the Signal Hill Library is held every Friday, 10:00 a.m. for children ages 3 to 5, with stories, songs, poems and play. A story time geared just for babies is held Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. Every Saturday, 11:30 a.m., story time for children ages 5 to 12 includes guest storytellers, Lego building and arts and crafts.

For more information on any of these programs call the Signal Hill Public Library at 989-7323.

2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/989-7300  
[www.cityofsignalhill.org](http://www.cityofsignalhill.org)

## City of Long Beach Office of the Mayor



**Dr. Robert Garcia**  
Mayor

### Revitalizing the Los Angeles River

The City of Long Beach is uniquely situated between two of southern California's most important waterways: The Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers.

Revitalizing the Los Angeles River in Long Beach has been a priority of mine since serving on the City Council. For the past few years, the City has been working with the LA River Revitalization Corporation to

completely transform the LA River and surrounding areas in Long Beach.

As you may have read in the *LA Times*, Frank Gehry, a true genius who is perhaps the most acclaimed living architect in the world, will be bringing on his team of architects, designers and engineers – pro bono – to help develop the best possible designs for this massive and important project.

I met with Mr. Gehry earlier this year, and his ideas for the project are incredible. This is great news for Long Beach and our entire region.

Our local Long Beach River Link plan has not been formally updated since 2007, and it's time we incorporate the hard work of the last 8 years, including the participation of Mr. Gehry, into the plan. I've asked the City Council to formally begin work to update the plan.

The River is one of our City's most important assets, and we are going to restore and enhance it so that it provides the greatest possible benefit to the people of Long Beach. This will be a transformative project for Long Beach, and give residents an extraordinary new opportunity for recreation and the quiet enjoyment of nature.

To have Frank Gehry's participation is an extraordinary development, and ensures this project will be of the highest caliber.

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## City of Long Beach, City Auditor



**Laura L. Doud**  
City Auditor

### Lessons from the California Redwoods

California is known for some of the world's tallest redwood trees. These trees can live to be over 2,000 years old and can reach heights of 300 feet and more, taller than a football field is long. Even though they grow to amazing heights and weigh more than 1 million pounds, these trees have surprisingly shallow root systems. Their roots only go down about 3 to 6 feet.

When you think about the powerful storms, winds, and floods they have endured, the obvious question is — what holds them up?

They hold each other up. Although their roots don't go very deep, they spread out several hundred feet and intertwine with their neighboring redwoods — young and old. This connection of their roots is the secret of their strength.

Similar to the redwoods — one way that teachers, parents, City leaders, and community members connect is through the Long Beach College Promise to help students reach new heights. I applaud Mayor Garcia for his leadership in having the City of Long Beach now become a full partner in the Long Beach College Promise. By working together we are like the stalwart redwood trees, connecting and intertwining our roots to support students from early childhood education through higher education and internships. In Long Beach, we are all on the same team with the common goal of wanting our students to succeed. After all, their success plays a vital role in the strength of our City.

May we be like the giant redwoods and continue to stand tall, work together, and continue to strengthen our students and City.

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# City of Long Beach, City Prosecutor



**Douglas P. Haubert**  
City Prosecutor

## Public Safety Collaboration in Long Beach

In Long Beach, community leaders and law enforcement work together hand-in-hand to improve public safety, which includes addressing the social and economic factors that can lead to crime. This is good news, as we have avoided some of the enmity that has been created in some other urban areas in the U.S.

In some cities, if you believe the media portrayals, tensions between the community and police are at an all-time high. Some even speculate that national crime rates are increasing because some areas have turned into hostile environments for police officers, making them less likely to engage in the kind of proactive community policing that can make neighborhoods safer.

In Long Beach, for example, special relationships involving police, community leaders, school officials, and clergy have emerged, leading to collaborative efforts to combat gang crime. The truth is that the negative impacts of criminal gangs have existed in Long Beach for many years, and they will not be eliminated overnight. It will take an effort from everyone to make a change in high crime neighborhoods.

It is interesting to note that Long Beach is swimming upstream against national time of increased gang activity. According to a report from the National Gang Center, over the past five years across the country there has been an 8% increase

in the number of gangs, and an 11% increase in gang members.

No formal statistics exist for Long Beach gang membership, but by all accounts the visible presence of gangs in Long Beach is down dramatically from the public areas where they used to congregate. Street corners and park areas once known for violence and drug sales have largely been reclaimed by residents.

What has happened in Long Beach is especially remarkable considering the massive overhaul of the California prison system which has resulted in the early release of thousands of dangerous criminals into the community.

In addition to the increase in gang membership across America, the National Gang Center has found a 23% increase in the last five years of gang-related homicides, which an even higher percentage in urban areas. This is consistent with findings from the Department of Justice that about half of all violent crime in America is gang-related. The NGC estimates in cities with populations over 100,000 (Long Beach is about 465,000) about 25% of all homicides are gang-related, so focusing on the gang problem is critical for our city.

In Long Beach, gang intervention is a coordinate push by police, prosecutors, and school officials to keep at-risk kids in school and away from gangs. Additionally, the City Prosecutor's Opt Out program gives a fresh start to those willing to leave the gang life. This is a fight worth fighting, and everyone in Long Beach should be proud of the collaboration that exists, a collaboration not enjoyed in all cities in America.

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# Diabetes Family Festival & Classic Car Show

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# Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach

2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/933-KIDS • MillerChildrens.org



**Divya Joshi, MMM, MD**  
Chief Medical Officer

## Onset of Mental Health Conditions Start Early

Mental illnesses are not just an adult issue. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, approximately 11 percent of adolescents have a depressive disorder by 18 and half of mental health problems begin in childhood or early adulthood.

Depression is a mood disorder that causes a persistent feeling of sadness and loss of interest. It can affect the way your child feels, thinks and behaves. It can lead to a variety of emotional and physical problems that make

it difficult for your child to function and enjoy life like they once did.

Your child's brain chemistry, hormones, biological differences, inherited traits and life events, like experiencing a loss in the family, can lead to depression.

Depression often presents differently in children and teens than it does in adults. Common signs of depression in children include:

- Difficulty with relationships
- Increased irritability, anger or hostility
- Extreme sensitivity to rejection or failure
- Low self-esteem and guilt
- Social isolation and poor communication
- Experiences boredom often; low energy
- Hopelessness
- Decreased interest in activities; or trouble enjoying previously favorite activities
- Frequent sadness, tearfulness, crying
- Complaining often about physical illnesses, such as headaches and stomachaches
- Missing school often or struggling with school work
- Trouble concentrating
- Major change in eating and/or sleeping patterns
- Feeling or talking about wanting to run away from home
- Thoughts or expressions of suicide or self-destructive behavior

If you feel that your child is suffering from depression, seek help immediately or talk to your child's pediatrician about a referral to a psychiatrist or psychologist.



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# Assistance League® of Long Beach

## Orthodontic Program

By Sharon Denham, Press and PR Chairman

Assistance League® of Long Beach's Orthodontic Program provides low cost braces to students in the community. The orthodontic program started in 1969 with 42 patients; today our managing doctor, Dr. Joshua Schneider, treats approximately 1000 active patients. The Earl B. and Loraine H. Miller Foundation Orthodontic Center is located in our Philanthropic Center. We are the only service provider exclusively dedicated to provide low cost, high quality orthodontic care to students in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Patients are referred to the program by dentists, orthodontists, school nurses and satisfied patients. Our goal is have the child finish orthodontic treatment by the time they finish high school; our age limit is 16 years old. The results are amazing! Each child ends their treatment with a beautiful smile and improved overall oral health once overcrowding is eliminated or corrected.

Fees for treatment are set on a sliding scale based on family income with the difference made up by the generosity of grant funders and individual donors.

The community of volunteers known as Assistance League of Long Beach has more than 900 members in



Patient Sabrina Garcia a student at Millikan.

Chapter and its auxiliaries: Rick Rackers, Las Hermanas, CAMEO and Assisteens®. In addition to the Orthodontic Program, member volunteers manage Operation School Bell®, Kids on the Block™, ALa Carte, Assault Survivor Kits®, Howard and Asian Art Collection, Mentoring, Scholarships, Adopt a Family and Vocational Training.

For further information contact 562-627-5650 or our visit Website: [www.ALLB.org](http://www.ALLB.org)

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## Food Safety for the Holidays



**Dr. Mitchell Kushner**  
City Health Officer

With the Holidays fast approaching, food safety is always a concern. Halloween is a fun time of year for all ages, and Thanksgiving is just around the corner. The Long Beach Health Department would like our residents to follow these safety tips for the upcoming holidays.

### Regarding Safe Halloween Treats:

- Give your child a good meal before trick-or-treating, and urge them to wait until they get home before eating any treats before they are inspected at home.
- Advise trick-or-treaters not to accept or eat anything that is not commercially wrapped.
- Throw away anything that looks suspicious such as signs of tampering with the product, tears, discoloration, or pinholes in wrappers.
- For young children, parents should remove any choking hazards such as gum, small toys, peanuts, and hard candies.
- Avoid tasting of raw cookie dough that contains uncooked eggs.
- Don't leave perishable goodies outside of refrigerator for more than two hours.

## Other Basic Holiday Food Safety Tips:

- Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds before, and after, handling any food!
- Wash food-contact surfaces with hot, soapy water after preparing each food item.
- Rinse fruits and vegetables thoroughly under cool running water and brush off surface dirt.
- Do not rinse raw meat and poultry before cooking in order to avoid spreading bacteria.
- Consider using one cutting board only for foods that will be cooked and another for those that will not be cooked
- Use a food thermometer to make sure meat is cooked to a safe internal temperature. Insert the food thermometer into the innermost part of the thigh or thickest part of the breast. Turkey is safe when the temperature reaches 165 degrees F. If stuffing is used, the temperature of stuffing should also be 165 degrees F.
- Bring sauces, soups, and gravies to a boil when reheating.
- Refrigerate leftovers and takeout foods, and any type of food that should be refrigerated within two hours.
- Refrigerator should be set at or below 41 degrees F and freezer at 0 degrees F.
- Leftovers should be used within three-to-four days, unless frozen.

2525 Grand Ave., Suite 106, Long Beach, CA 90815  
[www.longbeach.gov/health/](http://www.longbeach.gov/health/)

## Be Happy and Healthy this Holiday Season...

### *Some tips for preparing and sharing food:*

#### COOK

Use a food thermometer to guarantee that foods are cooked to a safe-to-eat temperature.

#### CLEAN

Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds before and after handling any food.



After working with raw meat or poultry, wash hands, utensils, and work surfaces before they touch other foods.

#### CHILL

Refrigerate perishable foods within two hours to prevent illness-causing bacteria from growing.



#### SEPARATE

Use separate cutting boards and plates for produce and for meat, poultry, seafood, and eggs.

More tips at  
[www.longbeach.gov/health](http://www.longbeach.gov/health)



**LONG BEACH**  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

# California State University Long Beach



**Jane Close  
Conoley**  
President

## Ranked No. 5 Public University

California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) ranks fifth among public regional universities in the western United States in *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges 2016 rankings. Additionally, CSULB received high marks for the diversity of its student population – ranking eighth among regional universities in the west – and for its undergraduate engineering program.

“CSULB’s place at the top of *U.S. News & World Report's* rankings reflects the quality of the university’s academic offerings, the diversity of our student population and our commitment to student success,” said CSULB President Jane Close Conoley. “Helping students from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds achieve their higher education goals by earning a high-quality degree is woven into the fabric of The Beach.”

The U.S. News rankings are based on several key measures of quality including assessment of excellence, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, graduation rate performance and alumni giving.

CSULB is experiencing unprecedented success in several of these measures. Over the past decade, CSULB has seen increases in graduation rates which have climbed more than 20 percent over that period reaching all-time



highs. CSULB’s graduation rate is approximately 18 percent above the most recently published national average for large, public master’s institutions.

In the area of alumni giving, CSULB recently announced that the university’s ongoing Declare Campaign officially surpassed its fundraising goal of \$225 million. While the university has surpassed the goal with several months left in 2015, the Declare Campaign is far from complete and the culture of philanthropy established by the campaign will continue to be integral to the university’s efforts to bolster student achievement.

1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/985-4111  
<http://www.csulb.edu/>

## Long Beach City College



**Eloy Ortiz Oakley**  
Superintendent-  
President

## College Promise

Community colleges have been receiving a surge of attention recently with President Obama’s America’s College Promise proposal to make two years of community college free for responsible students. On Sept. 9 the President launched a national College Promise campaign and a promotional effort, “Heads Up America.” The initiatives promote expanded access to community colleges and highlight the value and significance of a free community college education for all responsible students.

I was honored to join President Obama at the Sept. 9 event, where he asked me to pass along his thanks and congratulations to the entire Long Beach community for the success of the Long Beach College Promise. I’m pleased to be able to bring his words back to Long Beach, to recognize those of you who have participated in the development of the Long Beach College Promise, supported our efforts, and helped expand the initiative to other cities.

Following the event, the White House released a report that recognizes the Long Beach College Promise as one of the successful local initiatives used to help develop America’s College Promise. The report, “America’s College Promise: Progress Report on Free Community College,” notes that the Long Beach College Promise has provided a more structured transition for

transfer students and a free first semester for thousands of Long Beach students.

On September 24, Long Beach City College hosted a College Promise Community Celebration event. We welcomed federal and state dignitaries who joined local educational leaders and Mayor Robert Garcia to discuss our recent success with the Long Beach College Promise. We announced several exciting new developments, including future growth of the College Promise through a \$5 million State of California Innovation Award, and expanding our current College Promise scholarship program from one free semester at LBCC to two free semesters, available to all LBUSD graduates.

This national recognition from the White House could not have been achieved without the dedicated work of our Long Beach College Promise partners – the Long Beach Unified School District, Cal State Long Beach and the City of Long Beach. And sincere thanks to our Long Beach community. We certainly could not have been successful without your enthusiastic support.

For more information on the President’s efforts on free community college education for responsible students and America’s College Promise, you can visit [www.headsupamerica.us](http://www.headsupamerica.us).

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# Los Angeles County Office of Education



**Arturo Delgado, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent

## Paying Tribute to Our Teachers

I was delighted to once again host the annual Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year Awards Luncheon on Sept. 18.

It's one of my favorite days on the academic calendar because it gives me a chance to acknowledge our teachers and let them know that we see how hard they work and how they are making a difference in their students' lives.

We highlighted a special annual salute to our Top 16 County Teachers of the Year, and wished them well as they went on to the state competition.

Joining us at this special event were two of last year's Top 16 who made us extremely proud when they became California Teachers of the Year: Maggie Mabery and Lovelyn Marquez-Prueher.

We also recognized each of our 75 district nominees at the 2015-16 award luncheon as a treasure and an exemplar of the highest standards of a distinguished profession.

And even though we could never really thank teachers enough, the event was a chance to offer them a small token of our appreciation for all the years they have devoted to educating and inspiring our county's young people.

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Teachers care for their students well after the school day ends. They put in long hours finding new ways to make lessons come alive. They work hard to build relationships with the students' families to make sure the students have the support that they need at home.

Some of them even reach into their own pockets to pay for school supplies. These are just a few examples of how teachers go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the best education for their students.

As one of our past Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year, Rebecca Mieliwocki, who went on to become the 2012 National Teacher of the Year, said: "A schoolteacher is the best tax-dollar bargain you will ever get. If you want to see tax dollars hard at work, come into a classroom and see what's going on."

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**David Vannasdale, Ed.D. '16**  
Superintendent of Schools  
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**Christopher J. Steinhauser**  
*Superintendent*

## L.B. College Promise Expands Opportunities

Leaders from our school district, Long Beach City College, California State University, Long Beach and the City of Long Beach Long Beach gathered recently to issue the 2015 annual report for the Long Beach College Promise during a celebration event at LBCC.

One of the big announcements of the day was that the Promise is expanding its free first semester at LBCC to a full year, tuition-free, for local students. And with a new, \$5 million innovation grant from the state for the College Promise, we hope to help even more young people prepare for bright futures in the coming years. We launched the Promise in 2008 with our local partners in higher education to help prepare more students for success in college and careers.

At the recent gathering of more than 500 people, including White House education officials, we shared data on the steady, significant progress that our students are making with help from the Promise, along with next steps for the partnership. We also awarded 25 scholarships ranging from \$50 to \$250 to LBUSD eighth graders who have shown academic improvement.

Cited by White House education leaders as a model that helped shape President Obama's America's College Promise initiative, the Long Beach College Promise is building a stronger community and economy as graduates become better prepared to join the workforce.

"We've long been fans of the Long Beach College Promise," said U.S. Under Secretary of Education Ted Mitchell who spoke at the event. "As President Obama was putting together the initial proposal for America's College Promise, we looked to Long Beach as a model. Long Beach continues to inform the administration's priorities around America's College Promise as we work with Congress to secure passage of the act."

Among the results detailed in the 2015 Long Beach College Promise report:

### At the K-12 level:

- 49 percent of LBUSD students meet University of California and/or California State University admission requirements, an increase of 7 percent over the past four years.
- LBUSD graduating seniors earned \$96 million in scholarships and grants in 2015.
- Expansion of high quality early childhood programs including universal access to preschool for underserved populations by 2018.

### At the community college level:

- Nearly 12,000 students have received one free semester of college at LBCC.
- LBCC will expand tuition-free education to one full academic year.
- Of the LBUSD seniors who go on to enroll at a two-year college, 77 percent enroll at LBCC.



**Dr. Felton Williams**  
*President*

## National Education Conference

The Long Beach Unified School District and the city of Long Beach hosted the 59th Annual Conference of the Council of the Great City Schools from October 7 to 11, 2015, at the Long Beach Convention Center. The council serves as an advocacy organization for the nation's largest urban school districts.

The conference featured a pre-conference institute by the Center for the Reform of School Systems (CRSS), which focused on issues of school district governance and strategic planning. In addition, there were presentations to improve the academic performance and outcomes of students in urban schools. Featured speakers at the conference included actor and director Levar Burton, former National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut Jose Hernandez, and CNN host and commentator Fareed Zakaria.

A student panel was also part of the conference and consisted of a diverse group of students representing the council's member districts, who discussed issues of importance to their academic success. The panel was moderated by Maria Hinojosa and taped by PBS.

Information regarding registration is available at: [CGCS.org](http://CGCS.org), or contact Judy Seal, Executive Director of the Long Beach Education Foundation at: (562) 977-8054.

1515 Hughes Way, 4th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/997-8240

### At the university level:

- Four out of 10 LBUSD graduates choose to enroll at CSULB.
- The Promise has increased admission and enrollment of LBUSD students to CSULB by 35 percent.
- CSULB has increased six-year graduation rates to nearly 65 percent.

At the city level, in 2015 Long Beach launched its Internship Challenge, an initiative to double the number of internship opportunities for students.

The College Promise's recent \$5 million prize was part of California Gov. Jerry Brown's Awards for Innovation in Higher Education. The Promise program achieved the highest score among the state's applicants. Funding from the award will be used to expand and enhance the Promise by using new technology to improve counseling and guidance for students across all institutions, reducing remediation through the use of additional interventions during high school, strengthening efforts to build defined career pathways among the partner institutions, and closing achievement gaps by expanding opportunities for students in the city's underserved communities.

The report also included several policy recommendations to expand access to high quality education.

View the full report at [longbeachcollegepromise.org](http://longbeachcollegepromise.org).

# Host a Goodwill Fundraising Donation Drive at Your School!



## Earn Cash For Your School! We Make it Easy to Earn \$1,000\* or More!

Goodwill provides an excellent opportunity to raise funds that are so desperately needed during these challenging economic times. Schools are given the opportunity to earn funds through turnkey donation drives that make it easy to participate. Plus, it's a great way to encourage student involvement with a minimal time commitment.

Goodwill provides everything that you need for a successful event:

- Donation events are typically 9am-1pm or 10am-2pm
- Two (2) attendants to be on-hand to take donations
- Donation bins delivered to your site on the scheduled event date
- Schools earn \$50 per bin\* filled with gently used items
- Distribution of tax receipts at the event

**All you need to do is promote the event—  
the more you promote, the more you earn!**

\*Schools typically earn \$1,000 by simply filling 20 bins. Goodwill SOLAC will provide you with details on what can be donated.



## Together We Can Make a Difference.

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**Call 562.435.3411 x267**

**Or Email us at**

**[CashForSchools@GoodwillSolac.org](mailto:CashForSchools@GoodwillSolac.org)**



## Bancroft *Middle School*

### Bruin Genius Bar



**Kimberly Dalton**  
*Principal*

*By the Genius Bar Students*

Do you ever find yourself having trouble with technology at school? At Bancroft Middle School, we've solved this problem by creating the Genius Bar (GB). This student technology squad assists with students and staff with simple problems and special programs.

GB is student focused and run by teacher facilitator Ms. Milton, who equips the 25 seventh- and eighth-grade volunteers with leadership skills. GB student Bella explained, "The Genius Bar isn't just to help students with their technology problems. It's a group of students who are expanding their minds and making a difference in the world of technology."

The GB Student Focus Group is teaching sixth-graders how to use SchoolLoop as a tool for success. The Teacher Focus Group is teaching faculty about the digital badge system, and the Video Production Focus Group is creating videos about the kinds of help GB provides.

GB students are making a positive difference at school. GB student Kelly explains, "I get that wonderful feeling of joy every day knowing that I helped someone, even if it is with something small."

5301 Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/425-7461  
[www.lbschools.net/bancroft](http://www.lbschools.net/bancroft)

## Barton *Elementary*

### Taking Literacy Out into our Community



**Richard Littlejohn**  
*Principal*

*Written by a 2nd Grade Teacher*

Clara Barton Elementary is wishing to reach out to the community with a curbside lending library. Community volunteers have made this dream a reality. Heather Evans, a second grade teacher, at Clara Barton, had a vision of a birdhouse filled with books. This vision grew bigger and bigger and became a "Bookhouse."

It is the newest "Little Free Library" in

Bixby Knolls. It was built with love by community volunteer, George Apt, and thoughtfully painted by the Cuellar family. The school's lending library will soon be installed on Ridgewood Ave. School children, neighbors, and the surrounding community are encouraged to follow the motto of the lending library, "Take a Book, Leave a book."

1100 E. Del Amo Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/428-0555  
[www.lbschools.net/barton](http://www.lbschools.net/barton)



## Birney *Elementary*

### Birney Bees are Back!



**Athena Uribe**  
*Principal*

We are off to a great start at Birney this year. I am so impressed with staff, students, and families. Everyone is friendly and welcoming and all members of the Birney community are doing their part to start this year in a positive and productive way. Each day, I have the pleasure of meeting more students and their families. I look forward to welcoming everyone to Back to School Night on September 16th for classroom visits, food trucks, and Birney T-shirt sales arranged by our awesome PTA parents!

710 W. Spring St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/427-8512  
[www.lbschools.net/birney](http://www.lbschools.net/birney)



## Bixby *Elementary*

### College and Career Graduate Ready!



**Samuel Platis**  
*Principal*

Our staff has enthusiastically embraced the LBUSD College and Career Graduate Profile as a lens through which we view our work. Through high quality, Common Core Standards-driven instruction, dedicated professionalism, and the unwavering support of our families and 367 member-PTA, we are committed to providing our students with the academic and behavioral tools for success. We know that the journey to success does not start in high school.



**Our certificated and classified staff,  
working together as Essential Pieces of the Puzzle!**

At Bixby, from Transitional Kindergarten to fifth grade, we are all -- families, students, certificated and classified staff -- Essential Pieces of the Puzzle when it comes to providing all children with a key to opening the door to the American Dream!

5251 E. Stearns St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-3794  
[www.lbschools.net/bixby](http://www.lbschools.net/bixby)

## Buffum *Total Learning Center*

### How We've Grown!



**Miriam Garcia**  
*Principal*

Welcome to Buffum Total Learning Center (TLC)! Our school services early-start deaf and hard-of-hearing children ages 0–3 and special-needs preschoolers ages 3–5. This year, we're thrilled to be celebrating our fifth year of implementation. In 2010, we started out with 15 pre-K mild/moderate special day classes (SDC). Within three years, we doubled our size! Today, we have 30 noncategorical special day classes. We have definitely grown over the past five years!

Welcome, new staff members Evi Karahlanis and Laurel Van Fossen and Maricela Govea, speech/language pathologists; Roxanne Carboni psychologist; and Jan Rohman, deaf/hard of hearing teacher! We're glad that you are a part of the Buffum TLC Team!

This year, we've added CUBS (communication, understanding, behavior and social skills), a supplemental program offered to our students who have social-skills needs or pragmatic deficits. In addition to the SDC classes, our campus is home to the district's assessment center for preschool-age children and an OT/PT clinic. It's a busy, fun and rewarding place!

On behalf of the entire Buffum TLC team, have a great 2015–16 school year!

2350 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-2431  
[www.lbschools.net/buffum](http://www.lbschools.net/buffum)

## Burcham (*K–8*)

### Back to School Time



**Chris Eckert**  
*Principal*

The time of the year when the temperature soars, parents hit the stores, and our Burcham Boabcats roar with excitement. It was great meeting students as they came to school sporting new uniforms, new shoes, and the most important, cool backpacks!

This year students and teachers will be expanding their use of iPads in the classroom. Teachers will be using their iPads to gather formative assessment data on students to help differentiate and enhance instruction. Additionally, teachers will begin using Apps to enrich instruction and motivate student learning.



Students will also use iPads and various Apps to for learning, creating digital projects, iMovies, and for tutorials to improve learning in language arts and math.

5610 Monlaco Rd., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2685  
[www.lbschools.net/burcham](http://www.lbschools.net/burcham)

## Beach *High School*

### Off to a Great Start



**Troy Bennett**  
*Principal*

Our students are fortunate to have a team of highly intelligent and compassionate educators who are focused on student success. Beach Students also benefit from other resources on campus such as tutors, mentors, a restorative justice program, The Male Academy and more. All of these resources are focused on helping students experience academic success at their current high school level while becoming college and career ready.

We are excited about student success in 2015–2016 as we prepare for our first career fair, which will take place on September 23rd on our campus.

3701 E. Willow Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/595-8893  
[www.lbschools.net/beachhs](http://www.lbschools.net/beachhs)

## Bryant *Elementary*

### Let's Hear It for BARK



**Matt Hammond**  
*Principal*

Each week, Bryant Elementary School has special volunteers visit our campus!

Our students have a wonderful opportunity to read aloud to their newly found and furry four-legged friends named Lola and Selenas. Lola and Selenas come to our school through the BARK program, or Beach Animals Reading with Kids.

The BARK reading dogs have been part of the Bryant community since 2008, the program's inception. The students benefit from spending time and reading aloud to their reading buddies, and the reading dogs very much enjoy hearing them!

An added bonus is that our students can also increase their reading skills, self-confidence, and classroom participation. The reading dogs visit the classrooms and are also present at special school events. They and the BARK program are an important and valued part of our Bryant community.



4101 E. Fountain St., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/498-3802  
[www.lbschools.net/bryant](http://www.lbschools.net/bryant)

## Carver *Elementary*

### Carver Welcomes a New 4th Grade Team

By Erin Richey 4/5 PHI Teacher



**Sarah Forrester**  
Principal

Carver is fortunate to welcome two outstanding new fourth grade teachers with a combined 35 years of experience to our teaching staff! Karen Carmean-Mathieu comes to us from Los Cerritos. When asked about her new teaching home, she replied, "I am absolutely thrilled to be at Carver! I've been walking on a cloud since I arrived!" Candace Mathews comes to us from King Elementary. After being here only a few short weeks, she tells us, "Everyone has been abundantly kind, patient, and welcoming! I'm grateful to be a part of another



**Karen Carmean-Mathieu and Candace Mathews**

5335 E. Pavo St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2697  
www.lbschools.net/carver

staff that values community and I'm excited to learn from such amazing people!" We couldn't be happier to have them both as part of our Carver family!

## Cleveland *Elementary*

### Encouragers



**Ellen Ryan**  
Principal

Recess, yeah!!! This fall, Cleveland is implementing a new program called Encouragers. 4th and 5th grade students can volunteer to assist on the primary playground, making recess more fun for all. Although some students reply that recess is their favorite subject, others feel lost at recess, unsure about friendships and not knowing how to play the games. For little ones struggling socially, they will be paired up with 5th grade students to be there for them for recess, playing catch, tetherball, or reading with them.

Other 4th and 5th graders will help organize activities such as turning the big jump ropes, supervising a bean bag toss or pitching the ball for kickball. The students are so happy to have this opportunity to help others.



4760 Hackett St., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-7552  
www.lbschools.net/cleveland

## Chavez *Elementary*

### Recreational Aides = Safety!



**Hugo Figueroa**  
Principal

Cesar Chavez Elementary provides playground supervision for all students. The recreation aides ensure that all of our students have fun during recreational time while being safe. Each recreation aide promotes public relations, safety, and an enriched experience for all students involved in the School Lunch and Playground Program.

The goal of the School Lunch and Playground Program is to provide students with extended opportunities for physical activity, personal growth and social growth. The recreational aides fully enjoy working with the children and making sure that the students get the best out of their recreational time.



**Recreational Aides**

**Magda Macias, Alba Espinoza, Sadie Billingsley, Beatriz Bañuelos.**

730 W. Third St., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/590-0904  
www.lbschools.net/chavez

## Child Development Center



**Cynthia Young**  
Director

### Intentional Learning through Play

By Sybil Baldwin, Coordinating Teacher

Children learn through play. Play provides children with the ability to discern meaning about how things work in the world around them.

In our CDC preschool classrooms, children learn by playing and exploring their environment. Learning by play supports children through the development of negotiating skills, problem solving, and language acquisition. Our

Addams preschool teachers provide meaningful materials, activities, and experiences for our students' learning.

At the Addams Child Development Center's first parent meeting of the 2015–2016 school year, CDC Program Specialist Marybeth Murray presented a parent workshop that spotlighted the critical role that parent and family involvement plays in the life of preschoolers. In this workshop, Ms. Murray offered parents, families, and staff members a hands-on opportunity to discover intentional learning through play and help them gain a better understanding of its importance.

This exciting workshop provided a wealth of valuable information and useful tools on intentional learning through play. This is the kind of early childhood education that our parents can implement at home and in their daily lives.

4310 Long Beach Blvd., Suite 200, Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/422-6868  
www.lbschools.net/Main\_Offices/Superintendent/Child\_Development/

## Cubberley (K-8)

### Shared Beliefs



**Terri Jarels**  
Principal

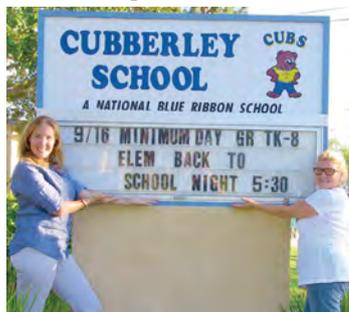
Parent involvement at Cubberley is as strong as ever. Our entire school community benefits from the committed efforts of the many family and friends who support our campus.

At the recent Back to School Night in September, we introduced our new PTS President Chris Savant, as well as Jessica Dotts, our new Foundation president. These two individuals lead strong memberships in both organizations. Although they are new to the positions they are not new to service, having each been in several leadership roles prior to taking the helm.

One of the shared beliefs that work so well for our PTA and Foundation is the stress on grooming which goes into these leadership roles. Those who have been prior officers, or have

worked as chairs of various committees, always strive to share their expertise with the successors. Cubberley builds capacity within these parent organizations, and our students benefit directly.

3200 Monogram Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-8810  
[www.lbschools.net/cubberley](http://www.lbschools.net/cubberley)



## Franklin Classical Middle School

### First Day of School



**Maria Pilar Perossio**  
Principal

On Aug. 25th, almost 200 incoming sixth-graders and their families came to Franklin for an introduction to their new school. As the families entered campus, the students separated from their parents as a symbol of their new maturity as middle schoolers. While the parents met with the administrators in the auditorium to learn all about their children's new school, the students rotated through three stations; the unifying theme was FUN! One station was a scavenger hunt to familiarize the students with their new campus; one station involved a team building activity; and the third station was an introduction to Franklin's fun

programs, activities, and clubs, rewards for academic scholars, and information to prepare them for the first day of school.



540 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/435-4952  
[www.lbschools.net/franklin](http://www.lbschools.net/franklin)

## Emerson Parkside Academy

### The Learning Center



**Rose Vitetta**  
Principal

*By Lucy Figueroa, Academic Specialist*

We are excited that 67.2 percent of our students met or exceeded the SBAC target for 2014-2015. With this baseline data, and a growth mindset, Emerson has created a learning center where all K-5 students can get additional support with phonics, fluency, and reading comprehension.

To help raise student comprehension levels, our Learning Center intervention teachers have created a program that combines resources from Reading A-Z, Open Court, Thinking Maps, and Collaborative Discussion techniques. Read Naturally Live licenses were also purchased so that our students could practice fluency in the computer lab.



Emerson is dedicated to providing the support our students need to help meet or exceed the SBAC requirements.

Our Eagles will continue to achieve growth through focused interventions in the classrooms and Learning Center.

2625 Josie Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/420-2631  
[www.lbschools.net/emerson](http://www.lbschools.net/emerson)

## Fremont Elementary

### Making a Difference



**Mark Curran**  
Principal

The Fremont Elementary School PTA welcomed new families at the New Student Orientation the day before school started for the students. The new families hopefully will continue the tradition of support for the students and the school.

The computer lab teacher, a science program, the Meet the Masters art program, the drama program, and history extensions are funded through PTA's generous donations of time and funding. Every student visits the computer lab and science lab once a week. The Meet the Masters program introduces the students to Vincent Van Gogh, Edgar Degas, and many other famous artists. Parents then assist classroom teachers in guiding the students to create their own masterpieces. Every year the drama club puts on a musical production with over 200 student participants. This is possible because many parents donate their time to and effort to put on a quality show. Also, fourth- and fifth-grade students participate in the Walk Through History programs.

The students at Fremont can go beyond the academic rigor of the classroom mathematics and language arts lessons because PTA is willing to provide these extra activities, which create lasting learning opportunities for our students. Thank you, PTA!

4000 E. 4th St., Long Beach, CA 90814 • 562/439-6873  
[www.lbschools.net/fremont](http://www.lbschools.net/fremont)

## Gant *Elementary*

### Committed to Community!



**Jeffrey Wood**  
*Principal*

Positive role models contributing to our community is just one focus here. October is Character Education Month, and we have many opportunities for our students to show character.

In September, we shared expectations and instilled "Respect" within our students, encouraging them to always demonstrate respect to everyone, everywhere and serve as positive role models for one another and those in our community. In October, we provide

numerous opportunities to do the same, particularly for people with unique challenges. At the end of the month, we'll revisit self-respect as we participate in activities like "Just Say No" to Drugs and Violence during Red Ribbon Week.

In November, we continue demonstrating respect while encouraging students to demonstrate the "Caring" trait in supporting those less fortunate. We'll seek donations to provide Thanksgiving meals to others through our partnerships with local charities. Our mission is to educate our students to become responsible individuals and provide a positive contribution to society. We challenge all children to do their part and be positive role models for all students.

At Minnie Gant, character is always in season!

1854 Britton Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/430-3384  
[www.lbschools.net/gant](http://www.lbschools.net/gant)

## Hamilton *Middle School*

### Preparing for a Successful Year



**Kathy Cruz**  
*Principal*

Hamilton's "Where Everybody Belongs" group is composed of highly motivated eighth-graders who wish to make the incoming sixth-grade transition smoother for all pupils.

Our WEB Leaders recently "adopted" small groups of incoming sixth-graders and helped lead them through various team-building exercises. The students were able to meet new friends, tour the campus, and feel much more comfortable on the first day of school.

At the same time, parents attended a Common Core math training in the library taught by California GEAR UP personnel.

During this event, our incoming sixth-graders were provided uniforms through the Assistance League of Long Beach. The Long Beach Rescue Mission also supplied student backpacks for the pupils who needed them. Various community groups set up information tables about community health services and after-school opportunities.

The following day, our seventh- and eighth-grade students took part in their own "Taking Care of Business" days (TCB). Here they checked out textbooks, took ID pictures, purchased yearbooks, and acquired spirit wear in preparation for the new school year!

1060 E. 70th St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-0302  
[www.lbschools.net/hamilton](http://www.lbschools.net/hamilton)

## Garfield *Elementary*

### A Culture of Character



**Claire Alvarez**  
*Principal*

At Garfield School, our mission is to support every student on the path to college and career readiness. Our goal is to develop positive character and values in all of our students and to motivate them to become productive citizens and ethical decision-makers.

The Garfield community plans to celebrate students who demonstrate outstanding citizenship and positive decision making at a monthly Call to Order Assembly. The character values we are teaching and reinforcing include: respect; responsibility; civic virtue; caring; compassion; trustworthiness; justice and fairness; problem solving; and going for goals.

With this school-wide focus on character, we believe our Garfield Tigers are on the path to success!



2240 Baltic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/424-8167  
[www.lbschools.net/garfield](http://www.lbschools.net/garfield)

## Hill *Classical Middle School*

### Starting and Finishing Strong



**Mona Merlo**  
*Principal*

Hill Classical Middle School opened its doors to 202 eighth-grade students this year, who will be the final graduating class of 2016. Students returned to campus to find many upgrades, including new paint on the outer buildings, new ceiling mounted projectors, large projection screens, and new whiteboards in all classrooms.

Students at Hill will focus on preparing for high school and understanding the requirements for high school graduation along with the A-G University of California/California State University requirements. Students attended both an expectations assembly and an educational attainment assembly during the first week of school.

Hill students will continue to participate in International Center for Education and Sports (ICES), after-school sports, and traditional eight-grade activities as they prepare to finish as the best class that Hill Classical Middle School has produced since it opened as Walter B. Hill Classical Middle School in 1961.

1100 Iroquois Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/598-7611  
[www.lbschools.net/hill](http://www.lbschools.net/hill)

## Holmes *Elementary*

### There's No Place like Holmes



**Luana Wesley**  
*Principal*

We are always sad to say goodbye to summer, but if we do have to go back to school there's no better place than Holmes Elementary! With a student body of approximately 440 members, Holmes offers something for just about everyone.

Our campus is home to CDC, state preschool, transitional kindergarten, and general education in grades K–5, including Excel, literacy classes, special education in grades TK–5, and WRAP. Holmes also offers extracurricular activities like Best Buddies, Fashion Club, music, and after-school tutoring. Our dedicated teachers, support staff, and principal are always eager to lend a helping hand and a warm welcome to all.

While most of us do not want to say farewell to the summer, it's good to know that there is no place or school quite like Holmes.

5020 Barlin Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/633-4427  
[www.lbschools.net/holmes](http://www.lbschools.net/holmes)

## Hoover *Middle School*

### Where Everybody Belongs



**Stephanie Cooper**  
*Principal*

*By Jessica Kane, ELA Teacher and Phillip Marshall, Math Teacher*

After two days of intensive and exciting training, sixty members of Hoover's first ever WEB Team hosted this year's sixth grade orientation. WEB, Where

Everybody Belongs, is a new program that the administration has brought to Hoover. WEB Leaders are eighth graders who have committed themselves to mentoring incoming sixth graders.

On August 27th, 230 incoming sixth graders entered Hoover's newly remodeled gym as individuals. However, after a morning of fun large and small group activities,



those incoming sixth graders emerged as Hoover's Class of 2018! We look forward to seeing all of the wonderful ways that our WEB leaders will impact not just sixth grade, but the entire culture of Hoover.

3501 E. Country Club Dr., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/421-1213  
[www.lbschools.net/hoover](http://www.lbschools.net/hoover)

## Jefferson *Leadership Academies*

### Pathways Implementation



**Kevin Maddox**  
*Principal*

*By Kathleen Reed, Assistant Principal*

New and exciting experiences are in store for the students at JLA! Jefferson is fortunate to be a part of the LBUSD's movement to include Pathways education in the middle school. Over the next three years, Jefferson will be adding elective classes connected to biomedical and computer-engineering pathways.

This year, sixth-graders will participate in two Project Lead the Way biomedical units as

## Jordan *High School*

### Welcoming Our New Co-Principal



**Veronica Coleman**  
*Co-Principal*



**William Salas**  
*Co-Principal*

*By Stephanie Espeleta, Pathway Coordinator*

As students start the new school year they will also get to meet Jordan's new Co-Principal, Ms. Veronica Coleman. Ms. Coleman attended CSULB and began her six year teaching career at Poly High School. She was

an assistant principal at both Lindbergh and Jordan before leaving the district for an eight year stint with Green Dot Schools in South Los Angeles. "I am so excited to be back home at Jordan High School and with my Long Beach family," she said. She is eager to support the hard work of the Jordan students and staff. Jordan High School is excited to welcome Ms. Coleman and is looking forward to a successful school year.

6500 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/423-1471  
[www.lbschools.net/](http://www.lbschools.net/)

well as an Engineering Everywhere unit on environmental engineering. At the seventh- and eighth-grade levels, we have added two semester-long electives in which students learn to create apps and begin learning programming languages such as PYTHON. We will continue to enhance our robotics program as we grow these new components.

Our pathways will grow each year, with plans to add medical-biology, forensic-science and "medical detectives" courses. The computer-engineering pathway is scheduled to add courses such as Flight and Space and Modeling and Automation.

Keep your eye on the Jaguars—our path is full of opportunities.

750 Euclid Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/438-9904  
[www.lbschools.net/jefferson](http://www.lbschools.net/jefferson)

## Hughes *Middle School*

### Planning an Artwork!



**Dr. Sally Gregory**  
*Principal*

Every year, our Hughes art teacher, Mrs. Thursby, holds a schoolwide contest to decide which student's artwork will appear on the annual school planner. This year's winner was eighth-grader Amanda A. She's one great artist as well as the student body president.

She maintains a 4.0 GPA and is a Senior Chorus member.



**Amanda A. designed the cover art for this year's planner.**

Look closely at the planner Amanda proudly holds, and you'll notice her drawing framed in the center. The picture features an owl carrying students on a flight, which represents the journey through all the programs our school offers: award-winning academics, championship-caliber athletics, outstanding art and music programs, state-of-the-art technology, and environmental awareness. Below the soaring owl is our school motto: "Where Honors Are Earned, Not Sought."

3846 California Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-0831  
[www.lbschools.net/hughes](http://www.lbschools.net/hughes)

## Kettering *Classical Elementary*

### What's New at Kettering?



**Juan Gutierrez**  
*Principal*

Kettering is off to a spectacular new school year. Students, parents, and staff are looking forward to another exciting year of learning.

This year Kettering is fortunate to have joining the team, Lynda Muenzer Technology Specialist, Rylie Young and Maureen Soria, Speech & Language Pathologists, Gwen Cagnolotti, RSP Teacher, and Penny Watson Vocal Teacher. Wow! What a remarkable group of educators joining the Kettering Staff.

There is great anticipation on behalf of everyone on what the future brings Kettering School. The overwhelming sense of teamwork, commitment, encouragement and love from staff and parents for children are on the forefront. The smiles and enthusiasm are definitely contagious. It's clear that the future at Kettering looks very promising. Go KIDS!



**Gwen Cagnolotti, Rylie Young, Maureen Soria, Lynda Muenzer.**

550 Silvera Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/598-9486  
[www.lbschools.net/kettering](http://www.lbschools.net/kettering)

## Lakewood *High School*

### Remembering 9/11



**Shawn Abbate**  
*Co-Principal*



**Mario Jimenez**  
*Co-Principal*

*By Cadet Chief Laila Lozano,  
Public Affairs Officer*

September 11, 2015 marked the Anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attack.

Lakewood honored this day with a ceremony put on by the school's NJROTC. The

oldest students at LHS were just toddlers when 9/11 happened they still participated in showing their American spirit. Choir and Band participated in playing the National Anthem. Different emotions were visible throughout the

school as Eric Chavez raised the American flag and lowered to half-mast, as a moment of silence was then held as Phakdi Sam played TAPS.

While 9/11 is a date no one will ever forget, the realization of this day is that although we have suffered greatly, we all are still able to come together as one nation.

4400 Briercrest Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/425-1281  
[www.lbschools.net/](http://www.lbschools.net/)



## Hellen Keller *Dual Immersion Middle School*

### Advancing the Learning Experience



**Thomas Espinoza**  
*Principal*

We are pleased to report that the new school year is off to an amazing start! We are so proud of our Keller students and the hard work they have put into these first few weeks of school.

Transitioning to a new school site can be a challenge for staff, parents, and students, as the new routines may cause stress, anxiety, and, well, excitement for the year ahead. With the cooperation and patience of everyone involved, we will be working to make Helen Keller Dual

Immersion Middle School an amazing place of intellectual, linguistic, and cultural growth.

We look forward to establishing our own school identity, customs, and traditions as this and subsequent years unfold. We encourage all stakeholders to become involved in the process by joining our School Site Council, Volunteers in Public Schools (VIPS) program, English Learners Advisory Council (ELAC), Parent Forums, and PTA.

Throughout the year you will have many opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to help enrich the learning experience of our Keller students. We thank you in advance for your commitment to our school!

7020 E. Brittain St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8851  
[www.lbschools.net/newcomb](http://www.lbschools.net/newcomb)

## Lafayette *Elementary*

### A Vision to Learn



**Wendy Thompson**  
*Principal*

Our goal at Lafayette Elementary is for every student to continually progress towards college and career readiness. We are working to meet this goal by helping provide our students with rigorous academic instruction. But we also seek to eliminate any obstacles in their path.

To this end, Lafayette recently participated in Vision to Learn's free eyeglass program. Vision to Learn is a nonprofit organization that provides free eye exams and prescription glasses to students in low-income communities.

This organization recently arrived at our school with a mobile clinic that included an optician and optometrist. They examined those students who had already been identified as needing a vision screening. Forty-seven students were in need of glasses. Each student was able to select their own frames, which arrived within two weeks.

When they received their glasses, the level of excitement was palpable. Students received frames that were fashion-forward and matched their personalities. More importantly, the frames brought a sense of relief to those who once could not see, and whose learning was inhibited by that barrier.

Our Lafayette students can now focus on the future!

2445 Chestnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/426-7075  
[www.lbschools.net/lafayette](http://www.lbschools.net/lafayette)

## Lee *Elementary*

### Building Our Team



**Christi Granado**  
*Principal*

Lee Elementary School welcomes new staff members this year. Christi Granado, our principal, comes from Lincoln Elementary School and has served in a variety of positions, including teacher, counselor, and attendance specialist. Our new assistant principal, Liseeth Ramos, has served the district for 16 years at the elementary and middle school levels.

Carla Castro, a new kindergarten teacher, has worked for the district for 15 years at Alvarado and King Elementary Schools. Our librarian, Margaret Tyler, has served the district for 20 years as a teacher and language arts specialist. Our speech teacher, Christine Phan, who is new to the district, worked as a speech pathologist at San Antonio Regional Hospital.



**Margaret Tyler, Christi Granado, Liseeth Ramos, Carla Castro & Christine Phan.**

1620 Temple Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/494-5101  
[www.lbschools.net/lee](http://www.lbschools.net/lee)

## MacArthur *Elementary*

### Supporting the Arts



**Scott Fleming**  
*Principal*

MacArthur Elementary is pleased to announce several school-wide programs that aim to provide opportunities to help increase student access to the performing and visual arts. The arts speak to all people, and so by providing our students with these extended opportunities we can help to enhance their appreciation and awareness of the arts.

We began the year by welcoming two new members to our school community. Ms. Feria is our new instrumental teacher. She will be instructing students in grades three through five every Thursday. We also welcome Ms. Phiri as our new vocal teacher. She will be leading our little song birds every Monday.

Our Eagles will also receive instruction in the visual arts. We are in our second year of partnering with FIBO, which this year will be emphasizing art by Durer, a famous artist of the Northern Renaissance. All students will attend a special assembly as well as grade-level classes that focus on his work.

There is an additional option for our students to attend parent-paid classes after school. Participation by the FIBO is made possible by support from our MacArthur PTA.

6011 Centralia St., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-3588  
[www.lbschools.net/macarthur](http://www.lbschools.net/macarthur)

**District Highlights STEM**



**Connie Magee**  
*Principal*

In October, educators from around the state will come to Long Beach to explore Linked Learning. The Lindbergh Middle School's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Academy has been selected to represent the middle school level. Visitors will be guests in two of our Project Lead the Way classes.

In Medical Detectives, students analyze genetic testing results to diagnose disease and study DNA evidence found at a "crime scene." They solve medical mysteries through hands-on labs, investigate how to measure and interpret vital signs, and learn how the systems of the human body work together.



In Science of Technology, students apply the concepts of physics, chemistry, and nanotechnology to STEM activities, including making ice cream, cleaning up an oil spill, and discovering the properties of nanomaterials.

1022 E. Market St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/422-2845  
www.lbschools.net/lindbergh

**Looking Forward to a Great Year**



**Alissa Gamboa**  
*Principal*

Hello! My name is Alissa Gamboa, and I'm so honored and excited to have been appointed as Principal at Los Cerritos Elementary School. After hearing such wonderful things about students, teachers, and families over the years, I can hardly believe my fortune to have been placed here at this amazing school!

Looking at baseline SBAC scores, we are so proud of what the school accomplished last year.



**Our Super Hero teachers, Mrs. Cathy Haver (3rd) and Mrs. Morlok (3rd).**

Our students are meeting and exceeding goals as a direct result of the dedication, hard work, and collaboration between all stakeholders. This September we have been

celebrating our success with the theme of "Superheroes" because of the amazing things our superhero kids, teachers, and families have been able to accomplish.

515 W. San Antonio Dr., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-6337  
www.lbschools.net/loscerritos

**Long Beach School for Adults**



**Currently Enrolling**

- Adult learners in a full complement of English as a Second Language (ESL) Language Courses
- HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) Testing and HiSET preparation program
- Solid job skills courses

**Medical** – Certified Nursing Assistant  
**Veterinarian** – Animal Care

These career fields are in high demand and offer excellent long range career paths. Home study, morning, afternoon and evening courses are available to fit your schedule.

For more details: [www.lbschools.net/lbsa](http://www.lbschools.net/lbsa)

*Please feel free to come in, pick-up specific informational materials and/or speak with our friendly staff about your educational and career opportunities. We are here to support you.*

**3701 E. Willow Street, Long Beach**  
**(Directly across from the Long Beach DMV office -**  
**major cross streets Lakewood Blvd./Redondo Ave.)**  
**(562) 595-8893**

**Long Beach School for Adults**

**Welcome Adult Learners**

*By Dr. Felicia Anderson,*  
*Assistant Principal*



The Long Beach School for Adults would like to welcome adult learners back to school. Our staff has been working on creating exciting lessons and projects for our adult students. We are enjoying getting to know ESL students, with over forty languages represented from around the world. We are making great progress in our HiSET basic skills classes with the support of some of our partners like Education Opportunities Center at CSULB and the Learning and Academic Resources Department at LBCC. We are also developing seamless transition from the Long Beach School for Adults to LBCC and CSULB. Animal Care classes and Certified Nursing Assistant medical classes are moving toward internships and hands-on practice. All of our teaching teams are thrilled about the possibilities for students. We are excited about empowering adult students in the community and inspiring positive change throughout the new academic year.

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

## Marshall *Academy of the Arts*

### National PTA Honor



**Marie Hatwan**  
*Principal*

The National PTA has recognized Marshall Academy as a National PTA School of Excellence for building effective family-school partnerships. Only 124 schools were chosen nationwide, and Marshall is the only school in California to earn the award this year.

“National PTA Schools of Excellence are true examples of what can be accomplished when schools and families collaborate,” said National PTA president Laura Bay. “We are pleased to recognize these schools and PTAs for their leadership and commitment.”



Marshall celebrated at its recent Back to School Night, with food trucks and families mingling around an outdoor stage. Newly assigned principal Marie Hatwan commended the last year's principal, Michael Navia; last year's PTA president, Erica Dawson; and Marshall's teachers, staff, parents and students.  
5870 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/429-7013  
[www.lbschools.net/marshall](http://www.lbschools.net/marshall)

## McBride *Sr. High School*

### Remembering 9/11



**Steve Rockenbach**  
*Principal*

On Friday, September 11, McBride High School was honored to have retired New York City firefighter Lt. Paul Geidel and Rescue 5 here on campus. Lt. Geidel shared with us his involvement in the rescue and recovery efforts at the WTC site, and the personal suffering that resulted from the loss of two of his sons.

Lt. Geidel reminded our students that the New York City Fire Department lost over 330 firefighters that day, including every member of Rescue 5. Students and staff alike were touched by Lt. Geidel's story, and the opportunity to see an important part of our country's history.

Remembrance Rescue is the nonprofit organization that made this day possible, and helps keep Rescue 5 touring the country. McBride also wants to thank the Geidel family, and the Long Beach Fire Department, for this poignant and touching experience.

7025 Parkcrest St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/425-3539  
[www.lbschools.net/mcbride](http://www.lbschools.net/mcbride)



**CaLt. Geidel and McBride students:**  
Jeremy Howell, Elisha Schlarb, Albert Cobb,  
Akiva Cohen, Seth Collins.



**McBride Students Touring Rescue 5.**

## Lowell Bayside *Elementary*

### A Diverse and Enthusiastic Group of Students!



**Lester Lawson IV**  
*Principal*

*By Vicki Bloomberg, Literacy Specialist*

For the first time, Lowell Staff and students will have a K-5 Literacy Specialist to support students who need some extra help! Teachers at Lowell will work together to design a combination Pull-out and Push-in Literacy Program, that serves the needs of Lowell students. Our Literacy teacher is Vicki Bloomberg.

Lowell teachers are hard-working, creative, and are committed to collaboration. This group of educators will work closely with our Literacy teacher to plan a program that will help more students reach academic success! By focusing on Literacy across the curriculum, providing scaffolding, interventions, and access to Common Core State Standards, our new Literacy Program will fill a great need at Lowell!

Lowell Staff is also very thankful for an excellent VIPS Tutoring program created and run by a Lowell parent and fellow educator: Allison Keller. Mrs. Keller and her trained parent volunteers work with 1st and 2nd grade students twice weekly to improve reading skills, fluency, and comprehension!

5201 E. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/433-6757  
www.lbschools.net/lowell

## Millikan *High School*

### AP Summer Bridge



**Alejandro Vega**  
*Co-Principal*



**Michael Navia**  
*Co-Principal*

*By Katie Hickox, AP Co-Coordinator*

Close to 500 students took strong steps on their four-year college pathways by attending Advanced Placement (AP) Summer Bridge at Millikan High School this summer. Workshops included introductions to specific AP

courses, including as AP Human Geography, AP World History, AP U.S. History, AP English Language, and AP English Literature. Students could also select summer classes on topics such as AP research skills, submitting college applications, SAT exam preparation, and personal statements. In the personal statements course, students began drafting college admissions essays. Collaborative study groups were modeled formally in some of the classes.

"I really enjoyed finding out more about myself and the right kind of colleges for me," said Ashley Pelaez, a 12th-grade Millikan Business Academy student who attended Summer Bridge.

At the conclusion of each session, parent and student volunteers helped serve tacos so AP teachers, students, and recent Millikan graduates accepted to four-year colleges could enjoy a meal together.

2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/425-7441  
www.lbschools.net/

## McKinley *Elementary*

### Welcome Back, Cougars!



**Scott Tardibuono**  
*Principal*

The beginning of a new school year always brings plenty of excitement and wonderment to the minds of students of all ages: Who will my teacher be? Will my friends be in my class? What will we learn this year?

Sept. 2 kicked off what will prove to be another year of successful teaching and learning for 700-plus McKinley scholars. Students arrived at school ready to learn. Many came to school sporting new backpacks, new sneakers or new uniforms. All of them came prepared with the mindset that this will be their best school year yet.

During the second week of school, all students attended grade-level assemblies where they were reminded of our McKinley Guidelines for Success, which include Positive attitude, Respecting others, Inspiring others, Demonstrating responsibility and Engaging in learning.

With the first few weeks of the school year "in the books," our teachers and students are already taking great strides toward making the 2015–16 school-year the best one ever. We are full of Cougar P.R.I.D.E at McKinley, and we can't wait to showcase the wonderful accomplishments that lie ahead!

6822 Paramount Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/630-6200  
www.lbschools.net/mckinley

## Muir *Academy*

### An 'EDGE' to Effort



**Sophia Griffith**  
*Principal*

*By Joanne Trupp, K-8 Academy Teacher*

The EDGE teachers are enthusiastically planning a new year for EDGE students and families at John Muir! This year, we will continue to implement the Common Core curriculum. The students will be challenged to "change yours words, change your mindset." This simple idea will encourage all students to approach challenging subjects through determination and commitment. In doing this, we want all

students to realize that through their effort, they are capable of achieving great success.

Aside from classroom academics, teachers have a variety of field trips planned to support students' depth of learning and help them apply their knowledge through various experiences. Eighth-graders will gain a deeper understanding of Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl* through a trip to the Holocaust Museum, seventh-graders will better relate to Southern Pacific cultures through a trip to the Bowers Museum, and sixth-graders will learn about conserving and reusing natural resources at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant.

We are excited about the coming year and are looking forward to working with Muir's new principal, Sophia Griffith. Our plan is to make 2015–16 EDGE's best year ever!

3038 Delta Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/426-5571  
www.lbschools.net/muir

## Newcomb *Academy (K-8)*

### Open for Excellence!



**Wendy Sowinski**  
*Principal*

*By the Journalism 1-2 classes*

After three years of using the Keller Elementary site, we are up and rolling at our new beautiful facility! Our new 13.1 acre campus now includes a new lecture hall with a 350-seat auditorium, a new gymnasium and four computer labs. Teachers are able to utilize the latest technology, such as the Extron Electronics projector, which allows them to project assignments from their computer, laptop or iPad onto a screen for students to see, as well as audio-digital enhancements.



Newcomb is the first K-8 school rebuilt as part of the Long Beach Unified School District's Measure K bond program, which has allowed us to improve our school. This will in turn help our students strive for excellence.

3351 Val Verde Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8851  
[www.lbschools.net/newcomb](http://www.lbschools.net/newcomb)

## Prisk *Elementary*

### Full S.T.E.A.M Ahead!



**Damon Jespersen**  
*Principal*

At Prisk hundreds of young, eager children arrived at school anxious to begin another year and were welcomed by enthusiastic teachers. Over the past two years, our learning community has been developing a S.T.E.A.M. specialty program. Prisk scholars envision themselves as "Pioneers of the Future" exploring science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (S.T.E.A.M.) to become innovators of the 21st century. We are excited to continue our journey developing this S.T.E.A.M. specialty program to support college and career readiness.

Our Pioneers participate in a variety of opportunities with a S.T.E.A.M. focus. Students engage in meaningful inquiry in our science and engineering labs and Prisk native garden.



**5th grade scholars are working in the engineering lab to design a better parachute for a specific atmospheric condition.**

This year, students will be working on a unit of study for computer coding. In our art studios, Pioneers will be learning about and creating visual art masterpieces. For the second year in a row, fifth grade students will have the chance to hone design skills in robotics classes using VEX IQ.

Our Prisk Pioneers of the Future are full S.T.E.A.M. ahead!

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

## Renaissance *High School for the Arts*

### Welcome Exceptional Staff Members to Team RHSA!



**Quentin Brown**  
*Principal*

We would like to welcome several new staff members to Team RHSA. We value and appreciate each staff member's expertise, professionalism, and commitment to educating Every Student, Every Day! Team RHSA welcomes:

Ryan Byrne – AP Government, Economics, Honor U.S. History; Maria Dowell – AP Music Theory, Guitar, Choir; Kimberly Griscavage – RSP; Michelle Rosenquist – Chemistry; Paul Tran – AP English Language, English 1-2 ACC, Journalism; Jesus Castro – Stage Technician; Christine Gibson – Nurse; Dawn Spiker and Rosemarie MacCairan – Para Educators.

We know they will embrace the LBUSD College and



**Ryan Byrne, Kimberly Griscavage, Michelle Rosenquist, Ky-Phong P. Tran, and Maria Dowell.**

Career Graduate Profile and help us continue to build leaders equipped with 21st Century skills that allow them to compete on a global platform. Welcome to "The School That Wins For Everyone!"

235 E. 8th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/901-0168  
[www.lbschools.net/renaissance](http://www.lbschools.net/renaissance)

### A Working Alternative



**Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo**  
Principal

Will J. Reid High School's mission is to provide personalized instruction and support in an alternative educational setting, challenging each student to meet high academic and social expectations. Our vision is to see every student graduate and move on to a college or career path of their choice.

Our staff consists of 24 highly trained, well-prepared and dedicated staff members who work in collaboration with parents and other stakeholders and offer a wide variety of curriculum. Several outside agencies work directly with our students, including Better Learning for All Students Today (BLAST) and the CCEJ, California Conference for Equality and Justice.

The staff sets high standards of achievement. Our class sizes are smaller than a comprehensive high school, and every child has an individualized education plan. A certificated academic counselor has multiple opportunities to conference with assigned students regarding their individualized high school educational plan and beyond. The students receive guidance in attendance improvement, behavior modification, character education, acceptance of diversity, academic success techniques, careers and technology.

The traditional high school campus does not work for all students. Our goal is to create a safe and nurturing small environment—a place where our students are given every opportunity to receive a high school diploma and pursue their dreams.

2153 W. Hill St., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/989-2098  
[www.lbschools.net/reid](http://www.lbschools.net/reid)

## Stephens *Middle School*

### A Great Beginning



**Salvador Madrigal**  
Principal

It was standing room only in the auditorium as close to 200 excited students and parents attended our recent sixth-grade orientation.

After a warm welcome and opening remarks from Mr. Madrigal, our principal, and Mrs. Peters, our assistant principal, the students were divided into groups and set off to tour the campus. They visited the gymnasium, the library, the cafeteria, our office area, and the sixth-grade classrooms.

The Assistance League also physically measured the students, because they will soon be supplying them with school uniforms. The students had an opportunity to purchase their P.E. uniforms, and they could also sign up for our after-school EPIC program. The orientation time also allowed them to turn in their lunch applications.

All in all, it was a successful and informative event as our students prepared for the new school year.

1830 W. Columbia St., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/595-0841  
[www.lbschools.net/stephens](http://www.lbschools.net/stephens)

### Goal Setting



**LaShell Diggs**  
Principal

At Riley Elementary, September is the month for Goal Setting. Students and Staff are setting goals for the 2015-2016 school year. A group of 5th graders from Mrs. Courter's classroom shared a few of their goals:

By the end of the 2015-2016 year, I will exceed the standard in my math. —Emily Zamora

I will try really hard to pass the Fitness Test and be physically fit. —Christian Johnson

I will be student council president by the end of October and I will make a successful campaign. —Nataly Velasquez

I will pass the physical fitness test. —Mia Martinez

By the end of the year I will read 600 minutes or more every month so I can go to lunch in the park as a reward for Riley's Home Reading Program. —Rose Schafer



They even have a classroom poem to share about reaching their goals: It's a brand new year, Got my act in gear. Gonna set a new goal, Then get on a roll. When I reach that goal, I know I'll feel good. I'll smile to myself and say, "I knew I could".

3319 E. Sandwood St., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/420-9595  
[www.lbschools.net/riley](http://www.lbschools.net/riley)



**Our office tortoise, Cheeseball, carved his first pumpkin!  
You need this page number to enter the contest on page 34.**

## Robinson Academy (K–8)

### Robinson Students Take the Pledge



**Dr. Damita  
Myers-Miller**  
*Principal*

As the new school year begins, Robinson middle school students are focused on being college bound. During September, students stepped up to our mobile laptop center and took the college promise pledge. This includes a commitment to behave like a scholar, perform to one's highest abilities, and explore a high school pathway that aligns with a student's career interests. Middle school students are encouraged to know the A-G college entrance requirements, strive for a 3.0 GPA, and learn the 15 California industry career sectors. The unique partnership between LBUSD, LB City College, and CSULB provides a free semester of tuition at LBCC, guaranteed admission to CSULB, and early outreach. Learn more at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net) under "Academic and Career Success Initiative."



2750 Pine Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/492-6003  
[www.lbschools.net/robinson](http://www.lbschools.net/robinson)

## Sato Academy of Mathematics & Science

### A Visit to CSULB



**Mona Merlo**  
*Principal*

Sato Academy of Math and Science students participated in the California State University, Long Beach (CSULB) Welcoming Engineering Day on Thursday, September 10 on the college campus. Students learned about organized engineering clubs such as the Society of Women Engineers, the National Society of Black Engineers, and Latinos in Science and Engineering. Students had the opportunity to receive information about many clubs and ask questions at all of the engineering booths that were set up to recruit freshmen students.

Sato and CSULB are collaborating to bring activities and events to both campuses to support students interested in the engineering field. All students at Sato take an introductory class in engineering design during their freshman year and a principles of engineering course in the sophomore year. Sato students will have several engineering classes to choose from in their junior and senior years, including computer-integrated manufacturing, digital electronics, and aerospace engineering, to name a few.

1100 Iroquois Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/598-7611  
[www.sato-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com](http://www.sato-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com)

## Rogers Middle School

### The Green Team



**Kimberly Holland**  
*Principal*

*By Pamela Weinstein, Green Team Advisor*

Reduce, reuse, recycle—the mantra of the 35 members of the Rogers Green Team! Students meet daily during advisory and do a miraculous job of managing over 30 blue— for cans and bottles—and purple city bins every week, with only 11 minutes a day to get it all done!

In addition to on-campus collection, the team also organizes Mondays Matter.



Students are out at the Appian gate every Monday collecting cans and plastic bottles from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. This is for cans and plastic bottles only—no glass or other recyclables. Just drive up, and they will take them out of your car for you. Plus, it doubles as front-row drop-off!

365 Monrovia Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/434-7411  
[www.lbschools.net/rogers](http://www.lbschools.net/rogers)

## Stanford Middle School

### Stanford WEB Super Heroes

**Dr. David Costa-Principal**

WEB leaders at Stanford have been working hard since August to make the 6th graders transition to middle school a smooth one. The student-run 6th grade orientation included school tours, important information and team building fun. WEB leaders are continuing their "heroism" through weekly emails and advisory visits to our 6th graders focusing on such skills as how to find your GPA, ways to use School Loop, and fun events like our upcoming "Welcome to Stanford" dance in October. Thanks to the WEB leaders' acts of service, Stanford 6th graders are shining bright!



5871 E. Los Arcos St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/594-9793  
[www.lbschools.net/](http://www.lbschools.net/)

## Roosevelt *Elementary*

### Setting High Expectations



**Clarissa Tolentino**  
*Principal*

Katiria Hernandez is joining our Roosevelt Elementary family as assistant principal for the 2015–2016 school year!

She has taken on her new role with enthusiasm, and has already begun getting to know our staff, students, parents, and community members via events like the Community Open House (held on August 27), our student/parent orientations, a September school spirit assembly, and the Expectations Assemblies. Her past

experiences at schools like Whittier and Harte, which have similar demographics to Roosevelt, have also helped ease her transition.

Mrs. Hernandez is bilingual in both Spanish and English, which allows her to empower parents through positive communication and interactions. Through her previous LBUSD service in positions like second- and fifth-grade teacher, and ELL specialist, Mrs. Hernandez has grown to become an effective instructional leader and supportive collaborator, all with the goal of helping her colleagues move our schools towards increased student achievement.

Mrs. Hernandez will maintain the traditionally high expectations of our Roosevelt learning community. She is now officially a Roosevelt Bear!

1400 E. 20th St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/591-7477  
[www.lbschools.net/roosevelt](http://www.lbschools.net/roosevelt)

## Tincher *Preparatory School (K–8)*

### Aiming for Greatness



**Rosemary Sissons**  
*Principal*

Tincher Preparatory focuses on success for students and for teachers as well. We are one of a select group of schools participating in The Art of Teaching, by the Cotsen Foundation, for the second time. The goal is to make “good teachers great”. Teachers work 1:1 with a mentor for two years on refining a selected teaching strategy. They participate in professional development opportunities offered both by Cotsen and leading educational organizations.



**Edmee Myrick, fellow; Lyndon Catayong, Cotsen Program Officer and Heather Peterson, mentor.**

1701 Petaluma Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/493-2636  
[www.lbschools.net/tincher](http://www.lbschools.net/tincher)

Annual stipends support the purchase of materials or additional training to enhance the experience. Cotsen also offers alumni grants that underwrite continued learning and parent involvement. Last year, this supported parent education classes on Common Core.

## Washington *Middle School*

### Learning Targets



**Megan Traver**  
*Principal*

During August, our teachers at Washington met for a one-day Summer Institute to hone their skills on lesson planning and using learning targets to help guide instruction.

Washington’s Instructional Leadership Team of Amy Angel, Tanya Ennover, and Rosio Dominguez introduced a new template for our learning targets. We now have a common template for learning targets that is being used schoolwide.

The Instructional Leadership Team talked about the importance of using lesson-sized learning targets, and revisiting the learning targets throughout each one. Our teachers also discussed ways in which to make their learning targets more meaningful and “student friendly.” We know that these targets are as much for the students as they are for the teachers.

With this new focus at Washington, we are looking to create an environment where our students can become highly effective and engaged “partners” in the learning process.

1450 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/591-2434  
[www.lbschools.net/washington](http://www.lbschools.net/washington)

## Stevenson *Elementary*

### Making a Difference



**Yvette Streeter**  
*Principal*

Stevenson students and staff work hard toward achieving academic excellence, and I’m honored to be part of this team.

In June, we strengthened campus security. The main entrance was moved to the corner of 6th and Lime, and a call box and camera were installed both at this entrance and the front gate, which remains locked during the school day. Office staff must allow entry for visitors. Parents can feel more assured that their children are safe.

In spring, students and staff took the CORE Survey, which elicited satisfaction in culture/climate, particularly safety and sense of belonging. The overall satisfaction rate was 78.5 percent for students and 90.4 percent for staff.

Our community is supportive, our families are caring, and our staff is dedicated to making a difference for “Every Student, Every Day!”

515 Lime Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/437-0407  
[www.lbschools.net/stevenson](http://www.lbschools.net/stevenson)

## Twain *Elementary*

### First Day of School



**Jacqueline Williams**  
Principal

On the first day of school, our staff was greeted with lots of hugs from our students. Our Twain community's smiling faces showed evidence that Twain is a great place to be. Even on the most uncomfortable days, due in part to the heat, our students were still excited about learning. Our students' love for learning is evident by their enthusiasm about Carol Dweck's "Growth Mindset." The "Growth Mindset" is the belief that our basic qualities are things that can be cultivated through effort. Our students are

learning that although we make mistakes, we just have to keep trying so we can learn and master the academic subject. What a great way to start the school year – with the "Growth Mindset."

5021 E. Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8421  
[www.lbschools.net/twain](http://www.lbschools.net/twain)

## Whittier *Elementary*

### Fancy Feet



**Lori Grady**  
Principal

*By Michelle Bringman, Counseling Intern*

The first day of school is known for the excitement of showing off your new school uniform. But no outfit is complete without the accompanying perfect pair of sneakers. Ask any mother who struggles to pair her dress with just the right heels.

Lucky for us, Whittier Elementary School is paired with a terrific nonprofit organization that generously provided 40 pairs of new shoes for our wonderful Wizards. We now have many fashionable students wearing glittered, tie dye, lacey, high-top, canvas, and sequined shoes! We appreciate our friends for their generosity. Now if we could just keep our students from growing out of them so fast.



1761 Walnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-6263  
[www.lbschools.net/whittier](http://www.lbschools.net/whittier)

## Willard *Elementary*

### Renovations



**Dr. Cassandra Richards**  
Principal

On the first day of school, Willard students, parents and staff were treated to a wonderful surprise: everyone entered through the front entrance! The entrance has a new set of stairs, a wheelchair-accessible ramp and new plant beds that hold beautiful drought-resistant plants.

The yearlong renovations at Willard included a new elevator, a newly remodeled nurse's office, remodeled sinks and cabinets in classrooms, new restrooms for students and staff, and new office space for support staff.



The majority of comments from students about the changes have been "Willard looks like

a brand-new school!" "I am so proud to be a student at Willard!" What a perfect way to start off the school year!

1055 Freeman Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/438-9934  
[www.lbschools.net/willard](http://www.lbschools.net/willard)

## Wilson *Classical High School*

### Futuristic Freshmen

*By Sara Gorman, Senior and Loudspeaker Features Editor*



**Sandy Blazer**  
Co-Principal



**Gonzalo Moraga**  
Co-Principal

In September, the highly anticipated Freshman Dance, "Futuristic Freshmen," was a night filled with music, dancing and an inordinate amount of sweat. Link Crew, Bruin Strong and Crazy Crew arrived in advance and began to decorate; lights hung from every corner in the gym,

balloons covered the wooden floor, and posters masked the gym's walls.

To upperclassmen, the Freshman Dance is something they will never forget; it is often referred to as "the best dance in high school." As the countdown to the dance began, excitement soared, and everyone embraced their job. Escorts lined up in front of the gym, eager to meet freshmen and lead them to the dance floor. A gauntlet was formed in the foyer, and Link Crew members helped with the photo booth, a new addition to the dance from years past.

Freshman Claire Davis shared that she had heard the dance was "one of those things you have to go to because it's a really good start off to high school."

"I thought it was a lot of fun," she said. "I danced with my friends the whole time!"

4400 E. 10th St., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/433-0481  
[www.lbschools.net/wilsonhs](http://www.lbschools.net/wilsonhs)

## Westerly Graduates Turn Employees



**David Perram**  
Director of  
Student Affairs

At Westerly, we're always happy to hear from our alumni and their continued development in high school, college, and various careers. These measures of success are great indicators that our program is working while simultaneously serving as a reminder of why we do, the work we do. However, we've also seen a new platform to measure the success of our students, as we've been fortunate to experience a growing number of alumni who have been coming

back to Westerly to serve as Summer Camp Staff. This past summer, three of our graduates served successfully as part of our staff. Westerly programs have expectations of excellence from each employee and it's a very satisfying feeling to know that our very own Westerly graduates are rising to, and often exceeding those expectations. The professional relationship that is growing between our school and alumni is a true measure that our students are successful, well-rounded, young persons of character whom we appreciate for dedicating the time and talent to the next generation of Wildcats.

A little about these incredible alumni, turned valuable staff, whom we are very proud of:

### **Reina Mendoza** Class of 2011

Reina just completed her third year as a staff member along with completing her senior year at St. Josephs High School. During her high school career Reina lead the Varsity soccer team as a captain in her final year while also holding the positions of sports editor and chief editor for her school yearbook.

Reina will begin her college journey at Baylor University with the support of the Deans Gold Scholarship. She aims to pursue a Business Major with a minor in Marketing. Reina believes Westerly gave her the understanding of what community should look, and feel like, and has thus appreciated the opportunity to give back to her community. Additionally she commented on the professional growth she's been gaining from her summer job by "learning the balance of how to be a role model, and a big kid at the same time".

### **Dane Struges-Andersen** Class of 2013

Dane spent his first year as an employee of Summer with Westerly after two summers of full time volunteer work with the camp. He is the youngest employee working with the camp, yet has earned this role due to his maturity and responsibility as a volunteer.

Dane is entering his junior year at Long Beach Polytechnic High School in the CIC program. He experimented with a few different sports before finding his home on the volleyball team where he quickly advanced to the varsity level. His sense of adventure with motocross,

horseback riding, and boating all play an instrumental role in being a dynamic young man who serves as a great role model for the young campers.

Dane mentioned Westerly has always felt like a home to him, and that the lessons he's learned as a student, like critical thinking, have continued as a Westerly employee. "Just like I was challenged in multiple scenarios as a student, I'm challenged the same way as an employee. I make it my goal to keep all the kids happy and safe amongst all the scenarios that occur on a daily basis".



**Marissa Wenzell, Dane Sturges-Andersen, Reina Mendoza.**

### **Marissa Wenzell** Class of 2010

Marissa has been with the program since its founding year. She began as a camper, moved into the role of volunteer, and since completed her third year as a staff member. Her loyalty to the program and connection to the students has proved to be a great benefit to the school.

Marissa graduated from Cornelia Connolly with a variety of honors courses while staying actively involved in Surf Club, Random Acts of Kindness Club, the National Honor Society, and the Academic Council. Marissa is entering her second year at UC Riverside where she is majoring in Psychology with the pursuit of becoming a Child Psychologist.

Marissa feels that Westerly gave her the tools to successfully work within a team, which has served her well while working with such a diverse staff. "We need to know and understand all of our needs to best serve the students at camp".

---

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

## Rancho Los Alamitos

### Plan for the Holidays at Rancho Los Alamitos

*By Pamela Seager, Executive and Project Director*

Plan to celebrate the holidays at Rancho Los Alamitos with old fashioned traditions established during the early ranching era. In the 1930s Florence Bixby hosted parties with wrapped gifts for the ranch hands' children which were placed under the ceiling-sweeping Christmas tree in the ranch house.



In keeping with that custom, the Rancho will offer family-friendly holiday gatherings. The Holiday Hoedown and Breakfast with Santa will be held in the historic Barns Area on December 12th from 9am – Noon for a modest fee. Families are also encouraged to visit during the Holiday Open House December 17th and 18th to enjoy the Yuletide sparkle of the ranch house, the magnificently trimmed tree, holiday treats and strolling carolers.

Reservations are required.

6400 Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815  
562/431-3541 • [www.rancholosalamitos.com](http://www.rancholosalamitos.com)

## Arts Council for Long Beach

### Enrichment Grants

*By Mandy Matthews, Arts Education Associate*

The Arts Council for Long Beach is pleased to announce another year of their Arts Education grant program. Through the generous support of Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District and the Ruth and Joseph C. Reed Foundation for the Arts, Arts Education Enrichment Grants will provide financial support to LBUSD schools for arts education

programs. This grant can fund various arts experiences including fieldtrips to a Long Beach museum, attendance of a local group performance, or a series of art lessons by a local artist. Teachers are encouraged to apply and submit their application by November 13, 2015. Let's educate Long Beach students about art and culture in order to keep Long Beach a thriving city!

350 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/435-2787  
[www.artslb.org](http://www.artslb.org)



Lakewood High School – Improvisation with Darren Held.

# Real Estate Matters



**CathyLyn Brooks**

## Disclosure Laws Help or Hurt?

Effective October 1, 2015 (unless delayed again; this was originally set for August 1) another portion of the Dodd-Frank legislation will take effect. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has revised the forms that disclose mortgage financing information to consumers. Overall this is a good thing. Legal forms and contracts should be in easy to read language.

This is the trend and it is helpful to the public. They have also made some other changes that cannot be fully covered in the space here.

The CFPB did a good job of simplifying and re-styling the materials that lenders must deliver to buyers throughout the loan process. However, they may have not realized that the sale of a piece of real estate in California is a "team sport" and everyone has to really stay on track or delays are caused.

In their infinite wisdom, they have decided that the new Closing Disclosure must be delivered to the loan applicant no less than 3 days before the actual closing date. And further, that any subsequent material changes to this disclosure will re-start the 3 day time period and delay the closing by that same period of time.

Do people need 3 days to review these simple documents? Doubtful. If you are reading this column, you are capable of reviewing and asking any questions in, I would guess, maybe as little as a few hours - 24 to 36 hours, if you have a really a hectic life. The documents are simplified, after all.

As closings are planned months ahead, moving trucks are ordered, utilities are set to be shut off, and belongings are packed away, a delay of 6 days at the last week is sure to throw a rock into that wheel of progress. Not to mention that if it is a chain of sales where a series of homes are sold and people are moving in a large procession from one home to another, what a mess that could create. This could cause some real unhappiness and it can be stressful enough just buying the home and packing to move.

For any loan originated prior to the implementation date of October 1, the new regulations will not apply. Escrows in process on that date will not be affected. Buyers and sellers can now expect to have escrow periods of at least 38 days, and that is if everything goes smoothly unless the buyers are truly pre-approved by an underwriter.

Also any change in the buyer's choice of loan program will require other changes and delay the process. Your broker or agent has likely attended a class on this new protocol. You will be able to spot them. They leave the class looking depressed and frustrated. If your agent has not taken the class, I suggest further discussion with your lender and escrow provider to ensure an efficient escrow.

CathyLyn Brooks has been a local real estate broker since 1980, earning the advanced credentials of Certified Residential Specialist and Graduate Realtor through advanced education and sales volume. She has completed the American Bar Association's approved Paralegal certification and is an instructor at UCI in the Paralegal program. She also teaches real estate related courses in the extension program. The NASD, the NYSE, and the National Futures Organization have appointed her as a public arbitrator. Her degree is in finance and marketing from the University of Southern California. CathyLyn is affiliated with Main Steet Realtors and can be reached at: 562/719-2530 or cathylyn@earthlink.net Consumers should seek legal tax advice from professionals in each field.

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**Nancy Griffin**  
National President

**Recipient of Scholarship**

*By Cecile Harris Walters, National Ambassador and Member of the Diamonds of Southbay Chapter, Long Beach, CA*

Graduate student, Amber Haney, is the 2015 recipient of the Bufton Family Memorial Scholarship - \$6500 and a \$1500 Outright Grant, shares its impact. I am a graduate student at CSULB with career goals to become a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and



**Amber Haney**

open a clinic for the underserved in my community. In the future I would like to start a non-profit foundation to fund low-cost pediatric clinics in communities of need. I believe children are our future. This scholarship has been a blessing.

For more information on scholarships for women, email [charriswalters@gmail.com](mailto:charriswalters@gmail.com).

ABWA brings together businesswomen of diverse occupations and provides opportunities for them to help themselves and others grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition. To locate a chapter near you, call 562.591.2625 • [www.abwa.org](http://www.abwa.org)



**Jeffrey A. Napper**  
President & CEO

**Tips for Car Buying**

As with any financial decisions, planning and doing your homework will help you get the best pricing when purchasing a vehicle. Below are a few tips to help you plan before getting to the car lot.

**Budget:** Determine what you can afford in terms of down payment, monthly payments and the type of vehicle that best suits your needs.

Your budget should include not only your car loan payment but all expenses, including insurance, gas, repairs and maintenance.

**Choices:** Research the vehicle models online that you are interested in prior to going to a dealership. Knowing the invoice price will help you in negotiating a fair deal.

**Used vs New:** Weigh the pros and cons of buying a new or used vehicle. Buying a new car will get you a complete factory warranty and possibly some free maintenance. Buying a used car will get you more for your money but you will have a shorter warranty period or none at all. You may also inherit problems on an older vehicle so it's important to have a mechanic evaluate the vehicle before you commit. Typically, the interest rates for new vehicles are also lower compared to used vehicles.

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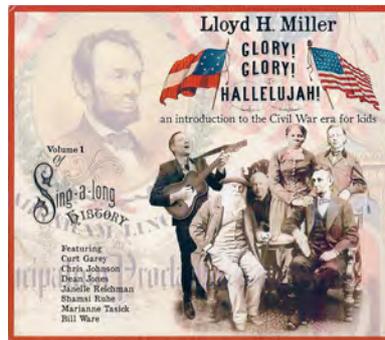
## Note-ables



Kate Karp

### 'Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!'

This collection arrives just in time for the beginning of the school year, when teachers are scoping out their annual plans and parents are looking for some good, entertaining stuff to enhance their children's knowledge base. *Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!* is a real find—a brass-and-woodwind-heavy hail to the Civil War era.



The collection is a compilation of traditional songs, some familiar and others obscure, as well as tunes written by artist Lloyd H. Miller in the sense of the era and what came out of it for better or worse. In the CD, Miller tells the traditional story and sings the well-

known tune of radical abolitionist John Brown and adds his own lyrics and music to flesh out the hero's activism and bravery. "Follow the Drinking Gourd," the hymn to Harriet Tubman's night-sky navigation to the land of freedom, is given a celebratory treatment. Another lesser-known Brown—Henry Box Brown—reached the North in another singular way: he shipped himself in a box to Philadelphia, and Miller thought he'd make a great subject for a song. He was right. Equally obscure and of note is the story of Weeksville, one of the first free black enclaves. Weeksville was established in Brooklyn in the 1830s by a former slave, and Miller graced it with a song, too.

A sequenced narration of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address squares the corners of this enlightening collection. And best of all, an online curriculum guide is in development to further link this rich era to our present.

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

## Contest!!

Cheeseball has carved his pumpkin. When you find him in this issue, email the **page number** to:

[Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com](mailto:Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com)  
 Please put LBUSD in the subject line



Your entry must be received by November 15, 2015. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Congratulations

**Terry O'Dell winner of August Contest.**

# Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine 2015 FALL FUNTIMES

Long Beach is a 2015 Playful City USA, and offers play opportunities for all Long Beach youth.  
To learn more, visit [www.playfulcityusa.org](http://www.playfulcityusa.org).



## Youth and Teen Classes

Visit [www.lbarks.org](http://www.lbarks.org) to register for art, music, dance and sports classes.

## City Swimming Pools

Learn to swim, or enjoy recreational swimming this fall.

Belmont Plaza Pool, 4320 Olympic Plaza (562) 570-1806

King Park Pool, 1910 Lemon Avenue (562) 570-1718

Silverado Park Pool, 1540 West 32nd Street (562) 570-1721

## After School Recreation

Long Beach provides safe, fun and enriching activities for youth after school, Monday-Friday.

Admiral Kidd • Bixby • Chavez • Cherry • College Estates  
Coolidge • Davenport • DeForest • Drake • El Dorado  
Houghton • McBride • Miracle on 4th • M.L. King, Jr. • Orizaba  
Pan American • Ramona • Scherer • Seaside • Silverado  
Somerset • Stearns Champions • Veterans • Wardlow • Whaley

## Free Youth Sports Leagues

Register at your local park beginning September 1.

Leagues begin in mid-October.

Call (562) 570-1707 for more information.

Coed Flag Football (ages 5-8) • Boys Football (ages 9-14)

Girls' Volleytennis (ages 5-8) • Girls Volleyball (ages 9-14)

## Teen Programs

Teen Centers at Chavez, El Dorado, Houghton, Silverado, McBride Parks and Freeman Community Center are open after school for teens to enjoy games, sports, tournaments and crafts.

Visit [www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/programs-and-classes/after-school-programs](http://www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/programs-and-classes/after-school-programs) for addresses and program hours for youth and teen programs.



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