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School News

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



Volume 21, Issue 140

October 2020–January 2021

Outdoor Distanced Fun!



Please see Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine page 10.

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

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Netragrednik by Neta Madison



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Kay Coop
Founder/Publisher



Netragrednik

Welcome back to a new school year. All of us can remember our first day of kindergarten, meeting our teachers, seeing our old friends and making new ones, and finding our classrooms. However, students are having a different experience this year that they will also remember.

The past few years we learned about STEAM, STEM, and lots of acronyms for new programs. We can now add ZOOM and other communication programs. Lots of parenting hours have gone into encouraging children to spend less time on technical devices and more time playing with friends outside. Now children are focused on

computer screens for learning and are not allowed to play with their friends. Through all of this children continue to laugh and find joy. We are an innovative society capable of rising to challenges.

Thank you parents for doing your part to help your children adapt to the abnormal. Thank you educators for leading and continuing the learning process.

We look forward to continuing to publish the excellence from the classrooms under the leadership of Dr. Jill Baker, the new Superintendent of Schools.

Our next issue is February 10, 2021. Be well.

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Dr. Robert Garcia
Mayor

We are All in This Together

Welcome back to a very different kind of school year. I know many of you are experiencing all kinds of emotions — anxiety about the challenges of school during a pandemic, disappointment that you can't go back and see your friends like you used to, but hopefully also some excitement about continuing to learn in a new way.

Whatever you're feeling, you're surely not alone. Everyone is facing new challenges and trying to adapt to our new circumstances.

What's most important is that you know your community supports you, and we're all behind you rooting for you to succeed. I know some students are worried that the changes in curriculum may affect your future prospects, like getting into college or getting a good job. But remember that everyone in the world is going through this at the same time. We are all in this together. From where I'm standing — as a big city mayor and as a long-time educator — you and your peers are an extremely impressive group and I think you'll be remembered as courageous, perseverant and tough.

Every generation has a major challenge to overcome and this one is part of your story. Many of our great-grandparents, grandparents and parents dealt with economic depressions, fought in world wars or marched for civil rights. These experiences made them stronger and made our country stronger too.

This school year won't be like any other and we shouldn't expect it to be. But that doesn't mean great strides in your education aren't possible — they definitely are and I know your teachers and your principals are working really hard to make them happen. No matter how long it takes to return to something like normal, I want to encourage all of you to explore new ways to connect with your classmates and your teachers, and remember not to be too hard on yourself. Do your best and try not to worry too much about the future. Focus on your school work, be there for your friends and remember that it is definitely ok to ask for help when you need it.

You are strong and I know you'll all get through this. I'm absolutely rooting for you.

Go Long Beach!

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Robert D. Copeland
Mayor

Physical Activity is Important

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended family life. Between school closures, working from home, physical distancing, and health concerns, it's a lot to navigate for both parents and children. Since kids may be learning remotely more than usual, they may be missing their daily recess break at school where physical activity comes easy.

Most health experts suggest that kids and adolescents get at least 60 minutes of exercise a day. This is especially important after hours of virtual learning in front of a screen. To help get physical activity back into your child's daily routine, you can redirect their energy to activities they can enjoy from the safety of home or surrounding areas. Breaking up long days of remote learning with some fresh air and activity can do wonders for kids and parents alike. The American Heart Association suggests at least two 30-minute "recess" breaks during the day. Another option is to work in one 10-minute physical activity break per hour.

These can be easy activities like a bike ride, a family walk, playing tag or catch. Reliving favorite childhood games with your kids is a fun nostalgic break for parents, too, if you can participate. Remember to always practice social distancing when playing outside, and teach kids healthy habits like washing hands frequently, and avoiding touching their nose, mouth and face.

If it's not practical or safe to go outdoors, there are plenty of virtual PE resources. Try doing a virtual exercise, yoga, or stretching video in your living room. You can also break up your child's day with short active brain breaks to help them recharge. Get the squirms out with an online dance video, or simply put on some music and have an impromptu dance party. You can even use a video conferencing platform and invite friends or other family members to join in.

While physical activity breaks are crucial for healthier learning environments, they don't always have to be rigidly structured. Unstructured play time is equally beneficial, especially for creativity, focus, and behavior. Consider carving out a "free time" for children and encourage them to come up with their own games or activities.

Physical activity can improve mental health, academic performance, focus, sleep, and managing emotions and stress. These benefits are essential for kids during these difficult times. From all of us at the City of Signal Hill, we wish you a happy and healthy school year.

2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/989-7300
www.cityofsignalhill.org



Laura L. Doud
City Auditor

Doing Our Best in this Moment

The beginning of this school year was somewhat different from years past. On the first day back there was no quick photo op on campus before navigating to a new classroom in time for the first morning bell. Instead, there was a commemorative photo taken at a homeschool desk and an online computer login to start the day. However, some things were the same. There was the warm welcome for all students from our dedicated teachers and administrators, and there was student excitement to start a new year. It was just all virtual.

There is uncertainty as to how this school year will progress – will it be entirely virtual, will in-person instruction resume, or will there be a hybrid of both. One constant is that everyone - administrators, teachers, parents and students – in this moment are using their talents to do their best to make it work and support one another. In the words of Winston Churchill, “To each there comes in their lifetime a special moment when they are figuratively tapped on the shoulder and offered the chance to do a very special thing, unique to them and fitted to their talents. What a tragedy if that moment finds them unprepared or unqualified for that which could have been their finest hour.”

Our administrators and teachers have gone to great lengths to ensure students have the resources and materials they need to learn, engage and connect. This has required adaptability as they have planned and implemented logistics to make remote learning work. As a parent, I appreciate this and their accessibility, communication of expectations, creativity and positivity, not to mention their patience. I now have a better understanding of what goes into lessons, teaching and keeping students’ attention. Teachers have made this look too easy and every week should be teacher appreciation week.

And of course, this would not work without parents and caretakers taking on a more supervisory role in learning. Many of you have been adaptable and have done your best to keep students on task, solve problems and troubleshoot technological glitches. I am also impressed with our students. I’ve witnessed their motivation to continue to learn and connect virtually. In fact, when I went to ask my daughter a quick question the other day, she politely reminded me, “Not right now, I’m in class.” They also are helping each other and even their teachers when technology issues arise.

So, here’s to a school year with many questions yet one constant - everyone using their talents in this moment to do their best and see us through what could be one of our finest hours.



Douglas P. Haubert
City Prosecutor

Teachable Moments

The current year 2020 might be remembered as the year no one wants to remember. It is like a nightmare from which we cannot awake.

From an academic perspective, most would say the year was a disappointment. Student learning suffered. If you look past the loss of classroom instruction, however, there may be more teachable moments in 2020 than ever before.

The COVID-19 pandemic is the single greatest public health crisis of our generation, and it isn’t over yet. Have we learned from the pandemic? Are we prepared for the next one? We’ve been forced to adapt in so many ways, but are these adaptations improvements?

While it became a worldwide pandemic, COVID-19 wasn’t the only event to change our lives in 2020. Unprecedented fires raged uncontrollably across the Western United States. These natural disasters are believed to be, at least in part, the result of climate change. Should we expect more record-breaking fires in our future, and if so, will we be better equipped to stop them?

This year also brought unprecedented political protests ignited by the killing of George Floyd by a police officer in Minnesota. Some protests devolved into riots and looting, which, ironically, resulted in stepped up police action in those cities.

Perhaps 2020 will become the year America begins to deal with race relations problems in a meaningful way. The problem is not new, nor is it going away anytime soon.

Years ago, the City Prosecutor’s Office was one of the first to have mandatory training on implicit bias, a good place to start, but it is a start, not an end. Improving diversity among police and prosecuting agencies will also help, and Long Beach is doing better in this regard as well.

While the spotlight of systemic racism has primarily focused on policing in 2020, there is work needed in other areas, like the media, entertainment, education, business, and housing. There is room for improvement in every corner of America.

The truth is that this year has humbled all of us. Sports teams were sidelined. Parades, holidays, special events, all cancelled.

Parents should discuss the events of 2020 with their children. There are so many lessons to be learned this year, it’s just many will not be learned in a classroom.



Jeffrey A. Napper
President & CEO

Avoid COVID-19 Scams

Protect yourself and your loved ones from being victimized during these challenging times. Unfortunately, fraudsters or scammers are taking advantage of the fear and confusion caused by the pandemic to steal from consumers. Below are some tips to avoid becoming a victim:

- Be wary of phone calls, texts or emails impersonating a government agency. Don't share personal information in response to an unsolicited email, text or phone call.
- Keep an eye on your mail. Monitor your mail and shred documents that show your personal information. Scammers will file for unemployment benefits on your behalf without your knowledge and the payments are directly routed to them.
- Be cautious of fundraising calls or emails for COVID-19 victims or virus research. Verify the legitimacy of your charity of choice prior to donation.
- Avoid offers by phone or email of Coronavirus vaccines or cures. There are no available legitimate vaccines or treatments yet.
- Always remember, your financial institution will never call you asking for your personal information! When in doubt, hang up and call your financial institution back.



CathyLyn Brooks

Does the Real Estate Market Know There is A Pandemic?

Now that agents are deemed essential workers and can resume work interacting with others, homes can be listed and shown with special considerations made to accommodate the particular needs and desires of the parties.

Are buyers getting bargains due to fear of contaminated properties? Actually, not so much. Some sellers have removed their homes from the market temporarily by placing them on hold, not wanting to have people visit. The net effect of this has been to reduce the available inventory so that well priced, attractive homes sell very quickly, and sometimes sellers entertain multiple offers.

Interest rates are, yet again, at historical lows so people can buy more home or enjoy smaller loan payments. That is if they still have a job. Many in the process of buying a home when the pandemic struck could not verify employment and income to close.

The parties are left with to decide their fates and can choose to extend their escrows or cancel. With lightening fast speed, the California Association of Realtors developed contract addendums to facilitate this unusual situation.

While open houses are verboten, with proper precautions and a signed release, buyers can view homes. Some sellers are requiring evidence of down payment and of pre-approval to enter a property. Virtual tours have become de rigeur and never more appreciated.

Investing in real estate has always been a wild ride considering the ups and downs of the market. And the adventure continues...

CathyLyn Brooks, CRS, GRI has worked as a real estate broker since 1980, is a graduate of USC, the UCI Paralegal Program, and serves FINRA as a public arbitrator. She holds Broker's License No. 00797147 and is affiliated with United Real Estate Professionals in southern California. Consumers should seek legal and tax advice pertaining to their transactions. She can be reached at real.estate.matters@outlook.com

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Keeping Your Family Safe and Healthy This Flu Season



Graham Tse, M.D.,
chief medical officer,
MemorialCare
Miller Children's &
Women's Hospital
Long Beach

As we approach peak flu season during a pandemic, now more than ever, it's extremely important to ensure that everyone in your family follows optimal hand hygiene practices. Good and frequent hand hygiene is one of the most effective ways to prevent infections, including flu and COVID-19.

Parents play an important role in teaching children lifelong healthy habits, which includes handwashing. Use these tips to encourage hand hygiene:

- Explain that handwashing prevents your child from getting sick and getting other people sick.
- Encourage your child to wash his or her hands before eating and avoid touching their face with unwashed hands.
- Make sure your child always washes their hands after going to the restroom, playing outside, touching an animal, or coughing or sneezing.

- Provide your child with hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. Lead by example and wash your own hands as often as possible and carry hand sanitizer with you.

In addition to good hand hygiene, it's also important that you and your family get an annual flu shot. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone over 6-months-old get a flu shot by the end of October, with some rare exceptions. Once available, it will also be important to get vaccinated against COVID-19 to help end the global pandemic.

As the COVID-19 pandemic and flu season overlap, make sure you and your family take precautions to stay healthy. Face masks, hand washing, social distancing and avoiding large gatherings are important practices that help prevent illness.



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Assistance League® of Long Beach

Senior Class Program - Adopt a Family

By Char Hart, Marketing Chairman

Assistees® Auxiliary's senior class program, Adopt a Family, supports people in need by addressing hunger in the community. Recently, they launched a pilot project, Operation School Bell® Adopt a Family Student Food Program, which broadened the program's efforts on food insecurity. The project was managed and organized by Assistees, in collaboration with Assistance League's® Operation School Bell® philanthropic program and in partnership with Long Beach Unified School District. On February 8, 2020, 150 Assistance League members and LBUSD community partners assembled 5,000 packets. Each packet provides a tasty, nutritious meal of beans and rice which feeds two people.

These meals were distributed by Assistees and LBUSD community partners to LBUSD students who picked up the packets on the Washington Middle School campus in May and at other campuses in June.



Rancho Los Alamitos

Coming Soon: Virtual Field Trips

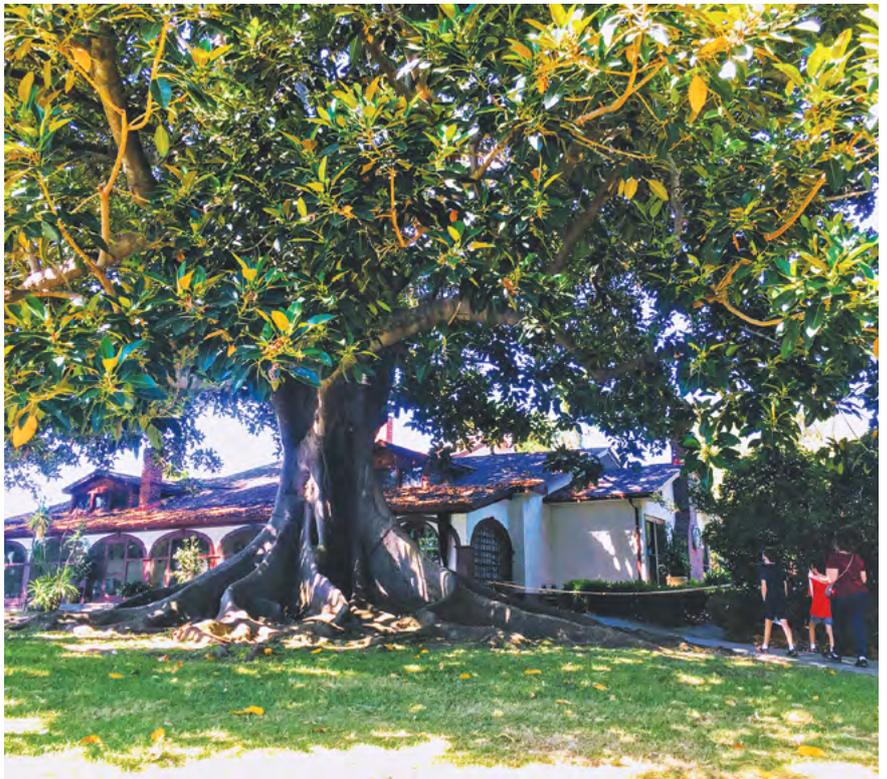
By Katie Lowe, Manager of Education and Public Engagement

Each school year, field trips to the Rancho are fun and educational opportunities for third- and fourth-grade students to connect with California history and culture. It's a seasonal highlight for Rancho docents and staff to welcome these enthusiastic learners to the historic site.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Rancho is creating virtual field trips to bring authentic connections to California's past to the digital classroom. School docents will lead live sessions with students on Zoom beginning later this fall, and videos and activities created by Tongva Cultural Educators will be available to teachers and students in the spring.

Email info@RanchoLosAlamitos.org to join our teacher mailing list and learn more!

6400 East Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/431-3541
www.rancholosalamitos.org



American Business Women's Association



Sharon Godbee
National President

ABWA – Enjoying the Bonds Nationally

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

Richie Morris attended her first American Business Women's Association (ABWA) meeting, Hidden Hills Chapter in Lithonia, Georgia, and was so impressive she joined immediately. ABWA was added to her passions for learning and sharing when she

witnessed women honoring women. Her leadership skills grew exponentially. Richie has been honored as "Woman of the Year" at the league and council levels. She was also recognized nationally as a "2008 Top Ten Business Woman." Members are knowledgeable and supportive. Currently, she finds giving back much of what was poured into her most rewarding. Finally, she accepted an invitation from a neighbor that she barely knew; arrived with no prior knowledge of ABWA; entered as a stranger and today enjoy never ending bonds that expand the nation.

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. For more information on ABWA and Scholarship Opportunities, email charriswalters@gmail.com. To locate a chapter near you, call 562.591.2625 • www.abwa.org



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Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine

Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine (PRM) will offer youth recreation programs October 10 – December 19 that will provide fun and enriching experiences while maintaining appropriate staff-to-participant ratios and other enhanced safety protocols. Registration begins October 5 at 8 a.m.

Mobile Recess Program – October 12 - December 18

PRM is making recreation fun more accessible for youth. Staff will drive trucks with supplies and equipment to designated neighborhood streets and provide activities for youth ages 5 –14 (Grades K-8). Activities include physical fitness, arts and crafts, and homework help. Space is limited and advance signups are required. Sign ups are on a first come, first served basis. It's easy to sign up:

- Visit longbeach.gov/park
- Click on Contract Class Registration tab on the left side of the page
- Search for desired Mobile Recess location
- Complete registration process

Call 570-3226 for more information.

Schedule

Monday & Wednesday – 3-5 p.m.

Hellman Street – between Orange & Cerritos Avenues
11th mStreet – between Junipero & Raymond Avenues
Baker Street - between Golden & Amebco Avenues
E. 67th Way – between Orcutt & Muriel Avenues

Tuesday & Thursday – 3-5 p.m.

17th Street between Henderson & Chestnut Avenues
8th Street between Gladys & Freeman Avenues
16th Street between Gundry & Walnut Avenue
Jackson Street – between Orange & Walnut Avenues

Fridays – 3-5 p.m.

W. Parade Street – between Harbor & Fashion Avenues
23rd Street – between Cedar & Chestnut Avenue

In person program safety protocols include physical distancing and face covering requirements.

Virtual Out-of School program October 12 - December 18

PRM's virtual out-of school program will be offered weekdays from October 12 through December 18 from 3 - 6 p.m. for much needed afterschool activities and social interaction will be

The free program will offer kids ages 5-14 activities that can be experienced from home including live “meets” with recreation staff, academic support, dance, art, and more within a three-hour period each day. Separate modules will be offered, for elementary and middle school- youth to ensure activities and peer engagement are appropriate for ages.

Call 562.570.3150 for more information.

ARISE Middle School and High School Camp October 10 - December 19

A camp for middle school and high school aged ARISE (Adaptive Recreation in Special Environments) participants will feature recreational and enrichment activities.

The camp will take place at

- Stearns Champions Park (4520 East 23rd Street),
- Saturdays from 9:30 am to 1:30 p.m.
- from October 10 through December 19.
- The fee is \$4 daily session.

The camp will follow day camp safety protocols and offer a 1:5 staff to camper ratio. Registration will be taken on-site at Stearns Champions Park beginning October 5 and by appointment only by calling 562.440.2867.

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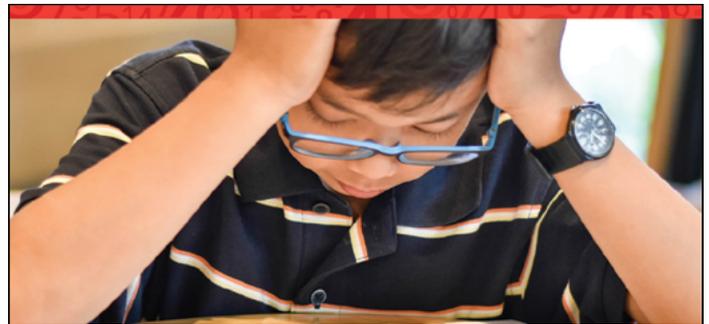
Long Beach Public Library

Long Beach Public Library To Go!

By Pam Carlson, Youth Services Librarian

As everyone knows, Long Beach libraries are closed for the time being. That doesn't mean nothing is happening. Order books, CDs, audiobooks and movies online or by phone and pick them up at a branch close to you. Visit our digital library to use our online resources. Download eBooks and audiobooks using Overdrive, watch movies on Kanopy Kids, read stories, play games and solve puzzles on Tumble Book Library, explore favorite authors using Teaching Books, or learn something new with World Book Online. Here's a preview of our once-a-month virtual programming: Chapter Chat features two librarians chatting about new books, Shenanigans! is a sharing of silly stories, jokes and riddles, Are We There Yet? visits countries through folktales, cool facts and a recipe, and Readers Inc. celebrates books and writers recommended by our readers. Don't miss out on teen or preschool events! Look on our website lbpl.org for dates and times or call your local library. We miss you and hope to see you all early next year.

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Long Beach Unified School District



Dr. Jill Baker
Superintendent

A Time of Change And Opportunity

I am deeply honored that our Board of Education chose me to serve as superintendent of the Long Beach Unified School District. I have come to know and love LBUSD after working here for 28 years, first as a teacher, then as a school principal and central office administrator. I can also appreciate our district from a parent perspective, having had my own son graduate from our schools in 2018.

Our school district is a storied place of learning, excellence and resilience. Much like our nation, LBUSD also is a big idea. We firmly believe in the innate talents and abilities of all, and we strive to help our students reach their fullest potential despite any barriers they may face.

If we truly wish to live up to our ideals, then America has work to do, as evidenced by recent unrest and discord on the national scene. Here in our schools, we also have much work to do, whether in the classroom or in the virtual learning settings that have become our new reality.

Long Beach schools remain among the best in the nation, but we intend to build upon our hard-fought gains

in student achievement, especially for students who, for a variety of reasons, may need extra support. Ensuring equity and closing achievement gaps requires honest dialogue about the challenges our students and their families face, whether related to poverty, race, language, disability or other factors. We are committed to listening and acting in the best interests of our students.

The year 2020 has brought many extraordinary changes to our daily lives, including changes to the way we teach and learn. One thing has not changed, and that's our steadfast commitment to our students and their families.

As the school year progresses, we'll provide more ways to stay connected and updated. I encourage you to visit our website frequently, and you can follow us on these social media channels: Twitter @LBSchools; Instagram @LongBeachUSD; Facebook @LongBeachUnifiedSchoolDistrict; and YouTube at lbschools.net/youtube.

I also invite you to follow my personal Twitter account @jbaker000.

I look forward to building upon our proud tradition of educational excellence. With the help of everyone in our school communities, the best is yet to come.

Child Development Center



Cynthia Young
Director

LBUSD Riley Child Development Center

As we begin the new school year with in person services we are implementing many new health and safety protocols. CDC is following all Health Department regulations. Preschool children that are not attending in person have the opportunity to participate in our distance learning program. Extensive health and safety measures are implemented such as, temperature checks for



children and staff, answering the COVID-19 questionnaire, hand washing and spraying the soles of shoes. Frequent disinfecting procedures are implemented throughout the day and the custodial staff completes a deep cleaning of our rooms nightly. We have worked hard to create a sense of normal for our children. Riley CDC is a great place to learn and grow!



4310 Long Beach Blvd., Suite 200, Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/422-6868
www.lbschools.net/Departments/Child_Development

LBUSD Board of Education

Recommitting to the College Promise

By Diana Craighead, President

Leaders of the Long Beach Unified School District and our partnering agencies recently announced a recommitment to The Long Beach College Promise with a renewed focus on racial equity.

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

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

This year saw a transition in Long Beach public education leaders with LBCC's Board of Trustees appointing Lou Anne Bynum as Interim Superintendent-President, and LBUSD's Board of Education selecting Jill Baker as superintendent. This transition coupled with the implementation of an equity lens marks a new era for The Promise.

Our new superintendent, Dr. Baker, has assured our communities that she is firmly committed to building upon the progress we've made with our Promise partners. We plan to build upon our hard-fought gains in college and career readiness, with a greater focus on racial equity. Superintendent Baker participated in a recent virtual news conference about recommitting to The Promise. Joining her during the news conference were LBCC's President Bynum, Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia and Cal State Long Beach President Jane Close-Conoley.

The Promise and related LBUSD programs such as the Urban Math Collaborative, Male and Female Leadership

Academies, open access to Advanced Placement courses and exams, and free PSAT and SAT testing and test preparation have helped Black students to see significant gains. The graduation rate among LBUSD's African American students is 85.6 percent, compared to the statewide rate of 76.8 percent for the same demographic group. The college participation rate among graduating African American students is 70.2 percent, compared to 59.7 percent for their counterparts statewide. LBUSD ranks first nationally on the percentage of African American male students who took one or more Advanced Placement courses.

In anticipation of formalizing a policy on equity, my colleagues and I on the Board of Education recently directed staff to develop a district equity leadership team consisting of students and other stakeholders such as parents, employees and community partners such as The Promise partners. This equity leadership team will make recommendations for policy, practices, funding and future initiatives.

CSULB plans expansion of outreach to underrepresented students, and building upon several of the university's programs designed to help students graduate in a timely manner. LBCC recently adopted a Framework for Reconciliation resolution, and the college plans to strengthen current equity programs, increase college-wide input and scrutinize data with a clear eye on racial inequities.

We thank our Promise partners, including Mayor Garcia and the Port of Long Beach. Each of our institutions has faced unprecedented challenges during the global pandemic. Our collective recommitment to The Promise, even during difficult times, is a testament to the value that our community places on education.

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

Board of Education



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Alvarado *Elementary*

1400 E. 20th St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/591-7477
alvarado-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Cheryl Huber
Principal

All-New Upgrades!

When the Alvarado All-Stars return to the campus, they will be greeted by an upgraded state-of-the-art venue. The school recently completed a \$12 million renovation to make classrooms even more fitting for the scholars lucky enough to achieve in them. Each room was equipped with a new HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) system, motion-sensing lights, wall-mounted projectors and a built-in sound system that includes two wireless microphones. To maintain mental agility and hydration, new fountains have been strategically placed to

make it easier and more desirable to refill water bottles.

Furthermore, the Boys and Girls Club of Long Beach was recently added to the team. They are the new support providers for the after-school WRAP program. They are offering afternoon enrichment and assignment help during distance-learning school days. Registered participants will be able to pick up prepackaged suppers to take home and enjoy.

Though the global pandemic has presented many challenges, the teachers and staff are continuing to display their A game. Working together with the students and their supportive parents, they will certainly produce another winning year!

Avalon School

P.O. Box 557, Avalon, CA 90704 • 310/510-0790
lbavalon.schoolloop.com



Miruna Ouatu-Lascar
Principal

Clicking In to Class!

Avalon K-12 school kicked off the year quite differently from years past. Our yearly tradition of a whole-faculty photo at our opening meeting became a Zoom screenshot photo.

Despite the challenges of our virtual start of school, our school community and faculty came together to launch a successful start of the school year! Highlights of the start of our school year included teachers

engaging students in community-building activities throughout their K-12 classrooms and our teachers and support staff building a parent-care call center for the first week of school. Through the center, parents can call and receive direct support targeted at addressing technological needs as well as the stress of the first few days of virtual schooling.

While we were challenged as a school community during this time of distance learning, our faculty and staff's dedication and resiliency shined through to help our island community successfully click into school!



Bancroft *Middle School*

5301 Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/425-7461
lbbancroft.schoolloop.com



Maria Pilar Perossio
Principal

Taking Care of Business Days

Bancroft Middle School conducted a series Taking Care of Business days to start off our virtual school year. Students received their schedules, textbooks, IDs, and a warm welcome from our staff. Our new counselor, Anthony Winston, was ready and willing to assist with answering questions and supporting students with schedule needs. Our classified staff were positively



supporting our students in receiving supplies. This school year will be undoubtedly unique, but with teamwork, we will make it successful.

Barton *Elementary*

1100 E. Del Amo Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/428-0555
barton-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Dr. Jacqueline Williams
Principal

School Supplies Donated

By Dr. J. Williams and Mrs. Hassan

This semester, we were gifted school supplies. Sage, an LBusD middle school student, donated items to students in grades K-2. Sage shared that since her summer plans had been cancelled, she thought of this incredible project. She took the reins and made sure our K-2 students got supplies including a pencil box complete



with a Barton sticker and pencil! Later in the week, one of our teacher's sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., donated supplies for our students. This was a wonderful gift especially during this time.

Thank you to Sage's family and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. for gifting our students with school supplies. It's nice to know that we live in a caring and supportive society.

Browning *Early College High School*

2180 Obispo Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804
browning-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Dr. Felicia Anderson
Principal

A Year of Firsts

The 2020-2021 school year is a year of firsts for Browning. Browning will have its first class of seniors, the first virtual freshman orientation, and our first year as Browning Early College. Browning's Class of 2024 are the first students to enroll in the early college program where students

have the opportunity to graduate from high school with an Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) from LBCC in Hospitality and/or Culinary Arts. The early college program has all incoming freshmen enrolled in College Board Pre-AP English and Pre-AP Algebra 1 to provide challenging and rigorous courses in preparation for AP courses in subsequent years. Go Bison!



Burcham (K-5)

5610 Monlaco Rd., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2685
www.lbburcham.schoolloop.com



Helen Makridis
Principal

Opening of School

Excitement was in the air as Burcham students gathered early in the morning to pick up their free school supplies, Chromebooks and textbooks on the first day of school. Looking out into the sea of smiling faces as students waited patiently to pick up materials made everyone's day. "It felt so good to see our students again," said our Secretary Rhonda Patton.



Mrs. Neff 4th grade teacher distributing materials.



Rhonda Patton, Secretary with her grandsons who attend Burcham.

Students hurried home to sort through their materials and log in for their first virtual session of the year. We were pleased to see the majority of our students show up to connect with their teachers from a distance. Nothing replaces teaching in person, however Burcham teachers were well prepared and ready to make the 2020-21 school year a success from day one.

Cabrillo High School

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



Wendy Poffenberger
Principal

Supporting the Community

Welcoming Cabrillo Jags back on campus for textbook and technology distribution. With a focus on health and safety, this year Cabrillo High School is supporting the community in partnership with the City of Long Beach's Health and Human Services by serving as a COVID Testing Site on Saturdays and Sundays. Our campus also serves as a daily food distribution location for children ages 1-18, from 11:00 AM to 12:30

PM. We have also begun to offer conditioning opportunities to our athletic teams across the district that comply with the Los Angeles County's health and safety guidelines. As we navigate through the semester of virtual learning, we will continue to be here to serve the community.

Edison Elementary

625 Maine Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/590-8481
edi-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com



Juan Gutierrez
Principal

Learning About Safety

Head Start's focus for the start of school has been about safety and all the ways we can be safe. Children are learning about what Covid is, what are germs, what germs do to our bodies and how we can prevent germs from getting into our bodies. We read stories, sing songs, practice hand washing and social distancing all the time. Children are already very well versed with the safety routine, starting with temperature checks as they arrive and wearing masks.



Carver Elementary

5335 E. Pavo St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2697
carver-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Matthew Monaghan
Principal

Welcome back!

What a crazy welcome back to school year this has been! Here at Carver, many of us were fortunate enough to get to see our students for supplies pick-up day. Students and their families arrived throughout the day so that they could meet their new teacher and receive all the text books and materials they might need to start the year out right. Though it wasn't the first day we had all hoped for, our teachers made the best of it.



In a small way you could feel the positive energy and excitement from our students as they lined up to meet their teacher. We could see the smiles from under their masks! No matter how difficult, Carver teachers will always go out of their way to make their students feel welcomed and ready to start the new year!
Go Carver Cougars!

Emerson Parkside Academy

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



Beverly Moutet
Principal

Collaborative Co-Teaching Expands to First Grade

Last year, Emerson piloted the Collaborative Co-teaching (CCT) model in kindergarten. Based on the program's success, CCT has been expanded to first grade with the dynamic team of Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Kunkle.

The CCT classrooms have a general education teacher and an education specialist teacher who plan and teach together to meet the needs of all students in their class with high quality, differentiated instruction. All students in the CCT kindergarten and CCT first grade classes benefit from the expertise of two teachers all day.

Starting the year online has not stopped this inclusive program from moving forward! By having two teachers collaborating, they are able to support their students — and each other — as they navigate distance teaching and learning together!



Gant Elementary

1854 Britton Dr., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/430-3384
gant-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Cassandra Fanton
Principal

Thank you Jimmitra Crawford!

Although school has started out differently this year, we have been fortunate to have Kid's Club on our campus. A special shout out goes out to our Kid's Club

Director, Jimmitra Crawford, and her amazing staff! They jumped right in to ensure the students were safe and set up for success. While following the district guidelines for safety, students are still engaged in learning, interacting with their teachers via zoom, and definitely finding time for fun! We are so fortunate to have her and her team as part of the Gant family!



Jimmitra Crawford
Kid's Club Director

Gompers (K-8)

5206 Briercrest Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/925-2285
lbgompers.schoolloop.com



Linda Reynolds
Principal

New Gompers Members

Gompers K-8 is a special place and it is a great honor to be named new Principal. I look forward to developing strong and collaborative relationships with the Gompers community. I am truly honored to join such a dedicated staff of educators and support staff. The Gompers Community is so excited to start out the 2020/2021 school year with several new staff members. They come to

us with immense skills and experience, which will help lead us through these uncharted waters. Welcome to the Gompers family!



(left to right beginning top row) Rasheka Etheridge-Henry comes to us from Jackie Robinson. She will be teaching 3rd Grade. Alina Herrera-Gonzales is our new 6th Grade ELA teacher. Kiki Vann, previously at Alvarado, is our new 4th grade teacher. Ysela Damian, our new IOA, joins us from Hughes. Chelsea McCormick, from Cabrillo, will be teaching Middle School Science. Ericson Santos is our new Plant Supervisor. He is from Lakewood H.S. Aaron Borja is our new Counselor. He comes to us from Bancroft.

Contest!

These students are in this publication.
When you find them, email the page number to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Put LBUSD in the subject line.



Your entry must be received by 11/30/20
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive
a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Grant Elementary

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



Veronica Madrigal
Principal

Outreach

By Donna Robertson, Assistant Principal

Grant opened the virtual school year with optimism and excitement as the opportunity to mold the minds of scholars took a forefront to the unique circumstances that this pandemic has created. As we continue to navigate the waters of virtual learning, Grant has made outreach its number-one priority. In order to best meet the needs of our community, it's important that we know how they're feeling, what they're dealing with, and how we as a school site can best support them.

Grant has stepped up for our families by providing daily meals, Chromebooks and hot spots as well as tech support and outreach phone calls to those in need. All students were invited to participate in a meet-the-teacher and picking up books and materials 2020 style, all the while wearing a mask and practicing social distancing.

Communication is key to keeping our families in the loop and at ease. Our efforts will go a long way in building those relationships with families and easing anxiety of both parents and students during this time.

Henry (K-5) Dual Immersion School

3720 Canehill Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-3754
henry-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Rose Vitetta
Principal

Meet Our New Members

¡Bienvenidos a Patrick Henry! We are proud to announce some new members to our Henry Family. Principal Rose Vitetta is our new Principal who joins after 7 years of principal ship experience and 16 years teaching experience. We are also happy to have the Sra. Balmeo, as our 80% counselor to guide our scholars. We are also happy to have new faculty members: Srta. de la Rosa (K), Sra. Ayala-Murillo (1st), Sra. Vazquez (2nd), Srta. Garcia (4th), and Srta. Crespo (5th). Plus Sra. Lopez (Night Shift Custodian) and Nurse Roknian. We are so happy to have these Patriotas. Welcome to Henry!



Holmes Elementary

5020 Barlin Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/633-4427
hol-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com



Lori Grady
Principal

Happy New "School" Year!

We have welcomed over 380 students via virtual learning to the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to new and returning students, we also welcomed new staff members and student teachers. We are happy to introduce...



Gwen Haven - Combo Teacher

Katie Kolsky - Intervention TOSA

Christina de la Garza - Librarian

Cassian "Nurse CJ" Corey-Holder - Nurse

Sammy Kawakami - Student Teacher

Perlie Yang - Student Teacher

Arquimidez Hernandez - Long Term Substitute

Welcome to #HolmesNation. We wish all of our students and staff a wonderful school year. Go Holmes Hounds!



Hughes Middle School

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



Troy Bennett
Principal

Hughes Welcomes Principal T. Bennett

By Rita Aslan, Assistant Principal

It is with great pleasure that we announce the arrival of our new principal, Mr. Troy Bennett. He comes to Hughes Middle School after having served as an educator in LBUSD for 23 years and as principal for 5 years and brings with him a variety of communication and learning tools, including dedication to restorative justice practices.

Mr. Bennett views education as a life-long process and expects to continue to learn much about the uniqueness of Hughes Middle School, especially as we rise up to meet the challenges of this pandemic year. Most importantly, he brings with him a belief that all students are at the center of all school-related decisions. He is excited to unite his experience, openness to learn, and student-centered approach to support all students. Because the relationships between families and the school are vital to the success of our students, he encourages our Hughes Families to become involved in every way possible and looks forward to when we can all be together again for in-person learning.

King Elementary

145 E. Artesia Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-1232
starring-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com

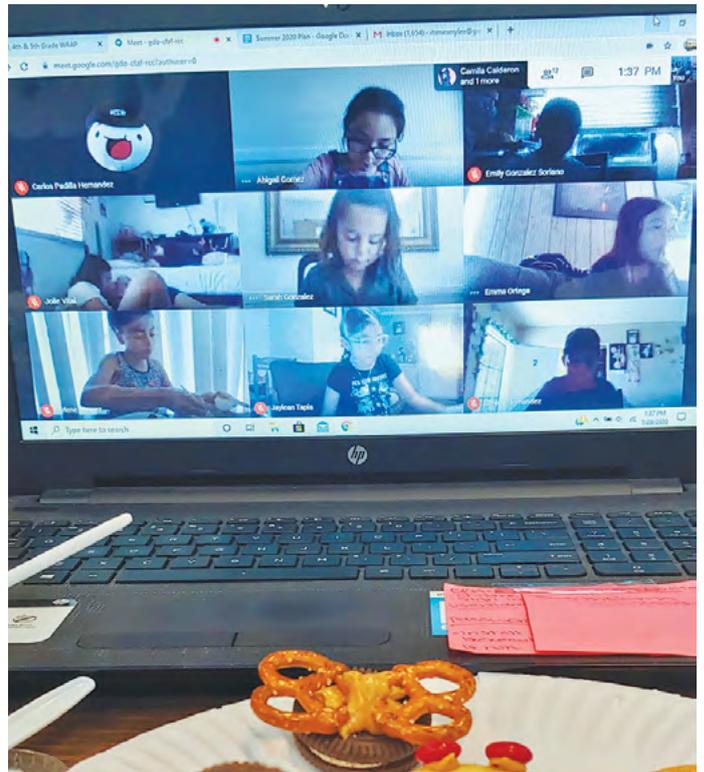


Osvaldo Ocampo
Principal

Virtual Program Blossoms

With virtual programming beginning in mid-June, blooming in summer, and now blossoming for the school year, King WRAP staff found creative ways to connect with its students. Sharp Thurman has mailed birthday cards to her students, Miguel Magallanes took virtual field trips with his students to the El Dorado Nature Center, and Marissa Ortega focused on hands-on activities that included DIY dreamcatchers, bird feeders and a variety of edible crafts.

King WRAP staff was also able to come together to provide socially distanced workout sessions that incorporated yoga, endurance training and Uno. Live Google Meets continued to thrive throughout summer and will continue to do so for the school year, with two-hour days filled with physical recreation, homework assistance and academic fun. Grab 'n' go bags will still be offered on Fridays and will include school supplies, brain games, craft materials and mini DIY experiments.



King WRAP staff also reached out to every WRAP family to check in and reiterate their continued support during these unprecedented times. PRM's hardworking and caring staff at King Elementary has accepted and conquered the challenge of providing meaningful programming for their students during this pandemic.

Lafayette Elementary

2445 Chestnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/426-7075
lafayette-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



David Komatz
Principal

"Xmas in September"

By Nancy Jo Rettig, Counselor

Our friends at a local church were determined to find ways to honor the persistence of our "Stay-At-Home-Bound-Buddies." These exceptional students were nominated by their teachers, two per class, to receive a "Distance Learner Award."

They even investigated what type of toy the student would enjoy — dinosaurs, arts-n-crafts, jewelry were high on the lists.



The original plan, (a phrase we use a lot these days), was to have an end of year celebration and congregate (remember those days?) for praise and punch.

This of course was postponed.

Now it's September and, like an exciting episode of "The Price is Right," we are calling our winners to safely, distantly, one-at-a-time, "Come on Down!"

Lakewood High School

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



Mona Mero
Principal

A Successful School Opening

Lakewood High School teachers and staff have come together as a community of support for one another ensuring a successful opening of the school year for all students. Several teachers and staff returned to the site to help with textbooks, chromebook and hotspot distribution before the start of school so that students would be ready for the first day of school.



Following a very full and intense week of learning the new systems for Canvas and Zoom, several teachers continued to offer support sessions for other teacher in utilizing various engagement strategies, discussion boards and break out rooms in Zoom.

With so much support for each other, LHS is off to a great start.

Contest!

This chicken is hidden in this publication. When you find it, email the page number to:
Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com
Put LBUSD in the subject line.



Your entry must be received by 11/30/20
From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

Lincoln Elementary

1175 E. 11th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-5005
lincoln-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Amazing Office Staff

At Lincoln Elementary School, we have an amazing office staff who is dedicated to our parents, students, and community. In the first two weeks of school, our office staff worked tirelessly answering

Caroline Nemeč
Principal

phones, enrolling new students, and distributing Chrome books, Hotspots, and school supplies to over 917 students and their families to ensure a successful online learning experience. In addition, they have worked as tech support to our families over the phone and in person. Most importantly, they always provide service with a smile. A big thank you to Ms. Lili, Ms. Vicky, Ms. Martha, Ms. Sharon, and Ms. Elvie for your hard work and dedication to the Lincoln Elementary community.



Ms. Elvie, Ms. Vicky, Ms. Lili, Ms. Sharon, and Ms. Martha.

Lindsey Academy (6–8)

5075 Daisy Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/423-6451
lblindsey.schoolloop.com



Voices from the Field

*By Gabriela Molina,
8th Grade Student*

“Happy New Year!”

Who would have thought that 2020 would be the year of distance learning? On September 1st, many of us felt emotional knowing that we could not attend school in person. We would miss our friends and school activities. As the week flew by, Zoom meetings started to be a ride of ups and downs due to connection issues. Working from home might have sounded relaxing at first, but now we have all come to realize that it can be more difficult. We now value attending school. For now, just breathe and have faith. This is just a chapter - not the whole story. Online learning will get better!

Renny Chu
Principal



Long Beach Learning Center

3701 E. Willow Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/426-6846
ilp-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com / reid.lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com



Troy Bennett
Principal
Beach High School



Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo
Principal
Reid High School

LBLC: We are Family

“Resilience: the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or significant sources of stress” (APA.org). The LBLC has embodied this concept, as we have responded to a pandemic closing schools in the 2019-20 school year, while managing to end the year with strong leadership, exemplary teacher & student engagement and joyful senior celebrations. The previous school year saw us combining two high schools, with students and staff, onto one campus. With wise leadership and a keen sense of building community, the name Long Beach Learning Center was



born. And it is no surprise that at the start of the 2020-2021 school year, the LBLC is ready!

We have school gear that represents the cohesiveness that has been nurtured and born from the hard work of administrators, faculty and staff from both schools. From our t-shirts to our masks, we are prepared to be a safe community and resource for students who need our support to succeed.



Long Beach School for Adults

3701 E. Willow Ave., Long Beach, CA / 2153 W. Hill St., Long Beach, CA
562/595-8893 • www.lbschools.net/LBSA



Debbie Broadway
Administrator

Never Too Late

You’ve heard it said many times, “it’s never too late.” This statement was never truer for the 86 Long Beach School for Adults graduates who received their high school diplomas and the 50 High School Equivalency

Certificate recipients on June 10 & 11, 2020. Due to the school closures, we had to hold a Graduation parade where students drove up to receive their recognition. Teachers lined the driveway holding signs, blowing horns and cheering each student as they drove past. We watched with pride as the dream of a high school diploma became reality, the goals that had been set were met, and the hope of a brighter future was that much closer.



MacArthur *Elementary*

6011 Centralia St., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-3588
macarthur-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Maria Yopez
Principal

Lifelong Learners

By Ruby Gaytan, Teacher

We are all learners! This year our first day of school was like no other. Our MacArthur teachers started the year with a week of professional development, learning a new management system, while preparing for their new class. The excitement and anticipation were still present, filled with the realization that technology will play a part in our daily interactions with our students. On our first day of school, our students navigated Canvas with smiles on their faces. It was great to see so many smiling faces on our computer screens.



Thanks to our teachers and parents who collaborated to make the opening of this unique school day memorable for our students. It made it all worth while looking at our students embrace this new adventure of virtual teaching and learning. Together we can continue to nurture our students to become lifelong learners and future leaders!

Marshall *Academy of the Arts*

5870 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/429-7013
lbmarshall.schoolloop.com



Marie Hatwan
Principal

One Thing's Constant

By Agustin Vieyra, Assistant Principal

The 2020–21 school year is a historic one, as there has never been a school year like this one. All Marshall Rams have begun their school year online. And though we love having our Rams on campus, the reality is that no student will be on campus sooner than Feb. 1, 2021.

So, what's different? Well, this year, our teachers began by delivering instruction online, with the social-emotional well-being of our students in mind. For the first two weeks of school, teachers endeavored to focus

on knowing and connecting with their students. In the middle of the second week of school, we hosted our book distribution. We had nearly 900 hundred students come to Marshall! In the most socially distanced manner, students collected their IDs, planners, backpacks and the books they will be using this year. It was quite an undertaking! We had about 35 teachers and staff help with the distribution.

Students now have everything they need to have a successful school year: books, technology, but most importantly, the most caring and dedicated teachers in all the city. Things may be different, but the one constant is our phenomenal Marshall staff.

McKinley *Elementary*

6822 N. Paramount Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/630-6200
mckinley-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Vanesha Davis
Principal

Social Distancing

While most of our students are starting school remotely, we do have a few of our McKinley Cougars in school. During the first several weeks of the school year, the children are becoming familiar with the classroom routines, and learning to find comfort with wearing a face mask while maintaining social distance.



Millikan *High School*

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



Alejandro Vega
Principal

New CTE Building

By Paris Blanco & Emma Sharman, Students

Millikan High School's construction of a new building and sports field, which began in 2018, is now complete.

In respect to student need, the 1000 building has a graphic design space, courtroom and computer labs so will primarily be used by MBA, PEACE, and SEGA.

The new sports fields will be used for football, soccer, lacrosse, softball, track and field, and general P.E.



The 1000 building is now being used by teachers and will be used by students impending their return to school.

Aya Sheridan, 11th grade QUEST student stated, "I think the new building is a great addition to Millikan and will be very useful to a lot of students! It's a super unique building and all the features will be very beneficial."

Naples Bayside *Academy*

5537 The Toledo, Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/433-0489
naples-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Paula Spenker
Principal

PeaceBuilders

The PeaceBuilders program at Naples has been part of the character education program for years, and has proven to stand the test of time. This year, students TK-5 have been introduced to the PeaceBuilders guidelines with a special focus on spreading kindness by way of



"praising others" and "giving up put downs." With restorative practices being a central theme for equitable practices throughout Long Beach Unified, Naples students will center this year's learning around two core concepts of PeaceBuilders: "to notice and speak up about hurts I have caused" and "to right wrongs." We are looking forward to a year where we can work together to create a safe and positive learning environment for all.

Nelson Academy (6-8)

1951 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/591-6041
na-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Kathleen Reed
Principal

Welcome

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Jessie Elwin Nelson Academy, I would like to welcome all new and returning Knights to the 2020-21 school year!

In preparation for the first ever virtual start to a school year, from August 25th through 27th, we held "Distribution Days". During this time students were able to check out technology, pick up textbooks, temporary ID's and supply bags. In addition, thanks to generous

donations from the Rotary Club of Signal Hill and the "One Wish One Need" (OWON) organization, every student was supplied with earbuds and student response boards. It was also during this time that teachers were trained in new and innovative strategies to help enhance student learning in this ever-changing virtual environment.

We look forward to working with students, families, and the community to make this school year engaging and fun. Please stay tuned for updates on how we plan to celebrate academic achievement, attendance, and much more in upcoming issues.

Polytechnic High School

1600 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/591-0581 • lbpoly.schoolloop.com



William Salas
Principal

Class of 2020 Rolls Out In Style

*By Daryl Holmlund,
English and Journalism Teacher*

Poly celebrated the class of 2020 with an on-campus drive-thru graduation spectacular on June 11. Outgoing Jackrabbits were hailed by the members of the Poly marching band and color guard, a troupe of dancing teachers, multiple videoboards

looping prerecorded messages from Poly teachers and alumni, and rows of teachers, counselors, and admin who lined the route holding signs and noisemakers. There were multiple areas with festive backdrops set up as photo-ops for grads to snap pictures. At the end of the journey, graduates' names were announced over a loudspeaker and their pictures were shown on yet another video board. The success of the event was largely



the result of the work of Poly's Stage Crew students under the supervision of Victoria Gathe and Brian Dokko, with an assist from Poly's indefatigable ASB.



Newcomb Academy (K-8)

3351 Val Verde Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/430-1250
lbnewcomb.schoolloop.com



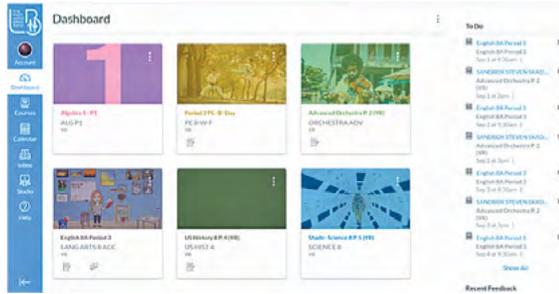
Donna Ryono
Principal

Canvas as a Learning Platform

Sabrina McDermott, 8th Grade Student

Canvas is the new online learning platform for LBUSD. It has many different features which allow for student-

teacher interaction, and it works in conjunction with applications such as Zoom or Google Chrome. It includes a list of the courses you are taking, a calendar to keep track of meetings and assignments, and an inbox



How Canvas would look for a typical middle-schooler

to stay informed or contact your teachers. Teachers can use Canvas to provide instruction and let students know about assignments. Canvas keeps the information in “modules,” which students can open to get easy access to their assignments by simply clicking a few buttons.

Canvas is a very simple program for students to use, and it will help students thrive, even in trying times such as this.

Powell Academy (K-8)

150 Victoria St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 310/631-8794
bpowell.schoolloop.com



Tynisha Smith
Principal

Teamwork

While this is not the way we thought our school year would begin, teachers have been working hard at providing students with high quality instruction. Our motto this year is “Learning Together.” We plan to continue to engage students in growing academically, socially, and emotionally. Our goal is to meet students where they are and provide them with the resources that they need to

be successful in school and beyond. We spent the first few weeks of school distributing Chromebooks and supplies to students and families, as well as troubleshooting any barriers to learning. We are doing our best to provide support for our community of learners. “The truth is that teamwork is at the heart of great achievement.”



Renaissance High School for the Arts

235 E. 8th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/901-0168
lbrhsa.schoolloop.com



Michael Navia
Principal

Welcome

Building relationships and expanding our culture is one of our goals at Renaissance High School for the Arts. We’re a smaller campus so not too many people get to experience or our unique community. That being said, we extend a warm welcome to Andrea Itson and Marcie White! Andrea is joining us from Millikan and is our new Dean of Students and Pathway Coordinator

here at Renaissance. Marcie is joining us from Tincher and is our new counselor. Itson commented “I love it!!! The staff and students are so awesome, even during this distance learning experience. Everyone has made me feel so welcome and valued! I also love being at an Arts school!” Welcome to RHSA!



Andrea Itson
Dean of Students and
Pathway Coordinator



Marcie White
Counselor

Sato Academy of Mathematics & Science

1100 Iroquois Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/598-7611
sato-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Veronica Coleman
Principal

Online Teaching

Sato Academy is rocking online teaching and learning on Canvas and Zoom! We have already had several fantastic events including a smooth textbook distribution, a well attended virtual Back to School Night, and our first Spirit Week of the year. Pictured is our Feature Student this month, senior Youliana Boutros, Sato's Most Inspiring Student. She is an amazing student, hard working, with a growth mindset, who impresses us all. She knew no English when she moved to Long Beach from Egypt in 8th grade. In just a few years she has mastered English and is working her way through Sato's rigorous engineering program. She plans to attend UCI, UCSD, or USC to study computer engineering.



Stanford Middle School

5871 Los Arcos St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/594-9793
lbstanford.schoolloop.com



Rebecca Suzanne Caverly
Principal

Saying Goodbye to Class of 2020

The Class of 2020 didn't have the opportunity to participate in the celebrations we typically host for our promoting students. At Stanford, we tried to create a memorable moment for them, on a day they thought was just a routine activity. In June, Stanford Staff facilitated a safe and socially distanced textbook return week for all students.

For our 8th graders, we planned a special surprise! We set up a red carpet for them to walk, students posed for a promotion picture, and we presented each student with a congratulatory lawn sign. Our year with our students was cut short, but we all enjoyed saying a special goodbye to our Class of 2020. We wish them all the very best in High School!



Stephens *Middle School*

1830 W. Columbia St., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/595-0841

lbstephens.schoolloop.com



Megan Traver
Principal

Online Learning During COVID

The transition to online learning at Stephens was made possible by a whole lot of teamwork. The district team and teacher trainers worked incredibly hard to prepare us for online learning as parents and students anxiously waited for the first day of school.

Teacher spent weeks preparing and learning about the online platform, Canvas, and building their skills in the Zoom app, which

allows them to meet with students via live video.

When the big day arrived, most students were able to get online, but there were still many families and students that needed additional support. That's when the office staff and

administrative team jumped in and provided one-on-one support to each family that needed assistance. It was a first day of school like no other, but the teachers, staff, parents and students at Stephens made it happen.

It's been exciting to watch teachers stretch their skills and try new things as we strive to take our online teaching to the next level. After achieving our first goal of getting students online, our next goal was to provide students with active engagement during their online classes. Teachers are using "reaction" buttons, the chatroom and polls in Zoom to regularly engage students throughout each period.

What I know for sure is that the team here at Stephens is going to continue to do everything possible to provide the best online instruction we can to educate our students, because our students are what matter the most.

Twain *Elementary*

5021 E. Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8421

twain-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Dr. Patrick Booker
Principal

Welcome Back, Frogs!

Welcome to our 2020–21 school year! Although our year may look different from others, we still have exciting opportunities ahead of us. Our amazing teachers are ready to welcome our fabulous Frogs.

Speaking of our amazing teachers, please join me in welcoming Mrs. Alford and Mrs. Pham to the Twain family. Mrs. Alford will be teaching our third-grade GATE class. She comes to us from Edison Elementary, where

she taught the second-grade PALS class and was a member of their Instructional Leadership Team.

Mrs. Pham will be teaching our 4/5 combo class. She comes to us from Holmes Elementary. She has been with LBUSD for 19 years. She already has plans to create an art club when we are able to all be back on campus.

I am highly confident that Mrs. Alford and Mrs. Pham will make a lasting, positive contribution to our commitment to equity and excellence at Twain.

All my best in this 2020–21 school year!



Washington Middle School

1450 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/591-2434
lbwashington.schoolloop.com



Roshann Williams
Principal

Community Camaraderie

*By Jacquelyn Gainer, M.Ed
Admin, Intervention Specialist
(TOSA)*

Parents and community volunteers pulled through during the pandemic

Despite the pandemic the Washington Middle School (WMS) parents, office staff, and our community partners pulled together to fill students' book bags for distribution amid social distance learning.

Principal, Dr. Roshann Williams, and Dr. Dinesa Thomas-Whitman, coordinated a call to action to numerous nonprofit community organizations. These organizations graciously accepted the call to action. They came and worked tirelessly at Washington to make phone calls to students and filled the students' bags with donated school supplies.



The students' book bags included: The WMS school planner, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, highlighters, white boards, dry erase markers, and students' textbooks.

Whittier Elementary

1761 Walnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-6263
whittier-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com



Damon Jespersen
Principal

The 'Magic' of Distribution!

*By Charo Darwin Glomah,
Assistant Principal*

While lots of work and planning have gone into launching a unique and history-making 2020–21 school year, we set our sights on remaining accessible, flexible and energized. Although lots of “magic” was performed by all to make it happen, we brought out the team to welcome our students in style.

Dressed in a wizard's purple cloak decorated with silver stars and wearing a matching pointed hat, the Whittier Wizard made a surprise visit to hand out materials during our distribution on Saturday. With every pair of smiling eyes on him, the wizard drew his wand from the sheath and safely transported a bundle of books and materials to each car, bringing along little wizards-in-training. Our TK, kinder, and first-, third- and fourth-grade teacher teams along with our talented custodians and admin team got in on the magic, too, as they created signs to welcome our students and celebrated to the sounds of wizardry music and grateful parents.

“It was so energizing to be with my colleagues even though we were safely distanced,” one first-grade team member said. “Seeing our families and connecting with students go a long way.”



As we work to build relationships virtually with our community, opportunities to see authentic expressions and hear the sounds of laughter mean so much to all of us. It was a great reminder that we are in this together and, indeed, #Whittierstrong!

Wilson Classical High School

4400 E. 10th St., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/433-0481
www.lbwilson.schoolloop.com



Kimberly Holland
Principal

An Online Shiwaka

By Dylan Bernstein, Senior

Wilson High School's Link Crew Coordinators, Commissioners, Coaches, and Cheer Folk had a daunting task ahead of them. How were they going to replace the in-person orientation that has introduced generations of freshmen to the Bruin way with an online alternative? They answered

decisively. Woody's Link Up, an online information session for freshmen to connect with their senior and junior leaders, and Woodyverse, a website and YouTube channel filled with videos and pages describing what it means to be a Bruin, connecting incoming students with not only their administrators and counselors, but the institution that they will hopefully be getting to know intimately in the near future. With these in hand, the Bruins are on their warpath.



Kids Nutrition During COVID-19



**Carol Berg Sloan,
RDN, FAND**

Many of you may already prepare breakfast before school and pack a lunch for your child, however, there are families who relied on school lunch and many times, breakfast to feed and nourish their kids. Fortunately many school districts such as Long Beach Unified, are continuing to offer free breakfast and lunch to all local children ages 1-18. Contact your school district or school site

for more information.

I am sure many of you who are reading *School News Roll Call* did not expect to be monitoring online classes or in some cases, teaching your children this year. It's the new reality. Also real are the cooped up kids begging for snacks and asking what's for dinner? On the plus side there's a new focus on the positive power of family meals. A paper from Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior revealed that families who ate together had better nutrient quality as well as "better family functioning, including connectedness, cohesion and communication". Sounds good to me!



**Kelly Sloan,
MS, RDN**

Here is a simple dinner recipe that can be thrown in the crockpot using pantry items that you can stock up on.

Slow Cooker Quinoa Chili

Ingredients:

- 1 (15oz) can chickpeas, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15oz) can black beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15oz) can pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15oz) can corn, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15oz) can tomato sauce
- 1 (15oz) can diced tomatoes
- 1 (1.25oz) packet mild chili seasoning
- 1 cup quinoa, rinsed
- 1 cup frozen spinach

Directions:

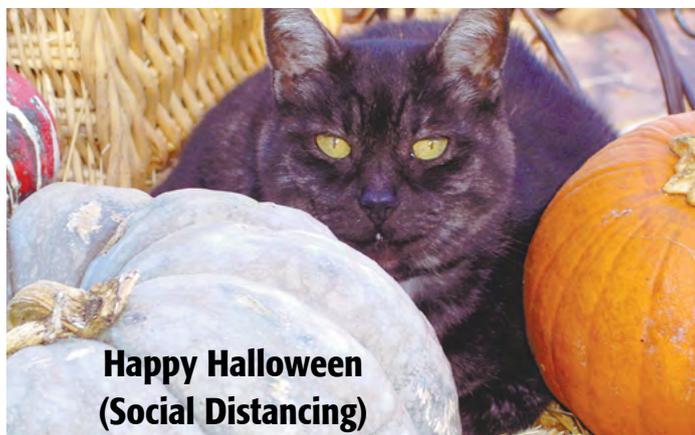
1. Place all ingredients in crockpot, stir to mix together. Cover and cook high for 3 hours. Stir occasionally. Add salt and pepper, to taste. *add frozen spinach at the last 1 hour of cooking to get those leafy greens in!
2. Garnish with a dollop of nonfat Greek plain yogurt and enjoy.

Here are some tips to ease meal prep and instill good habits.

- Make a menu for one or two weeks, hang where everyone can see it.
- Shop accordingly. Make a list so you can quickly and efficiently navigate the store aisles.
- Stock up on pantry staples. Canned or dried beans and lentils, canned tomatoes, tuna, and canned or dried fruits should be available. Grains such as oatmeal, rice, and pasta should be on your shelf as well as nut or seed butters, nuts like walnuts (store in fridge) and personal necessities such as tea, coffee or chocolate. Having baking items such as flour, sugar, salt, baking soda should also be on hand so you can bake cookies and muffins occasionally.

And....don't forget to wash your hands and wear a mask!

This column provides insight from Carol Sloan RDN, FAND and her daughter, Kelly Sloan, MS, RDN. They provide tips to help you make healthier food and beverages choices.



**Happy Halloween
(Social Distancing)**

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