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# School News

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

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 100

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APRIL 2012

## SUPERINTENDENT



### College Promise Deserves Support

Just over four years ago, I joined leaders from Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach in signing The Long Beach College

Promise, committing our three institutions to providing local students with greater opportunities to complete their higher education.

Today, I'm happy to report that this ambitious initiative to prepare more students for college success is working well. The problem, however, is that California's budget cuts threaten to curtail and reverse the gains we've all worked so hard to achieve.

More high school graduates here are enrolling in college, and more of those students are prepared for

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 34

## The Rakefish Comes to Naples



Naples Bayside Academy students hooked by the Rakefish and its real effects on the planet's marine environment.

By Elizabeth Flynn, Principal  
Naples Bayside Academy

The Rakefish is nowhere to be found in any life science textbook. In fact, the Rakefish doesn't even inhabit any known body of water in the world. However, students at Naples Bayside Academy have been hooked by the Rakefish and its real effects on the planet's marine environment. The Rakefish, a four-foot long, hand-made, mixed-media sculpture created by art students, is a national pollution awareness initiative making an epic swim to schools across the country in an effort to educate students about the impact of plastic debris on the world's oceans.

"It was made to help students learn about the problem of trash in the sea," said Trevor, the school's student body president. "There is a big garbage patch the size of Texas that will double if we continue polluting the oceans."

SEE NAPLES • PAGE 26

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



Mary Stanton  
Member

Great news is coming from all the schools in North Long Beach. McKinley kids had a wonderful time celebrating Dr Seuss' birthday with reading, reading and more reading. Each year community members are invited to the school to read and share experiences with the students. Both the guests and the students finish the day with a wealth of knowledge shared by the visiting readers.

We often read about famous people in our newspaper but

SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION PAGE 34

## Celebrating Earth Day



Tina Hansen  
Mayor  
City of Signal Hill

In spring as the days grow longer and the leaves are on the trees and flowers begin to bloom, we celebrate Earth Day with activities like planting trees, projects for kids, and spreading awareness and appreciation for Earth's natural environment. In the United States, Earth Day is celebrated on April 22, but some cities start celebrating a week or even a month in advance. The United Nations celebrates Earth Day each year on the March equinox.

SEE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL PAGE 33

## Program Brings "Law & Justice" to Students

By Dr. Felton Williams, President LBUSD Board of Education

One of LBUSD's newest academies is poised to become one of its most promising. And, its all happening right here at Cabrillo High School.

The Cabrillo Academy of Law & Justice (CALJ) gives students interested in law-related professions a unique, close-up look at interesting (and high paying) career options. ALJ also boasts a prestigious Advisory Board that includes prominent Long Beach attorneys, such as Long Beach Councilman James Johnson and City Prosecutor Doug Haubert.

SEE PROGRAM PAGE 34



LBUSD Board of Education President Dr. Felton Williams and City Prosecutor Doug Haubert

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**100<sup>th</sup>  
Issue!**

# Communicating With Your Child's Teacher



**Rajeshri Gandhi**

In my 15 years as a teacher and school administrator, I have learned that parent involvement is a critical component to a child's success. Children crave and need validation from the important adults in their lives and when teachers and parents have a strong relationship, the child benefits. Knowing how to communicate with your child's teacher is critical to the health of this relationship. We've all heard about the Mars/Venus phenomenon when it comes to men and women communicating with each other. I would argue that a similar dynamic can exist between parents and teachers. As a parent, if you should find yourself in a situation that warrants raising a concern to your child's teacher, I offer the following advice.

- **Remember that the person on the other side of the discussion is your professional partner, not your adversary.** Teachers choose their profession because they have a deep yearning to better the lives of young people. They spend a great deal of time with your child (and many others) and there is professional knowledge, supported by experience that drives decisions. There is great potential for a mutually beneficial resolution and that possibility is greater when you start from a place of collaboration and trust.
- **Resist the urge to communicate in any form—phone, email, in person meeting—when you are overly emotional.** Anyone who works at a school understands that their student is your baby and that as parents, your job is to protect and support your child. Once your initial reaction has subsided, take a moment to define for yourself your actual concern, the potential impact on your child and what outcome(s) will best serve your child. Be open to compromise and alternative solutions and bear in mind that the teacher has his/her own rationale. Keeping the conversation focused on the issue and moving towards a resolution will allow for more effective communication and the strengthening of your relationship.

SEE SCHOOL SMARTS PAGE 31



**Kay Coop**

Founder / Publisher



## 100th Issue!!

This is a milestone for *School News Roll Call* as we publish our 100th issue covering the LBUSD. Thank you to our loyal readers for continuing to include *School News Roll Call* among your reading choices. By doing so you have validated the reason SNRC has become the number one venue for school news. The quality of public schools sets the standard for the quality of a community and the LBUSD Board of Education, Superintendent Steinhäuser, administration, teachers and support staff are committed to educating our future leaders.

# School News

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Covering the  
LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## \$100,000 Grant



**F. King Alexander**  
President

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has awarded Cal State Long Beach's (CSULB) Romance/German/Russian Languages and Literatures (RGRLL) Department a \$100,000 grant to support its French and Italian for Spanish Speakers Initiative.

The NEH grant will allow CSULB to expand its current program into area high schools and community colleges, including San Pedro High School, Wilson High, Long Beach City College and Rio Hondo City College.

"Participants from each school will work together as a reading, research and curriculum development group. The idea is to create some courses just for Spanish speakers," said Clorinda Donato, the grant project's principal investigator and CSULB's George L. Graziadio Chair of Italian Studies. "One of the first campuses we asked to join was San Pedro High School, which offers classes in French and Italian to its largely Latino enrollment. Long Beach City College teaches French and Italian while Wilson High and Rio Hondo Junior College have just French. By the end of the grant period, all four campuses should have special sections for Spanish speakers."

Donato noted that the French and Italian for Spanish Speakers Initiative tests the idea of "intercomprehension" or the teaching and learning of more than one language at a time. Programs like these, she said, could change the way schools teach languages.

"We begin with what students already know, then, using that, they can learn something else by enhancing what they already know," she explained. "Old teaching methods treated students as if they were blank pages. 'Take away everything you know about English because now you will learn something new.' Instead, this method looks at both English and Spanish as bridges to learning French and Italian."

Donato believes the program offers Spanish-speaking students a way to use their knowledge of one language to learn a new one.

"It is a way to validate a potential for linguistic competence these students don't know they have," she said. "With instruction that validates their knowledge of Spanish through a method that emphasizes the intercomprehension of the Romance languages, Spanish-speaking students are at a clear advantage when it comes to acquiring that second Romance language."



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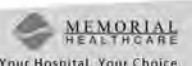
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## Real Estate Matters

### Governor Signs "Right To Rent" Law



CathyLyn Brooks

Governor Brown signed into legislation SB 150, introduced by Senator Lou Correa (D- Orange County). Under this law, if you own a property in a Common Interest Development (CID) and, if, when you purchased the unit, the governing documents permitted you to rent your property, then a change in those documents cannot now prohibit you from renting out your property. This right to rent the property would transfer to your heirs, but not to a subsequent purchaser. The law is not retroactive. It takes effect relative to governing document provisions on or after January 1, 2012.

The new legislation represents an attempt to balance divergent, but legitimate, interests. Property owners who have an unexpected need to rent out their properties, and those who have purchased their property with a reasonable investment expectation, are in conflict with the genuine concern that Homeowner Associations (HOAs) have when they find an unanticipated and undue proportion of units in the development are being rented.

What has happened is that, in recent years, HOAs have been adopting rules restricting the rights of owners to rent their units, when owners rights were not restricted before.

This may be a fear based simply on the belief – not necessarily substantiated – that rental properties are not kept up as well as owner-occupied units, and that they may diminish the overall value of properties in the development. A more specific and certain issue is that an overabundance of rental properties in a development may cause the project to be disqualified from financing from major lending institutions...meaning no one can sell their home other than to an all cash buyer. This is a real concern in today's market when lending guidelines are so stringent.

An HOA, at its creation, has the right to adopt rules restricting the ability of members to rent out their units. HOAs can be formed with nearly whatever rules they, usually the developer, choose. Prospective buyers then decide if they want to live in a community that is subject to those rules. But what about an existing association that wants to change its rules? One that wants to adopt rules concerning matters where no rules existed before?

What has happened is that, in recent years, HOAs have been adopting rules restricting the rights of owners to rent their units, when owners rights were not restricted before.

Consequently, SB 150, which was supported by the California Association of Realtors. A similar bill, AB 2259, was passed in 2008 as the issue had been arising even then. However, Gov. Schwarzenegger vetoed that bill. He argued that HOA members had agreed to live by the rules duly adopted by the Association, and that the HOA should be allowed "to determine what is best for their communities."

This bill, with similar essence, passed the legislature and was signed by the current Governor. There are valid arguments on both sides of the matter. This year proponents of the bill prevailed and, for now, the matter is settled in California. Other states still face this difficult issue.



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## Life Insurance Choice Checklist (Part I)



**Jeffrey A. Napper**  
President & CEO  
LBS Financial  
Credit Union

Choosing the right life insurance policy that fits your lifestyle and future financial plans is very important. The wrong kind of insurance policy can be as damaging as a bad investment. When choosing a policy, you need to make sure that it's going to give you and your loved ones the right amount of coverage. Once purchased, it is also wise to review your policy from time to time to make sure that it still aligns with your financial goals or fits with changes in your life and there are no modifications to be made, such as: beneficiaries, type of insurance or amount.

- Your Financial Goals:** List the reasons why you are buying life insurance and what you are willing to pay or can afford to pay on your premium. If you already have an existing policy and just want to review your coverage, ask yourself if your current coverage is sufficient especially if you experience a major life change such as marriage, a new addition to your family; or a divorce.
- Shop and Compare:** Before taking the plunge, make sure to shop and compare several insurance companies for pricing, reputation and stability. It's always a good decision to check their financial reports and credit ratings. You want a policy from a highly rated company because you need to be assured that your survivors will get paid in the event of your demise. If you already have an existing life insurance policy, it's also advisable to check your insurance company's stability from time to time. If the company appears to be having some financial difficulties, you may want to consider switching to another insurer.

## Connect to ABWA



**Tina Gandy**  
National  
President

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

According to figures from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of self-employed Americans rose to 8.9 million by December 2009, up from 8.7 million a year earlier. The United States is on the verge of an entrepreneurship boom, according to the Kauffman Foundation studies.

The most important thing for an employee-turned-entrepreneur to remember is that selling yourself becomes as important as producing good work. In the traditional workplace, what qualities did you depend on to get noticed, to get good assignments, or to get promoted? Those qualities are the same ones you will use when you are working for yourself.

Through the American Business Women's Association (ABWA), you are a part of a network of members who can connect you to mentors, start-up business training classes, volunteer opportunities, financial and legal advice, and social media. Connect to the diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and wisdom of ABWA.

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.



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**Rosana Madrid-Arroyo**  
Principal

## Student Council

By Donaven Gladney, 5th-Grade Student Council President

Student Council at Jane Addams is an organization of three fifth-grade students who help out and show school spirit around the school. They help out around the school by collecting water bottles every Friday to be recycled. On Wednesdays, after the Student Council meeting, we go around the school playground and pick up trash from the campus. That helps out Mr. Terry, our custodian. Also, Student Council does whatever other activities that our school needs help with.

Student Council also supports the students by having fundraisers. Every other Friday after school, Student Council sells beverages. We have also had a Valentine's Gram sale. Right now, Student Council is selling scented pencils. The money Student Council raises goes toward paying for the fifth-grade end-of-the-year activities, T-shirts for the members and the Student Council end-of-the-year party.

Finally, Student Council also helps out our school by showing school spirit. We do this by having special events like recognizing cultural and national holidays. Students give a special speech at morning assembly to tell about the holiday or event we are celebrating. Recently, we focused on Black History Month and shared information about the African-Americans who have made contributions to our country. For Super Bowl Friday, all the students got a chance to wear their favorite team's football jersey, and we did the same for NBA All-Star Weekend. The Student Council members try to make the school year fun for the students of Jane Addams Elementary.

# Avalon/Two Harbors *(K-12)*

P.O. Box 557, Avalon, CA 90704 • 310/510-0790 • <http://www.lbavalon.schoolloop.com/>



## Lady Lancer Team Makes History

Off the coast of California on the small island of Santa Catalina is the smallest high school in the Long Beach Unified School District. The school is actually a K-12, with 200 students in grades nine through 12. In its long history—the school was founded in the 1920s—no basketball team has made it to the CIF Division Championship until this year.

Coached by David Hart, the 2011-12 Lady Lancer Basketball Team has accomplished that goal and taken that record. Even though it was a losing effort, the Lady Lancers never quit the fight.

Their effort has been rewarded, and they were invited to the State Basketball Championship Tournament. No team in the history of Avalon Schools has ever made it out of the first round of the State Tournament. The Lady Lancers have now broken that record. In an exciting 53-52 overtime victory of the Division V San Diego Section Champions, the Lady Lancers competed in the second round of the state tournament on in March. The Lady Lancers traveled to San Luis Obispo to compete with the number-one seed in the tournament, Mission College Prep.

The Lady Lancer Basketball Team comprises seven seniors: Elizabeth Chavoya, Tori Hoefs, Teagan Machado, Ashlin Mahan, Valeria Medina, Alexis Romero and Rocky Sillas; two juniors: Laura Amezcua and Nancy Valverde; one sophomore: Sandra Gallegos; and two freshmen: Joanna Chavoya and Sandra Gallegos.

# Birney

710 W. Spring St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/427-8512 • <http://birney-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>

TBy homas Espinoza, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Alvarado *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Brett Geithman**  
Principal

## Teaching and Learning are Public

One of Alvarado's commitments as a Professional Learning Community is its dedication to making teaching and learning a public act. As consumers of contemporary research in education, it is more than evident that there is not a single study which states that working or teaching in isolation is more effective than collaboration.

With our understanding of what collaboration is, and how to foster it between students, Alvarado has evolved into a campus where all of its doors are open to display the exemplary instruction that is occurring on a daily basis.

For example, if you are an Alvarado teacher, you will be hosting educators such as fellow teachers, principals and superintendents; or you will visit the other classrooms for a minimum of 25 lessons a year. With this in mind, if you are a student at Alvarado then you are very accustomed to having to explain your thinking and work with others.

Additionally, our students are held to very high expectations when they collaborate with one another. This takes the form of partnership reading, sophisticated book talks, investigating history through the examination of primary sources, and interesting CGI and Fosnot mathematical problems and tasks.

We strongly believe that some of the best learning takes place when our students are collaborating with one another. And this goes for the adults in the building, too!

# Bancroft *Middle School*

5301 E. Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/425-7461 • <http://lbancroft.schoolloop.com/>



**Pamela Sawyer**  
Principal

## Bancroft Middle School Goes Green

Bancroft is becoming a more science-minded, eco-friendly place! Led by Mrs. Imatomi and Ms. Choi, and with the help of parent Mr. Rothery, three groups of our students recently entered an engineering contest hosted by the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Their task this year was to design and build a contraption that would kick a football into a garbage can from a certain distance. One of our groups won second-place in the regional contest, and then traveled to the JPL campus in January to compete against students from mostly other high schools.

Currently there are five groups of students working hard to design and build solar powered model cars to enter into the Long Beach Solar Grand Prix on April 21 at Eldorado Park.

In addition to this effort, Ms. Mok's Dirt Club has also been utilizing worm compost to help beautify the Bancroft campus. So between the Solar Grand Prix and our organic farming, Bancroft students and teachers are definitely leading the green movement!

Are you  
looking for me  
for the contest  
on page 25?



# Barton *Elementary*

1100 E. Del Amo Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-0555 • <http://barton-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



## Career Week Fans

*By the Fifth-Grade Barton Ambassadors*

We loved Career Week because it was fun and exciting! We got to meet new people and learn about new careers, and we enjoyed listening to their stories.

**Albert Gallo**  
*Principal*

Career Week gives us an opportunity to hear about their different careers and why they chose them. The kids enjoyed the speakers. After each speaker was done, the students were amazed! You should have seen their faces!

One of the careers that we enjoyed a lot was the educator/mathlete. We had so many people come to our school and we enjoyed all of them. We were also very excited about the Long Beach Police Department helicopter and the Long Beach Transit Bus. The kids really enjoyed the Fire Department also. Thank you, Station Number 9!

It was a great experience for everyone at Barton!



# Beach *High School*

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



## Robotics Team

Beach High School is focusing on giving students an introduction to careers that have high potential for employment. Thus, Beach High School has formed its first Robotics Team.

With their eyes on the citywide high school competition for underwater robotics teams, the Beach team is hard at work learning the basics of electronics and the principles of motors, buoyancy, wiring and construction to build their entry robotic.

**Matt Saldana**  
*Principal*

Team member Humberto Ucaransa appreciates this unexpected opportunity. "I have always wanted to learn about robotics, but this is the first chance I've had to join a team," he said. David Buckins, another team member, said that learning about the theories and practical aspects of robotics meets his desire "to keep learning about new things."



**Additional Beach High School 9th grade Underwater team members**  
Martin Avalos, Jonathan Buckner, Joey Perkins, David Buckins, Edward Rhodes and Christian Mojica.

# Bixby *Elementary*

5251 E. Stearns St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-3794 • <http://bixby-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



## Healthy Bodies, Healthy Minds

Bixby Elementary School students kept their minds and bodies fit in March. For Read Across America Day, students and teachers dressed as their favorite book characters. The cafeteria featured green eggs and ham, and the day culminated with students, parents, and teachers reading on the lawns. Even the two-year-olds in our Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) program read along.

**Stephanie Jones**  
*Principal*

We also participated in National Nutrition Month. Teachers encouraged their students to eat a healthy breakfast. They then surveyed their classes, calculated percentages, and graphed the results. Besides being useful for teaching math, these activities reminded students of the importance of breakfast.



PTA's annual Fit-A-Thon (FAT) fund-raiser encouraged students to get their bodies fit. This year, FAT featured soccer, track, and volleyball with players from Long Beach City College and California State University, Long Beach teams, as well as yoga and zumba. Thanks to the work of our students and parent volunteers, FAT raised over \$14,800.

# Bryant *Elementary*

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



## An Inspiring Student

Bryant Elementary School is pleased to recognize Daniil Shaplove as the 2012 Most Inspiring Student. Daniil arrived from Russia in January, 2011. As a new first-grader, Daniil did not speak any English. With much enthusiasm, he embraced his fellow students and quickly learned "playground English." By June, Daniil had begun to read sight words with little comprehension, passing the middle of kindergarten benchmark.

**Doris Robinson**  
*Principal*

Flash forward to February, and Daniil is above grade level in every subject. He has passed both second-grade, end-of-year reading benchmarks and has just received a grade of advanced proficient on both his English language arts and math trimester tests.

Daniil is very focused and passionate about his education. He embraces each day at school with contagious enthusiasm. Daniil's classmates adore him, and he has become a role model for all.

# Burbank *Elementary*

501 Junipero Ave., Long Beach, CA 90814 • 562/439-0997 • http://bbk-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com/



**Lorraine Griego**  
Principal

## Garden Walk

March 7, 2012 proved to be a beautiful afternoon at Luther Burbank Elementary School. Not only was the day lovely, but so was the soon to be Garden

Walk that was created by even lovelier volunteers, Burbank Staff, parents, and of course, students. The new Garden Walk on 4th Street is located between Junipero and Dawson Avenues. Our school would like to thank the 4th St. Business Association, Rose Park Neighborhood Association, The Horticulture Department @ LBCC, Torch Aloe, Rancho Los Alamitos, and Alford's English Gardens. Take a look the next time you pass by and be on the lookout for banners and framed art that were all inspired by our Burbank Scholars and Artists, too!



# Burcham *(K-8)*

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



**LaShell Diggs**  
Principal

## Seventh-Grade Art Experience

By Alina Heavin, Teacher – 7th-Grade History

All seventh-graders in the district, including our Burcham K-8 School Bobcats, were invited to visit the Assistance League of Long Beach. The Assistance League is home to many wonderful philanthropic causes, such as Operation School Bell, the Orthodontic Center, Operation Hug, and many more.

The students were invited to view the Howard Collection, which contains over 1,200 Asian art items from the private collection of Mr. and Mrs. Howard of Long Beach. The Assistance League of Long Beach was awarded this collection so students could enjoy the beautiful pieces the Howards spent a lifetime collecting. We participated in docent-led tours and wonderful discussions, and we even got to stand next to the armor of a samurai warrior from feudal Japan.



Overall, it was a great learning experience and an exciting chance to witness some very rare and special pieces of art. Thank you, Assistance League, for providing the bus transportation and a hands-on experience with this collection!

# Burnett *Elementary*

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



**Lucy Salazar**  
Principal

## There's a Lot to Cheer About!

By Nancy Jo Rettig, Counselor at Burnett

There's an old saying that women love a man in uniform. That could also be rearranged as "We love our girls in uniform." It certainly brightens every Student of the Month assembly when our cheerleaders hit the stage. Our fabulous fashion designer, Carol Kooner, transformed them into the most sparkling squad we've ever had. It inspired them to produce the following cheer:

*"Courage is something anyone can achieve.  
It can happen so fast if you only believe.*

*Courage is something hidden inside.  
It can make you stronger than the highest tide.  
Courage means you can face all your fears.  
That you're not afraid to shed a few tears.  
Courage isn't hard to do;  
Look deep inside, and you'll find it in you!"*



In the words of our captains, Sandra and Kim, "cheering is an opportunity to express your thoughts and feelings through words and dance."

What a nice job they did!

# Butler

1400 E. 20th St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/591-7477 • http://lbbutler.schoolloop.com/

By Sparkle Peterson, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Cabrillo *High School*

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



**Dr. Elio Mendoza**  
Co-Principal



**Alejandro Vega**  
Co-Principal

## Ninth-Graders: This Is Your Choice!

March is a month of decisions and transitions for the ninth-graders in ACCESS at Cabrillo High School. After working on a personal portfolio as an interdisciplinary project, they participate in a career day and an SLC fair and finally turned in an application for acceptance into their SLC of choice.

"It is a big decision for me, because it will help me learn skills that lead to college and better jobs!" said Class of 2015 member Jahzlynn Fao.

Although SLC selection and placement is primarily by student choice, we model our application process in the style of a college application. Jennifer Brown, the Small Learning Communities coordinator, explained that "everything we do in ACCESS builds a solid foundation, leading towards more work-based learning opportunities and what the students will be asked to do to apply for the worlds of both college and career."

The ninth-graders have a bright future in our SLCs and will make a large impact on our programs in the years to come.

# CAMS

1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA 90747 • 310/243-2025 • www.californiaacademy.org

## Award-Winning Academics

By Gene Almeida, Academic Decathlon Coach

The Academic Decathlon theme for this year was Imperialism. The California Academy of Math and Science (CAMS) sent four students to the awards banquet at the Quiet Cannon in Montebello, all of whom came back with medals in various categories.

Academic Decathlon is a 10-subject competition, where students take both objective and subjective tests. Molly Srour, a 10th-grade student, came away with four medals, including the Highest Scoring Decathlete on the CAMS team, a gold medal in Interview, and two bronze medals in Music and Essay. Michel Habash, a senior, achieved outstanding scores in both Economics and Science, earning gold and silver medals respectively, which made me happy because he is in my economics class. Nicholas Rand, another senior, gained a gold medal in Science. His strongest subject is physics, which was the focus of the test. Nicholas also won a bronze medal in the Interview category. In addition, Matthew Santos, a junior, scored high in his Interview and came away with a silver medal.



**Dr. Janice Filer**  
Principal



Gene Almeida our Academic Decathlon Coach with students.

# Cleveland Elementary

4760 Hackett Street, Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-7552

## Our Most Inspiring Student

Cleveland's Most Inspiring Student for 2012 is Jose "Nacho" Cruz. Jose is a fifth-grader in our Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program.

Between his third- and fifth-grade years we have seen Nacho's mode of communication change from staring wide-eyed in wonder and using single-word soft spoken utterances, to using American Sign Language (an unvoiced language) and some spoken English. This has fostered his social, emotional and academic growth.

Nacho's teachers and all of our school personnel beam with pride at everything that he has accomplished, and his peers adore him. Not only has Nacho persevered with his hearing loss, he has also endured surgical procedures and recovery to help make him well enough to get back to one of the places that he loves best: school.

Nacho's determination and consistent effort have contributed greatly to his success. We are very proud of Nacho, Cleveland's Most Inspiring Student!



**Teresa Montoya**  
Principal



Jose "Nacho" Cruz

# Carver Elementary

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

## Keeping it Green!

On March 2, Carver Elementary school celebrated the National Education Association's Read Across America day.

Read Across America is an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on the same day as the birthday of beloved author Dr. Seuss.



**Jennifer Rodarte**  
Principal

Motivating children to read is an important factor in both student achievement and creating successful, lifelong readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated to spend more time reading also do better in school.

In honor of this year's "green" theme for Read Across America, the Carver Green Team hosted the event! The students were encouraged to wear as much green as possible that day, and were reminded of how important it is to recycle, reduce and reuse! It was a wonderful day with a powerful message.

Our program for the day included a school-wide silent read out on the lawn, a Chinese acrobat assembly, and classroom readings of The Lorax. Great job, Green Team!



# Cubberley

3200 Monogram Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-8810 • www.lbcubberley.schoolloop.com/

## Rachel's Challenge

By Sandra Pleasance, Counselor

Cubberley has implemented a program titled "Rachel's Challenge" that was created to inspire, equip and empower every person to create a permanent positive culture change in his or her school and community by starting a chain reaction of kindness and compassion. All middle school students participate in a presentation regarding positive student interaction at school.



**Terri Jarels**  
Principal

In addition, a club has been created to foster acts of kindness and compassion to others. Each week, club members are given tasks to complete such as saying hello to someone you wouldn't typically say hello to or eating lunch with someone who sits alone. In addition, the club members have collected supplies for the homeless and jeans for disaster victims and have sent cards to the military.

The programs motto is "Together we can create a chain reaction of kindness and compassion."

# Chavez *Elementary*

730 W. Third St., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/590-0904 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/chavez/



**Kimberly Weber**  
Principal

## Family Events Are a Hit!

During the month of March, we had many events to bring the families of our students on campus.

We started the month with our Read Across America Read-In. Students gathered on the grass and shared books with friends from other grade levels. The next week, we invited families to have breakfast with us. District Nutrition Services personnel helped serve breakfast to the parents, grandparents, and siblings. It was a fun way to get the school day started. On what could have been a rainy March 16, families came together for our family barbecue.

Nutrition Services personnel were again on hand to barbecue hamburgers and hotdogs for over 150 family members—and all the students!

Special thanks to Veronica, JoAnn, and Angelica, our wonderful cafeteria staff, for making these events so successful.



# Dooley *Global Studies Magnet School*

5075 N. Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/997-2655 • www.lbschools.net/dooley



**Gerardo Gloria**  
Principal

## Celebrating Dr. Seuss

Every year, Read Across America celebrates the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss. This special day of reading encourages parents and children across the country to pick up a book and read.

Once again, Dooley Global Studies took part in this great event. Students, teachers and parents experienced a fun-filled day of reading activities and a special assembly.

The students and staff members were invited to come to school in their favorite pajamas. The morning began with the parents attending their children's classroom for "Drop Everything And Read" time (DEAR). After reading in classrooms and watching a very special Dooley News broadcast dedicated to Dr. Seuss, everyone came out for a school-wide assembly.

At the assembly, Principal Gloria reminded students about the importance of reading. The entire school then recited the Reader's Oath, which pledges us to read each day and each night.



Before returning to their classrooms, some of the Dooley teachers closed out the assembly with their version of R-E-A-D! Students, parents and teachers sang along, making this a fun and memorable reading experience for all.

# Constellation *Community Middle School*

620 Olive Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/435-7181 • http://constellation-school.org

## Daphne Ching-Jackson

*Executive Director*

### Small, But Mighty

Constellation Community Middle School is small, but mighty. A public charter school, Constellation meets the needs of sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders at our 620 Olive Avenue campus, which is shared with St. Anthony High School. With a maximum enrollment of 180 students, Constellation focuses on a rigorous curriculum and a nurturing educational environment.

The school's Guiding Principles are: I will not harm myself or others; I am responsible for my behavior; We are each others' keepers; I take pride in myself and in my work; and I will leave it better than I found it.

These Guiding Principles are supported by our Peace Builders program, with a mission to give up put downs, praise people, seek wise people, and right wrongs.

Peace Builders and the Guiding Principles ensure a safe, bully-free zone for all students. If a smaller school environment is beneficial for your middle school child, come by Constellation and meet the teachers and staff or contact us at (562) 435-7181 to find out about this small, safe school!



# Edison

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



**Richard Littlejohn**  
Principal

## Clubs Help Celebrate Reading

It's club time! At Edison Elementary we have had six school clubs open since early February, and they have made some very important contributions to our school!

These school clubs give our students an opportunity to get involved in something that they believe in. One fourth-grade Edison student recently said that, "I am in a club and I feel great! I have new friends and we do things together. I feel important."

The clubs are founded and supported by staff members. Currently the following clubs have a very strong membership: the College Explorers Club, The Drama Club, D2D Dance, Friends of the Library, Edison Green Team, and the Good Reads Book Club.

Just recently the campus clubs helped Edison celebrate reading when our "Read and Dream Month" kicked off on Dr. Seuss' Birthday! The Edison Drama Club performed a wonderful interpretation of Dr. Seuss books in front of over 700 students, and the Drama Club helped to make the tribute very special, too. On the following Friday the Edison Green Team also celebrated the Day of the Lorax!

The Green Team read *The Lorax* to our students, and then spread its message of saving and planting trees by planting a young tree and orange flowers. Our Read and Dream Month will be continuing the work with more Hooray for Green, Book Exchange Day and "Drop Everything And Read" celebrations!



**Maria Pilar Perossio**  
Principal

## Lady Wildcats Basketball: Road to Championship

The Lady Wildcat basketball team, coached by Ms. Garcia and Ms. Cornelison, has worked hard over the years. After three tough years of team building, the Lady Wildcats turned it around and had three years of winning seasons, including a trip to the semifinals last year.

This year, the Lady Wildcats pulled off a perfect 5-0 season to earn them a trip to the semifinals once again. A win against a tough competitor in Newcomb brought the Wildcats to a 6-0 season and a trip to the finals. Gompers proved to be an equally tough competitor, but after some battling, the Wildcats came out with the win. A 7-0 season and a city championship are great honors for Franklin. The girls worked hard and played well together as a team to accomplish this achievement. Congratulations, Lady Wildcats! We are proud of you!



**Margaret Kerns**  
Principal

## Education for our Earth

*By Rauline Boland, Science Specialist*

Emerson Parkside Academy recently sponsored a Family Science Night. The purpose of Family Science is to involve the whole family in the science curriculum of our school. It is an event for families to come to school to have fun and enjoy learning about science together.

Our theme was "The Green Earth," focusing on environmental issues. The evening started with The Poles: Polar Regions in Peril, presented by a parent associated with a regional aquarium. After the interesting Polar presentation, the families selected two of 10 sessions to attend. The sessions were presented by teachers, parents and the Long Beach Water Department.

After the last session, the



students and their families left knowing more about how to conserve water, recycle many different types of materials and take better care of their gardens. Two hundred fifty people enjoyed a successful science event.



**Matt Hammond**  
Principal

## Science is Alive and Kicking

When you walk into the science lab at Fremont Elementary School, it is like walking into another world.

Many animals can be found in the science lab and are an integral part of the learning experience. Lizards, hamsters, guinea pigs, mice, a giant iguana, a ball python snake, fish, a pacman frog, and a giant tortoise are well taken care of by students. They learn to properly handle, feed, and care for the animals, which make the lab a unique classroom environment. Many artifacts and models are available for use as teaching tools.

The science lab, which is taught by Laura Malloy, enriches, extends, and reinforces the science being taught in the classroom. The four focus areas of the program are physical science, life science, earth science, and scientific reasoning. The science lab is a family-funded program, and it exists and thrives through the efforts and support of our school's fabulous PTA. The lab is available to all Fremont students on a weekly basis. During their visits, classes enjoy hands-on science experiments, activities, and investigations.

Fremont's science lab is alive and kicking!



# Congratulations

to **Edison Elementary** for winning this year's "Clean-up in a Box" Contest!

Edison Elementary completed the most campus litter clean-ups in Long Beach! For their efforts, they earned a free visit from "Aquarium on Wheels" and a \$500 cash prize that will help fund campus club activities.

CITY OF LONG BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUREAU  
WINNER NATION'S BEST SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AWARD



# Garfield *Elementary*

2240 Baltic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/424-8167 • <http://garfield-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Donna McKeehan**  
Principal

## Celebrating Reading and Dr. Seuss

Read Across America Day in March was a crazy day at Garfield Elementary School. Students wore crazy hats inspired by the author Dr. Seuss and brought their parents in to be part of the reading celebration for the day. Parents were invited to drop everything and read in their child's classroom for 30 minutes.

As part of this celebration, every student in kindergarten through fifth grade was able to pick a book to take home to add to his or her home library as part of the school-wide Title 1 Reading is Fundamental Program. To add to this, every parent who came to



school to read with his or her child was also able to pick a book to take home. These books were provided through the work of the Garfield Parent, Teacher, and Kids Organization, which supports and encourages the importance of reading at home every day.

# Gant *Elementary*

1854 Britton Drive, Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/430-3384 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/gant/index.htm](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/gant/index.htm)



**Jeff Wood**  
Principal

## A Tasty Pi Night

*Pi* and *pie* go hand in hand at Minnie Gant. In March, families engaged in an evening of exciting and challenging activities, organized by our PTA and supported by faculty and students from CSULB, involving logic and algorithms to celebrate the math concept of *pi*, the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter: 3.1415.... Students were able to participate in collecting data, following algorithms to complete a task, and challenging others with Math Jeopardy.

All of the activities highlighted the fact that daily activities are mathematically based, fun and exciting. If math isn't your favorite subject, maybe you haven't experienced Pi Night at Gant. Join us next year! When? On 3/14, of course! We will bring the pie!

# Gompers *(K-8)*

5206 Briercrest Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/925-2285 • <http://lbgomper.schoolloop.com/>



**Kelly Ludden**  
Principal

## Family Fun Under the Stars

Thanks to the PTA, Gompers students were able to reach for the stars in February. During the first week of the month our classes visited the blow-up planetarium to watch a presentation on stars and constellations. On Friday night the families were then invited to return to school to experience the planetarium together.

In addition, several high-powered telescopes were also set up on the playground to give the students and their families a look at the night sky. Parent volunteers helped the students get a closer view of the moon as well as the stars and planets. Families enjoyed picnics and could buy hot chocolate to help ward off the chill.



Fourth-grader Carl Gorski said that, "I thought it was cool that parents volunteered and were able to learn about the telescopes to show us how to use them." His brother John added, "I like the planetarium, especially when the teacher talked about the stories behind the stars."

Mars, Jupiter and Saturn were part of our universe that night, as we created a connection with the cosmos.

# Ready for Earth Day?



Celebrate with Mr. Scales! Treat your students to "Lunch with a Lizard"—a fun, educational litter-awareness program for K-3rd grades. It's FREE to all LBUSD elementary schools in Long Beach.

To book a performance at your school in April, visit [www.litterfreeLB.org](http://www.litterfreeLB.org)



CITY OF LONG BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUREAU  
WINNER NATION'S BEST SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AWARD



**Jeffrey M. Cohen, D.D.S.**

3410 Los Coyotes Diagonal  
Long Beach, CA 90808

**562-420-3158**

# Grant *Elementary*

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



**Mona Cook**  
Principal

## Jog-a-Thon

U.S. Grant Eagles participated in their yearly jog-a-thon. What an exciting day! Students, parents and staff collected donations to put toward the school. Everyone was encouraged to wear green as a symbol of our community's generosity. Music played while each grade level warmed up and stretched then ran for twenty minutes. The teachers and Mrs. Cook, the principal, joined the students as they ran around the track on the upper playground. Parents and staff cheered students and teachers on with chants, signs and applause. It was a great day filled with exercise, fun and cheer.



# Hamilton *Middle School*

1060 E. 70th St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/602-0302 • <http://lbhamilton.schoolloop.com/>



**David Downing**  
Principal

## A Successful Day

The Hamilton Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement program (MESA) provides academic enrichment opportunities and support for math and science students in grades K-12. MESA allows students to excel and move on towards more challenging academic programs in high school and beyond.

Recently, our MESA students successfully competed in an annual challenge event at CSULB. Seventh-grader Xitlally Alcocer earned a first-place medal in the solo math competition. Jose Romero earned a second-place medal in the solo math competition for the sixth-grade, and also earned a second-place medal in the "Speak Up" competition, where he gave a speech on the importance of the cryosphere for our planet.

Jose Cervantes, Denil Poudel, Gabriel Navarro and Nathan Guzman all earned individual ribbons for creative design on their mousetrap cars.

And, even though they did not walk away with the medal, students Gabriel Navarro and Jose Cervantes recorded the longest flight of the day in the glider competition. The glider that the two of them designed and constructed from balsa wood traveled over 90 feet through the air before landing.

It was a successful day for our Hamilton MESA students. Every student worked hard and stayed focused to represent our school well, which made for a great time at CSULB. Many of them made successful projects that finished just behind the top 3 medals, too. Teacher Ethan George stated that he was a very proud MESA teacher that day.

# Harte *Elementary*

1671 E. Phillips St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-0333 • <http://harte-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Scott Tardibuono**  
Principal

## Fitness + Slime = Fundraising

*By Amanda Alarcón Rivera, 2nd-Grade Teacher*

In February, our school held its inaugural Harte Healthy Fit-a-Thon. Together with students, staff and parents, we raised almost \$12,000! Prizes included a homework pass, a children's meal, a free dress pass, a dance party and a popcorn and movie party. Students who raised \$75 or more got to slime our principal, Mr. Tardibuono.

At a Friday morning assembly, 51 students had the opportunity to slime "Mr. T." A great time was had by all! On top of that, our school benefited from KIIS FM's Random Act of Kindness and Bing, both of which sponsored the bowling trip and food for 37 students who raised \$100 or more.

Special thanks to second-grade teacher Mrs. Fanton for making the phone call to KIIS FM and Ryan Seacrest. Great things are happening here at Harte Elementary, and we are all so fortunate to be a part of it!



# Henry *(K-8)*

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



**Claire Alvarez**  
Principal

## One Planet Fit-a-Thon

February 17 was no ordinary day at Patrick Henry K-8 School. From the first bell to dismissal, the campus thrived with physical activity. Middle school students rotated through relay races, weight lifting, volleyball sets, and handball, while elementary students took turns at soccer, sack races, lap running, calisthenics, and tricycle races. But heart rates weren't the only things being raised during the One Planet Fit-A-Thon; \$20,000 in pledges was raised by this PTA-sponsored event!

To highlight the summer Olympics theme, "One Planet," each classroom represented a different country and passed a torch in the weeks prior to the event. Parent volunteers and teachers led activities to teach students about the geography, culture, government, and language of their nations.

Former Olympians Pat McCormick and Joan Van Blom inspired students to follow their dreams and make healthy choices during a parade of nations opening ceremony one week before the fit-a-thon. This event brought together over 75 volunteers and donors, who helped teach our young athletes a priceless lesson: fitness is a lifelong commitment.



# Hill *Classical Middle School*

1100 Iroquois Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/598-7611 • <http://lbhill.schoolloop.com/>



**Sophia Griffieth**  
Principal

## Celebrating Pi-Day

By Diana Asenas, Mathematics Teacher

There were many activities at our school that were held in celebration of “Pi-Day” on March 14.

Our students had a chance to enter a Pi-Day poster contest. They were required to either show an innovative way to remember the first 15 digits of pi, or how it is used to measure circular shapes in our everyday world. The winners were invited to a pizza party.



During lunch there were also other enjoyable activities for the students to participate in. Various tables were reciting as many places of pi as possible, or measuring circular shapes and calculating the ratio of circumference to diameter.

There was also a pi-walk game, where students walked around in large circles that had boxes containing the numbers of 3.14159... until they were told to stop. A number was then picked randomly and the students who were standing on it won a piece of real pie, like a pie pocket or a Moon Pie.

It was definitely a “Pi” day to remember!

# Hoover *Middle School*

3501 Country Club Drive, Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/421-1213 • <http://lbhoover.schoolloop.com/>



**Dr. Avery Hall**  
Principal

## T-shirt Designers

By Cindy Melvin, PTA

PTA sponsored a 2012 class T-shirt contest, and the four top finalists were selected to be part of the Design Team. The Design Team—Jesse Saragoza, Ariana Nhean, Daniel Deniz and Denise Acosta—took the traditional yin-yang symbol, added extra swirls, and replaced the inner circles with paw prints. The shirts were sold in a variety of colors.

“This is like nothing any other school in area has,” said our principal, Dr. Hall, “and I bought several!”

The design team was proud of their design, and each member received a free shirt for his or her participation. After putting on his new antique-red shirt, Daniel said, “I look good!” PTA agrees that they look good and are confident they will be outstanding future entrepreneurs.

Next up for Hoover PTA: World-famous Harlem Wizards Entertainment basketball team will compete against the Hoover All-Stars on Sunday, April 22, at 2 p.m. at Lakewood High Gym.



Hoover students Daniel Deniz, Ariana Nhean and Denise Acosta proudly wearing their Class of 2012 t-shirts they helped design.

# Holmes *Elementary*

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



**Luana Wesley**  
Principal

## Kindergarten Adventures

By Linda Valenzuela, Kindergarten Teacher

Kindergarten students at Holmes Elementary School were buzzing with excitement as they waited for the school bus to transport them to TeWinkle Park and Centennial Farm in Costa Mesa.

At TeWinkle Park, the students were able to see beautiful waterfalls, ponds, and squirrels and feed ducks and geese. After lunch, they crossed the street to Centennial Farm, one of the foremost centers of urban agricultural education. Children learn about their agrarian roots, good nutrition, and the importance of farming. They saw new piglets and petted llamas and baby goats.

New calves were learning how to walk on wobbly legs. The children were shown the development of baby chicks and were able to hold newly hatched ones. In the large red milking barn, the children learned how milk gets from cows to the market. Each child planted radishes in the garden section. It was a wonderful educational experience for our students.

Each year, students are given opportunities to supplement classroom instruction through these types of field trips. This year, some of the trips will include Long Beach City College, California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), the Aquarium of the Pacific, and the tide pools.

Thanks to our wonderful PTO, these opportunities continue to highlight the school-community partnership for advancing student knowledge.

# Hudson *(K-8)*

2335 Webster Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/426-0470 • <http://lbhudson.schoolloop.com/>



**Cathleen Imbroane**  
Principal

## Techies of the Future!

In March, Hudson’s MESA Engineering Team competed against students from several districts at the MESA Day Preliminary Competition at CSULB. The Hudson team had worked on their projects since September.

Katherine Gonzalez’s glider flew the farthest, earning her first place. Katherine, Giselle Santos and Kimberly Morales took third-place in the Team Math Quest. Sergio Hernandez, Ariel McNeil, Dante Secundino and Diane Rangel earned third place overall in the prosthetic arm competition, the new national event to replace current national event Wind Energy Challenge.

Wind Energy Challenge has competitions at the state and national levels. Students create windmills that can lift and pull as much mass as possible in the least amount of time. Hudson’s teams took first and third places. Thea De Gala, Dea Manzon, Ethan Taase, and Precious Reyes comprised one team, and Madalynne Salud, Joshua Dava, Joseph Dadacay and Jonalyn Bondoc were the other.

All of the winning students will advance to the LA Metro Regional Finals in April. Good luck, Hawks!



# Hughes *Middle School*

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



**Dr. Sally Gregory**  
*Principal*

## Soul Train Road to Success

*By David Michaels, Teacher – 7th-Grade English*

Hughes Middle School's young, gifted and talented Black History Club celebrated Black History Month by performing their annual musical production. This year's production was entitled "Soul Train Road to Success." The masters of ceremony for this musical production were eighth-graders Symphony Blue and Mykell Johnson.

The show was dedicated to African American role models who have made a positive contribution to society. Amongst those mentioned were Spike Lee, Beyonce Knowles, Art Shell, and Shawn Carter. Musical acts included "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" and "Put Your Records On."

The black history show is led by multi-talented math teacher Dr. McCloyn. Every year, she puts in countless volunteer hours to ensure the show is a success. Also, special thanks to audiophile Mr. Colunga-Hutxins for creating, mixing and editing the musical score. The Black History Club is open to all students as an extracurricular, after-school activity.



# Keller *Elementary*

7020 E. Brittain St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8851 • <http://keller-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Marjean Hughes**  
*Principal*

## True Inspiration

Keller Elementary School's legacy will be celebrated with various events in April, May and June. If you are a past student or employee of Keller, we invite you to join our closing celebration on June 1. The event begins at 5 p.m. on the school playground. Please contact the school office at (562) 421-8851 if you would like to be on the mailing list.

This year Keller's most inspiring student is a fourth-grader named Veronica

Jurado. Veronica is a student that every teacher wants in the classroom. Her gorgeous smile and positive attitude are contagious. She is always willing to help others with patience and kindness. Veronica is motivated to be a leader and truly follows Keller's Guidelines for Success. Currently, Veronica is a member of the Keller Student Council and the School Safety Team.

Go, Keller Cougars!



# International *Elementary*

700 Locust Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/436-4420 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/intl/](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/intl/)

**Kimberley Baril, Principal**

No Article This Issue

# Jordan *High School*

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



**Shawn Ashley**  
*Principal*



**Dr. Jay Camerino**  
*Principal*

## Things are Happening—Inside and Out

Jordan High School has a number of improvements planned for over the next several years. Some are cosmetic, while others will bring a new face to Jordan altogether. The Long Beach Unified School District has pledged \$105 million to renovate Jordan, which was built in the 1930s, into a state-of-the-art high school. Old single-story buildings will be demolished and replaced by new two-story buildings. The campus, which has over 3,500 students, is overcrowded and undersized for a high school campus. The campus needs to update its facilities to accommodate students who are wheelchair bound. In addition, the plans call for a quad to be built in the center of the campus to give the students a central area to congregate at lunch and for activities. Additional classrooms will be built, and science classrooms will be expanded and added so students can receive a world-class science experience. The gymnasium floor will be repainted, as will many of the graphics located on the campus.

This commitment by the Long Beach Unified School District demonstrates that the district has every intention to provide the children of North Long Beach with a high-quality education that can take them to college and other postsecondary opportunities. When the new campus is completed, it will include a new stadium, a pool, an auto shop, an auto body shop and a cafeteria.

# Jefferson *Leadership Academies*

750 Euclid Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/438-9904 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/jefferson/index.htm](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/jefferson/index.htm)



**Brian Moskovitz**  
*Principal*

## A Universe of Possibilities

Greetings Earthlings! The Jefferson Leadership Academies Jaguars are on a mission to blast off and explore astronomy beyond the classroom! Our visit to the Griffith Observatory has exposed over 150 students to the wonders of astronomy.

And we learned history as well. The observatory's design has a connection to the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. When the quake hit, the architects decided to abandon the planned terra cotta exterior in favor of strengthening and thickening the building's concrete walls. The interior walls, floors and finish made the building beautiful, durable and affordable thanks to low-Depression-era prices. A federal public-works program employed six sculptors to create a public sculpture, the Astronomers Monument. Dedicated in November 1934, it was hailed as one of the most important pieces of art to be completed through that program.

Another cool lesson was "Think Like Griffith." Griffith J. Griffith was the visionary who facilitated the creation and development of the observatory; he believed that "an individual gained an enlightened perspective when looking at the skies. Late L.A. County Supervisor John Anson Ford had said that when Griffith looked through the Mount Wilson 60-inch telescope—then the largest in the world—it "moved him profoundly—a distant, heavenly body suddenly being brought so close and made so real!" Ford quoted Griffith as saying, "Man's sense of values ought to be revised. If all mankind could look through that telescope, it would change the world!"

Jaguars are changing the world, one Jaguar at a time, broadening our educational horizons to the world of future possibilities. Thanks, science department, Tamara Flores, Ms. Moreno and our Jaguars for an out-of-this world experience.

# King

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



**Dr. Cecilia Santos-Camerino**  
Principal

## Showcasing Literacy

Students at King Elementary School are discovering a love for reading this spring. We have showcased literacy by celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with a week of fun-filled activities.

Community members, staff and parents spent a day visiting classrooms to read. Students also guessed mystery readers each day. In addition, students further expressed their school spirit and love of Dr. Seuss by participating in daily, themed activities. We ended the week with a school-wide read-a-thon. Students found sponsors and pledged that they would read for one hour with their classmates on the playground.

We also get our parents involved in literacy. We offer parent literacy workshops monthly. At the workshop, parents learn the importance of a balanced literacy program and their role in supporting their children in reading.



Parents are trained in phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension strategies. Participants walk away with a better understanding and strategies to help their children read. There are many facets to learning how to read, but we believe parents are important role models for their children.

# Kettering

*Classical Elementary*

550 Silvera Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/598-9486 • [www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/kettering/kettering.html](http://www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/kettering/kettering.html)



**Deborah Anderson**  
Principal

## Read Across America

The rain did not come and the day was sunny,  
All the Kettering K.I.D.S. were excited and running.  
Where did they go and what did they do?  
They were reading to each other books by Dr. Seuss.  
Breakfast was served with green ham and eggs,  
A Cat scooted by with a rather stiff leg.  
Long Beach police came to read with the group,  
All of this happening and distinguished too!  
Students gave up TV for a day,  
Reading about states in the US of A  
Hallways highways are filled with books that were read,  
Wow! We read all these books, the Cat in the Hat said.  
The day ended too soon and the guests had to go.  
For the 2012 year that's the end of this show.  
But each day at Kettering the K.I.D.S love to read  
So when testing starts, Kettering will lead.

**Miss Patti Davis is the Kettering Moderate-Severe pre-school teacher. We offer a big congratulations to her for being the 2012 Council of Exceptional Children teacher of the year.**



## School News

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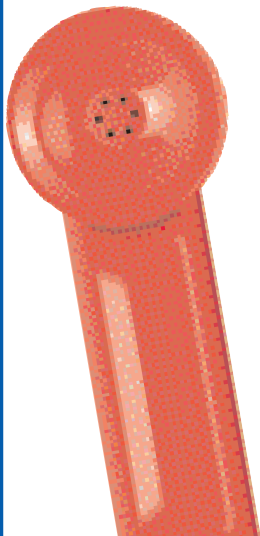
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# Lafayette

*Elementary*

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**Wendy Thompson**  
Principal

## Student Achievement Is 'Right on the Button!'

Lafayette students have numerous ways that their achievement and effort are honored. At the beginning of the school year, students in grades two through five who score proficient or advanced proficient on the ELA and math portions of the California Standards Tests (CST) are acknowledged at a special awards assembly. Parents are invited to come and see students receive their special certificates with gold seals.

At the end of each trimester, students in grades K through 5 are also acknowledged. They can earn Principal's Honor Roll—Advanced Proficient in all core and excellent in all effort and work habits grades; Honor Roll—Proficient in all core and excellent or satisfactory in effort and work habits grades; perfect attendance for the trimester; most improved academically; and most improved in citizenship. Parents also are invited to come celebrate with their children all that their students have accomplished during the trimester.

A new form of acknowledgement has been added to celebrate our students' successes as they meet important milestone indicators. It is the Right on the Button! program. When students pass their math-facts tests at the Proficient or Advanced Proficient level or pass an LBUSD benchmark book level, they receive a special button to pin to their uniform or backpack for everyone to see and celebrate.

So far, over 2,000 buttons have been made and distributed by our wonderful Lafayette parent volunteers. We are very proud of all that our Lafayette young scholars have accomplished so far this year!

# KAMPS / ACTIVITIES FOR KIDZ

BY SUSAN PETERSON

Noted author of the comprehensive guidebook:

*"Fun & Educational Places to go with Kids & Adults in Southern California."*

**THE WORD "SUMMER"** brings to mind a myriad of images from my childhood — *going to the beach, reading a good book, eating popsicles, building a treehouse, and hanging out with my friends.*

Those are great memories. I also remember getting bored. And I remember sharing this information, persistently, with my mom — *I think she referred to it as WHINING.*

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## Surf's Up

# Why Surfing?

By Chad Wells

I was just five years old when I was introduced to surfing. My older brother, Jeff, who had already been surfing for a number of years, brought me down to San Onofre to teach me.

Needless to say, I didn't fare so well. I spent a lot of time with my face in the sand and didn't set

foot on a board again until six years later. When I was 11, I found a Harbour Surfboards twin fin under the Christmas tree. A few difficult days falling off my new board led me to discover that I wasn't ready for such a short board. So my dad bought me a mini longboard, and my love of surfing began. I spent a few years learning on shorter and shorter boards until finally I was ready for the one I got for Christmas.

Though I had a rough start, I have been surfing for 32 years. All the other sports I played as a child have drifted away, but surfing has really stuck. Personally for me, surfing provides a break from the day-to-day grind. Once you get out on the water, you immediately forget about anything on land, as the ocean demands your full attention and respect. I plan to enjoy surfing well into my senior years, as the thrill never gets old.

Chad Wells is a resident of Seal Beach, class of 1987 Los Alamitos High School. A 2X Masters National Champion and Surf Program Coordinator for Quiksilver, Inc.



Costa Rica 2010

## From the Boathouse

# Rowing to the Top

Nick McCutcheon does not look like the typical heavyweight rower, standing about 5 feet 11 inches and weighing in at about 185 pounds. But Nick can pull ahead of most rowers, due to his determination and desire to succeed.

Nick started rowing in January of 2009 with Long Beach Junior Crew, coached by Jack Nunn. He experienced almost immediate success on the team. In the 2009-2010 season, Nick had one of the top junior Concept 2 Indoor Rowing Machine 2,000-meter test scores in the country, completing the event in just six minutes and 17 seconds, faster than the qualifying time for the US Junior National Team. The following year he served as team captain, and that summer Nick was one of the 40 US rowers to be invited to the Junior National Team Selection Camp. Nick placed sixth at the Head of the Charles Regatta in the Junior Men's Double Event and trained for a spot on the U23 National Team while also competing with his junior program in 2011. Nick was given multiple awards in rowing when he graduated Los Alamitos High School and is now training for a seat in the Freshman Eight at University of California, Berkeley.

Nick doesn't just stand out on the water. He is also a young man of character and an excellent student. A coach's dream to have on the team and a teacher's dream student in the classroom, Nick makes his dedication to excellence part of everything he does. Nick is the ultimate athlete, combining the best power-to-weight ratio along with a very focused and driven attitude. He also competed successfully in football, baseball, and wrestling at Los Alamitos High School. He treats everyone with the utmost respect and gives all of his efforts his full attention and focus. Nick understands that through hard work and persistence, his dream of becoming a great student-athlete can come true!



For the past couple of years Nick has taught multiple classes for Powerhouse Fitness as a part-time job while in high school, and he has brought knowledge of rowing and training regimens from world-class coaches to our members in Long Beach. His goal is to teach and give great fitness workouts to everyone, giving all of his effort to each and every workout with his class. We are grateful to have his expertise as part of our team!

Jack Nunn/Owner, Powerhouse Fitness Center, 5750 Boathouse Lane, Long Beach, CA 90803 562/688-1716, www.powerhousefit.com.

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## On The Run

# What is Proper Running Form?



**Dr. Doug Richie**

There is a lot of “buzz” in the running community regarding barefoot running, minimalist shoes and running form. Much of the debate focuses on injury prevention and efficiency of running. Unfortunately, there is not a lot of research to validate the notion that any type of shoe or running style will prevent injuries. On the other hand, we have valid biomechanical studies which can give us direction to enjoy running while avoiding injury.

Barefoot running enthusiasts advocate a “forefoot strike” pattern where the runner lands on the ball of the foot and avoids hitting the heel on the ground altogether. This running form is commonly seen

in elite sprinters and world class long distance runners who are very fit and athletic. For the average jogger, running on the forefoot requires extra muscle strength and may actually increase the risk of strain on the arch of the foot (the plantar fascia) and the Achilles tendon. Certainly when a runner wants to increase speed and performance, they will have to learn how to run on their toes. However, this has to be done gradually while the body adapts to the increased strain.

For the average runner, a “heel-strike” pattern is more natural and far less demanding in terms of muscle strain. Running heel- to- toe reduces strain on the calf and shin muscles, but may slow down the overall pace and speed. For the runner who has a previous history of injury in their plantar fascia, Achilles tendon or shin muscles, a heel-strike running pattern would be recommended.

There is nothing wrong with a heel strike running pattern as long as you have no aspirations to reach the Olympic Trials. If you have read websites which promote the notion that running on the forefoot will prevent injury, wait for more scientific research which can prove this theory. So far, we have noticed that the average runner will select a heel strike running pattern because it is more comfortable and puts less strain on the muscles of the foot and leg.

Dr. Doug Richie is a sports podiatrist who has practiced in Seal Beach for 28 years. He is president-elect of the American Academy of Podiatric Sports Medicine and serves as a medical advisor to U.S.A. Track and Field. 562/493-2451

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Are you looking for me for the contest on page 25?



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Note-ables

**Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important**



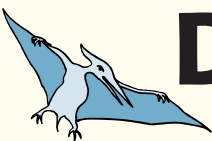
Kate Karp

Chicken Joe is an orange cat who loves rock and roll. Trout Fishing in America, aka folk-rockers Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet and creators of this endearing character and the “funny farm” he lives on, tell Joe’s story in original songs with country-flavored rock and plain ol’ country. This latest CD is a follow-up to *My Name is Chicken Joe* and is available either solo or with a whimsically drawn storybook illustrated by Stéphane Jorisch. In this story, narrated by Grimwood and Idlet and augmented by their band, Chicken Joe sleepily arises, as cats will, from his bed in the hen house and tries hard to remember an important thing he’d forgotten. After talking to the hens, the dog named Miss Kitty, and a very odd kazoo-playing mule, he lies down to take a much-needed nap, as cats also will. You and your children will undoubtedly have picked up on the clues and try to shout Joe into waking, which could be why he remembers what he’d forgotten when napttime’s over.

The songs are accompanied by guitars, banjos and synthesizers, and spoons, hand claps and a frottoir—that’s your washboard! They’re wonderfully clever and can be considered the show after the story. Roosters crow “Rock and rooooo!!!” in “Rock and Roll Roosters,” and all the farm animals display their eccentric and species-bewildered behavior (“Hello, My Chicken Thinks He’s a Dog”; “You’ve Got a Funny Name.”) One in particular, “The Fish Swim Backwards in the Sky,” is lovely in a mountain-ballad way; mournful strings eerily contrast with whimsical lyrics like “Don’t hold hands with a cactus tree.” And it’s not all silliness and games. “Where Did Everybody Go” tells about taking a wrong turn in life and making your way back, and “Dance with Me” is simple love and friendship, flavored with Cajun filé gumbo.

*Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* is simply a fine time—and what’s that pig doing in the bathroom?

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



**Dinosaurs Word Search Contest**

**NEW Rules!!!**

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

**Entries must be received by May 15, 2012**

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

- |               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Allosaurus    | Parasaurolophus |
| Anatosaurus   | Segisaurus      |
| Ankylosaurus  | Spinosaurus     |
| Apatosaurus   | Stegosaurus     |
| Brachiosaurus | Torosaurus      |
| Coelophysis   | Triceratops     |
| Diplodocus    | Tyrannosaurus   |
| Iguanodon     | Ultrasaurus     |

**Congratulations to Amber Beltran Winner of the February Contest!**

Q	T	T	Y	R	A	N	N	O	S	A	U	R	U	S
S	I	S	Y	H	P	O	L	E	O	C	K	S	U	L
S	U	R	U	A	S	O	T	A	N	A	E	H	Q	O
H	Q	S	U	R	U	A	S	O	T	A	P	A	R	B
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I	A	D	I	P	L	O	D	O	C	U	S	E	Z	F
P	X	T	A	A	L	C	O	D	W	S	B	W	W	R

# Lakewood *High School*

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



**Cheryl Cornejo**  
Co-Principal



**Mario Jimenez**  
Principal

## The Lakewood Closet

By Elizabeth Horton, SLC Facilitator,  
Title-One Coordinator

Among the many initiatives taken on by LHS this year is our Female Leadership Academy. Thirteen regular members meet together each week to focus on goals, personal growth and leadership skills.

Our latest endeavor is the Lakewood Closet. In the past, when our students didn't have enough clothes to wear, the counselors took them to an area in the chorus room where they could look through lost-and-found items for something to have.

One of our ex-counselors, Erica Medina, took on the chore of washing and storing all of the items. But the FLA girls decided it would be a great opportunity to open a Lakewood "Closet" where the students could "shop" for needed items.

They worked hard to clean an empty office, and then brought in clothes, shoes, jewelry, backpacks, etc. from home to help stock it. The staff also brought in prom dresses, boots, purses and other such items. The girls made posters to advertise The Closet and then volunteered their time at lunch and after school to work there.

The Closet now provides an opportunity for students to shop for any needed items and avoid the stigma of receiving charity. It provides a worthy service, raises money for the FLA, and teaches our young leaders such skills as responsibility, commitment and the basics of running a small business.

Congratulations, girls!

# Lincoln *Elementary*

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



## The Best Day Ever!

By Victoria Lynn, Kindergarten Teacher

The holiday season came again in January for the lucky students of Victoria Lynn's kindergarten class. A fifth-grade classroom from Peninsula Heritage School in Rolling Hills Estates and their teacher, Kimarie Lynn, visited the children of Room K6 at Lincoln School as part of their community outreach program.

What began as a project that involved providing a book for each K6 student blossomed into a field trip that brought shouts of joy and excitement to 30 delighted 5- and 6-year-olds! The parents of the Peninsula Heritage fifth-graders donated new backpacks and filled them with activity books, crayons, markers, scissors and more! They also provided Pillow Pets for each child, along with a buffet lunch. To top it off, the Molina Foundation donated books to every student at Lincoln School! One of the happy kindergarteners spoke for everyone involved when he exclaimed, "This is the best day ever!"

**Christi Granado**  
Principal



# Lee

1620 Temple Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/494-5101 • http://lee-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com/



**Caroline Nemic**  
Principal

## S.O.S. at Lee

S.O.S. stands for the Society of Students. It is an association of second- through fifth-grade scholars who have demonstrated advanced proficient behavior. —Nicole Hammerschmidt, Counselor

To me, S.O.S. is: S.O.S. is my motivation to do better in school and to treat everyone equal. S.O.S. isn't just a name and a badge; you have to earn it at home and at school.

How S.O.S. has changed me: S.O.S has changed me in many different ways. I take responsibility for all of my actions. I realize that if I can't take responsibility for my actions then I shouldn't do it. Focusing on school is my main priority because without education there won't be any open doors for a job in the future.

S.O.S made me start realizing the important things in life. Accepting my badge was a very happy moment for me. —Ivy Gonzalez, Fifth-Grade Student



Our 5th Grade SOS students

# Lindbergh *Middle School*

1022 E. Market St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/422-2845 • http://blindbergh.schoolloop.com/



**Connie Magee**  
Principal

## Book Fair Success!

The Lindbergh book fair began with excited students and parents enjoying the selection of books and the knowledge and expertise of their wonderful librarian, Kathy Alexander. Parents were invited to a special preview. They enjoyed watching the Lindbergh Monday Morning Message and then went on to visit the book fair and finished with a lesson in the computer lab on school loop and ways parents can use the program to track their children.

Students had the opportunity to win a free book from the fair during the morning Eagle Buck drawing. Excited students made their way to the library and shopped for their favorite reading experience. Students were also treated to staff reading recommendations. Teachers stopped in to the book fair and flagged their favorite authors for students to experience.

**TILLY'S**

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Please see our ad on page 35.

# Lindsey *International Studies Magnet*

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



**Stephanie Dunn-Cooper**  
Principal

## Our Students Rock!

By Maura Rewald; ELA Department Head, EXCEL Coordinator

Are you a rock star? Lindsey teachers and students had the chance to dress as their favorite “rock stars” in March. To celebrate and honor the 86 percent of Lindsey seventh-grade students who “Rocked the STAR Writing” by scoring Proficient or Advance Proficient (P/AP) on the STAR writing last year, these current eighth-grade students and all faculty dressed up for the day.

In addition, we also have Scholar Days at Lindsey to motivate all students to do well on district assessments. This month, we are

proud to have March Madness occurring in which every Thursday is a different department’s Scholar Day for those who scored P/AP on the Quarter 2 exams. History students earned free dress in the theme “History Sets Us Free!,” Math students had a “Mix-Match Free Dress” day celebrating that they mixed and matched the correct answers, ELA students wore jeans to show “I’m a Jeanius!” and Science scholars wore green to “Go Green!” Lindsey scholars rock!



# Longfellow *Elementary*

3800 Olive Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-0308 • <http://longfellow-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Laurie Murrin**  
Principal

## A Call to Colors

One Henry Longfellow School tradition that has helped to create a welcoming family-type atmosphere is our monthly flag-raising ceremony. This event brings parents, neighbors, business partners, and, of course, all of the students and staff members into our picturesque rose garden courtyard in front of the main office, auditorium and flagpole.

On the first Friday of each month, over 1,000 Longfellow students assemble together in a quiet, respectful manner as Old Glory is raised to the tune of *Call to the Colors*, played on a bugle by third-grade teacher Todd Johnson. Every month a member of the Longfellow family also has the honor of raising the flag, be it a new teacher, staff member, parent or honored guest.

In March, football great and inspirational speaker Roosevelt “Rosey” Grier had that distinction. He was on campus for our annual “Run for the Green” jog-a-thon fund-raiser to speak with the children about fitness, motivation and showing good character in all that you do.

The Longfellow Lions closed their assembly with a rousing chorus of our school song, accompanied on the piano by choir teacher Jim Petri. This song, to the tune of Hey Look Us Over, is memorized by every Longfellow student by the end of the first grade!

# Long Beach School for Adults

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



**Matt Saldana**  
Principal

## Educational Options

For many Long Beach residents seeking employment or for those wanting to enter military service, not having a high school diploma is often a detriment. As one of its special educational services for these residents, Long Beach School for Adults (LBSA) offers General Education Development Testing (GED) three times each week.

This state-approved test provides an alternative method to receive a high school equivalency for those residents who left high school without completing their required credits. It is a solution for adults who do not have time to attend regular high school credit programs to complete their studies.

For those who are hesitant about their math, English, or reading skills, a self-paced, eight-week preparation course is available. This self-paced course, which is taught in a lab setting, allows each student to pursue an individualized program designed to concentrate on the subject areas needed. Students can also do this GED preparation course through a home-study program.

The fee-based GED testing program, offered in English and Spanish, is on a first-come, first-served basis and no pre-registration is required. Tests are graded off-campus, and the results of the test are posted online. Students who pass the five sections of the test receive certificates of completion, which are mailed to their homes.

This testing opportunity is another example of LBSA meeting its goal to offer educational services to a wide range of residents seeking to improve literacy skills, complete high school credits, or prepare for meaningful employment.

# Los Cerritos *Elementary*

515 W. San Antonio Drive, Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-6337 • <http://loscerritos-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Donald Beaver**  
Principal

## Diversity Means...

By William Frankenfeld, 5<sup>th</sup>-grader

In March, I, William Frankenfeld, interviewed Krisalin Bergajo, an 8-year-old girl and winner of the PTA Council’s 2012 Intermediate Grade Level Reflections Arts Program. This year’s theme was “Diversity Means...”

Surprisingly, her feelings for diversity have not changed even after writing an essay about diversity, winning and reading it to many grown-ups. She, like many people, also believes that Latinos will pick the next president for having the least representation in the government. She did this Reflections competition because she enjoys writing and thought it would be an interesting experience.

Krisalin likes African masks, and her favorite animal not native to Long Beach is the giraffe. Krisalin thinks diversity is grey because it is a mix of every color and different shades and types. She was a bit surprised when she read her story to a lot of grown-ups at the Petroleum Club.



**Los Cerritos 3rd grader Krisalin Bergajo won the PTA Council’s Reflections Art competition for her grade level with an essay entitled School Diversity Means...**

# Lowell Bayside *Academy*

5201 E. Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/433-6757 • <http://lowell-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Samuel Platis**  
*Principal*

## The Lowell Legacy

As we have now passed the 100th day of school, I couldn't help but share one of my favorite literary pieces with you. Loren Eisley's (1907-1977) "The Star Thrower" (especially the adapted portion below) embodies our collective efforts – teachers, families, students and community members – to educate and support the academic, social and emotional development of every sea star scholar, every day. As you'll undoubtedly agree, it takes a team effort and an unwavering passion and belief that all children have the ability, and indeed the right, to live up to their full potential. The Lowell Legacy is one founded on expert teachers who never give up, highly involved families who help to ensure that the learning does not stop when our students leave our doors, and students who consistently live up to the high expectations that we set for them.

And so, here is Ms. Eisley's literary contribution (and how appropriate it is that it uses starfish/sea stars – our school mascot – as its centerpiece?)

"An old man had a habit of early morning walks on the beach. One day, after a storm, he saw a human figure in the distance moving like a dancer. As he came closer he saw that it was a young woman and she was not dancing but was reaching down to the sand, picking up a starfish and very gently throwing them into the ocean. "Young lady," he asked, "Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" -"The sun is up, and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw them in they will die." -"But young lady, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it? You cannot possibly make a difference." "The young woman listened politely, paused and then bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves, saying, "It made a difference for that one." "The old man looked at the young woman inquisitively and thought about what she had done. Inspired, he joined her in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved.æ

# Madison *Elementary*

2801 Bomberly Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/420-7731 • <http://madison-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>

**Armando Duenas**, *Principal*

## Got the Message?

Madison Monday mornings always start with a positive, motivational and often thought-provoking message from the principal. The messages are conveyed throughout the entire school through the school's intercom system. The messages revolve around a central theme relating to character traits. The character traits include, but are not limited to, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

The message always begins with a "Good morning" and then follows with few "words of wisdom." The end of the message concludes with the following: "Make it a great day—the choice is always yours." In addition, teachers and other staff members often have discussions about the message. Topics might include how they would apply the words of wisdom around campus and at home and, of course, reminding students that their behavior is always their choice. All of Madison students strive and are challenged every day to be the best they can be.

We encourage our young scholars to make the best choices possible. It is Madison's hope that, through these character-education-embedded messages, our students are empowered to think for themselves and others. With something to think about, this is Mr. Dueñas. The choice is always yours.

# MacArthur *Elementary*

6011 Centralia Street, Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-3588 • <http://macarthur-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Juan Gutierrez**  
*Principal*

## Getting Ready for Middle School

*By Amanda Im and Shannon Vo, Students – 5th Grade*

MacArthur Elementary School fifth-grade students visited Bancroft Middle School. We met Bancroft's principal, Mrs. Sawyer, who was very polite and helpful, middle school students who shared an outstanding performance, and the volunteers who gave us an amazing tour.

First of all, Mrs. Sawyer did an amazing job of sharing important information. She showed us a slide show and our everyday agenda. She also told us about the uniform colors, the six classes we will attend every day, and the elective classes we can choose. These include computers, art, and music.

Secondly, the volunteers gave us a fascinating tour. We split into four groups. The principal and the volunteers guided us to the gym, where we saw workout machines. After that, we saw the music room. Inside we saw students playing instruments together. Next we went to the library, where we found many kinds of books and resources that are perfect for students who are studying certain topics or doing book reports.

Lastly, we watched a fantastic performance. The school's cheerleaders put on a welcoming show. While they were dancing, Bruno, the school mascot, greeted us and gave us high fives as he walked out to the sound of electrifying music.

MacArthur fifth-graders were very grateful for the opportunity to visit Bancroft and get to know the many things it has to offer. Go, Bruins!

# Mann *Elementary*

257 Coronado Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/439-6897 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/mann/home.html](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/mann/home.html)



**Wanda Oliver**  
*Principal*

## Spring Happenings

In March, Mann Elementary School students were challenged to read 20 to 30 minutes nightly. Students charted their progress and turned in their reading logs to be eligible for prizes. Congratulations to our outstanding readers!

On April 17, we will welcome members of the American Association of Black Energy (AABE). These professionals are holding their annual convention in Long Beach, and we are fortunate to have some of them visit our campus.

Students in second and third grades are conducting experiments in electricity and creating literacy projects related to protecting our environment.

This year we are learning about the Safe and Civil model to protect our school environment. Our staff is participating in eight days of staff development to assist us in creating and implementing procedures to ensure that our campus is a safe place for all of our students.

During our recent Family Friday, parents participated in an activity to collect data on the positive character traits they would like to see staff members teach our students. Now, our staff is busy developing procedures to assist in the teaching and encouraging of these valuable traits.

The new school procedures will be available on our school Web site and in the weekly parent bulletin when completed.

## School News



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# Marshall *Academy of the Arts*

5870 E. Wardlow Road, Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/429-7013 • <http://lbmarshall.schoolloop.com>



**Michael Navia**  
Principal

## The Lunch Box Café

*By Mrs. Banua and Ms. Gomez, Special Education M/M Class*

You know that something is working in a child's education when you see the look of success and accomplishment on his or her face. That is what you see at The Lunch Box every Thursday and Friday. Eighteen students work side by side, prepping and putting together an average of 20 orders a day. They are involved in all operations of The Lunch Box, such as cooking, taking orders, handling money, packaging, inventory and delivering. Our menu includes a weekly special, sandwiches, salads, soups, hot dogs, quesadillas and fresh-baked cookies. They even take turns cleaning up the kitchen after a hard day's work.



As teachers and staff at Marshall Academy of the Arts, we are so excited to see the pride on the students' faces when they have accomplished something they work so hard to do. It has also helped make a group of students come together, not just as students in a classroom but as a team working together and caring for one another.

# McKinley *Elementary*

6822 N. Paramount Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/630-6200 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/mckinley/index.htm](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/mckinley/index.htm)



**David Taylor**  
Principal

## Students Soaring to Success

*By Christy Cleveland, Counselor*

At McKinley Elementary we are very proud of our scholars. Each quarter we recognize them at an awards assembly. The awards are presented to the students who show outstanding effort in academics and character. They are presented with certificates and either a flyer that states "Another McKinley Student Soaring to Success" or a football that states, "Another Team Player from McKinley Elementary School!" McKinley Cougars show great pride and continue to pounce on success!



A group of scholars from Ms. Tariq's class proudly show off McKinley Pride awards.

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

The school is co-ed, grades K through 12, offers CIF basketball and baseball.

For enrollment information contact:  
Noemi Delgadillo at 562-961-6109

The program includes:

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- Direct instruction strategies
- A safe, consistent daily routine with breakfast & a hot lunch provided



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4223 East Anaheim Street

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# Millikan *High School*

2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/425-7441 • [www.lbmillikan.schoolloop.com/](http://www.lbmillikan.schoolloop.com/)



**Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo**  
Principal



**Monica Daley**  
Principal of Instruction

## My Fair Lady

*By Wendy Atwell, Drama Department Chair*

"I say, Captain, buy a flower off a poor girl," chirped Eliza Doolittle in the opening of "My Fair Lady," a timeless musical presented by the Millikan High School Drama and Music Departments in March.

The production is based on the play "Pygmalion" by George Bernard Shaw. On a rainy, London night in 1912, the story begins with the brash encounter of a lowly flower girl, Eliza



Doolittle, and a phonetics expert, Professor Henry Higgins. This leads to a six month "experiment in teaching," full of turmoil, pounding vowels, late-night lessons, a common dustman, a love interest, horse races, embassy balls, and the transformation of a common flower girl into a beautiful young lady.

The cast featured Saffron Brauer as Eliza Doolittle, Cody Wilhite as Henry Higgins, Robert Agiu as Colonel Pickering, and Daniel Sanchez as Alfred P. Doolittle. Congratulations on another successful musical!

# Monroe (K-8)

4400 Ladoga Ave., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/429-8911 • <http://lbmonroe.schoolloop.com/>



**Mark Curran**  
Principal

## An Eighth-Grade Experience

The recent Monroe eighth-grade field trip to the Museum of Tolerance has helped our students better understand the Jewish experience in Hitler's Europe.

The eighth-graders had already read *The Diary of Anne Frank* in their language arts class with Mr. Sheets. They compared Anne's experience to that of the other characters who they have read about this year. Then, in history class, they were given special new identities and papers by their teacher, Mr. Simonton.

The students had to carry these papers around and wear different badges to represent their new backgrounds. For a whole week they had to experience constant interruptions as they were asked to show their papers whenever they went about their normal business at school.

Reading about the life of Anne Frank and her family's ordeal, and revisiting the injustices of the Holocaust to discover for themselves what life was like during this period, was an amazing experience for our Monroe eighth-graders. The students were able to have a greater appreciation for the times after their visit to the Museum of Tolerance, and they were emotionally drained by the end of it.

Every eighth-grader was able to attend this field trip. It was an experience that they will always remember.

# Newcomb Academy (K-8)

3351 Val Verde Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/493-3596 • <http://lbnewcomb.schoolloop.com/>



**Gray Lange Jr.**  
Principal

## The Event of the Year

The Newcomb Academy's PTSA "NewTube" Talent Show was a big hit!

This event was our version of YouTube on stage. We had several children performing various YouTube skits, including *Marcel the Shell with Shoes On*, Rebecca Black singing *It's Friday*, Kirby dancing to *The Chicken Wing Song*, and The Burrito Girl from *This is the Best Burrito*.

Additional performers included Hawaiian dancers, guitar players, martial arts experts, and many talented dancers, pianists and singers. All of the children were fantastic!

The great thing about Newcomb is that we have performers who range from pre-school age all the way up to the eighth grade. That's what makes our events so terrific! And because of our middle school drama and music department, we also have a state-of-the-art sound system that helps make the event a real show-stopper, too.

We also had many families who enjoyed our special reserved seating, which included early entrance, popcorn and drinks!

This was one of Newcomb Academy's most entertaining events of the year.



# Muir Academy

3038 Delta Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/426-5571 • <http://www.lbmuir.schoolloop.com/>



**Lori Clark**  
Principal

## MAP2D

By Magi Hemphill, Teacher – Kindergarten  
and Ann Rash, Teacher – 1st Grade

MAP2D is building block system for learning math facts. Kindergarten students learn the commutative property, such as  $2 + 3 = 5$  and  $3 + 2 = 5$ . Students sing a song to learn math facts, starting with the addition of twos and working their way to the nines.

Math journals include horizontal and two vertical math fact sentences. The students are taught to use tally marks to solve problems.

Students participate in people math sentences, holding cards to show the addends, plus sign, equal sign, and sum to make a math sentence. The students then switch places to show the commutative property at work.

MAP2D continues in first grade, with students deepening their knowledge of the commutative property of addition with larger addends and sums. Students use sentence frames in pocket charts to practice addition facts. They also participate in cooperative learning activities to increase their math vocabulary.

Students also apply their knowledge of basic addition facts by using a procedure called working form, where students align hundreds, tens, and ones to solve addition problems, with and without regrouping.

Later students begin subtraction by learning the four Golden Subtraction Rules. They also learn about fact families to assist in solving subtraction facts and progress from the twos fact family to the nines, such as  $2+3=5$ , so then  $5-2=3$  and  $5-3=2$ .

Kindergarten and first-grade students enjoy success by learning math facts with MAP2D.

# Contest!!

This drawing is hidden somewhere in this publication **3 times.**

When you find it, email all **3 page numbers** to:

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



Your entry must be received by May 15, 2012. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.



**Joseph Carlson**  
Principal of Instruction



**Victor Jarels**  
Co-Principal

**Opportunity of a Lifetime**

Polytechnic High School senior Rico Blevins recently traveled to Washington D.C. with a program called Men Making a Change (MMAC, part of the Long Beach Community Action Partnership. “This type of program is very beneficial to students because it opens up their eyes to national and world views,” said Principal Joe Carlson.

As the president of the group, Blevins showcased his leadership, public speaking skills, and responsibility. “Rico’s personality really qualified him for this opportunity,” said Care Center facilitator Paul Gonzalez. “He articulates well, and he really knows what it means to work hard.”

MMAC attended a White House press conference, which included a speech from the First Lady, performances by guest artists, and a question and answer session. After the press conference, Blevins had a meeting with Congresswoman Laura Richardson. They spoke about the Community Service Block Grant and various programs that aid the Long Beach community.

“It was the trip of a lifetime,” said Blevins. “I left inspired by all that I saw.”



**Elizabeth Flynn**  
Principal

**THE RAKEFISH COMES TO NAPLES FROM PAGE 1**

“The Rakefish is made out of things people discard including a broken rake, cardboard, and other garbage,” noted Charles, the Naples student body treasurer. “The plastic bottle in the mouth of the Rakefish contains messages from students to Congress, such as the messages sent in bottles from people who are stranded on deserted islands. Fish and other animals are accidentally eating the pieces of garbage, or marine litter, produced by humans. Water bottles are a top contributor to plastics in our waterways. The bottle is a symbol of pollution.”

Questions and information are written on the Rakefish scales. The eyelid compartment houses a flash drive for the project’s PowerPoint presentation. Each participating school adds unique lessons learned from the Rakefish into the presentation. The project also includes a pledge students may sign to assert their commitment to make recycling and waste reduction a habit in their lives at home, at school, and in their communities.

Naples, the California host school, has been conducting research on the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the popular name given to the trash that has accumulated in the Pacific Ocean. According to student research, the patch is one of the most debris-concentrated areas in the world. Ocean and wind currents move in a circular pattern there, creating a vortex which traps floating items, many of them plastic, in ever-increasing amounts.

“If we throw trash in the water, harmful chemicals will pollute our ocean,” said Luca, a Naples fourth-grade student. “It’s important to recycle because plastics will kill our fish, birds and other animals,” added classmate Evan. “Each day, schools make lots of trash,” said Giovanni, another Naples fourth-grader. “Everybody should reduce, reuse and recycle.”

From its departure off the shores of Connecticut, the Rakefish travelled to Ohio, Colorado, and Texas before arriving for its stay in California. The display now heads to Hawaii, before making its final stop in Washington, D.C., where students will present the Rakefish to congress to cast their net of influence upon lawmakers. “We want to make sure that we get our message to world leaders so they know that today’s students—the future world leaders—want this problem solved,” shared Principal Flynn.

To learn more about the Rakefish Project, visit rakefish.org.

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# Powell *Academy*

150 Victoria St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 310/631-8794 • <http://lbpowell.schoolloop.com/>



## Bedtime Story Night

By Barbara Jenkins, Teacher – 2nd Grade

Once upon a time, in a not so far away place, some children spent an evening traveling to different cities and countries, meeting new and different characters. Actually, it was just a few weeks ago at Colin Powell Academy. The cities and countries the children travelled to were in the books they heard at Bedtime Story Night.

Wendy Claffin  
Principal

Once a year, the families of Colin Powell return to school for an evening of stories, cookies, and milk. The families and staff meet in the cafeteria, dressed in pajamas and carrying their favorite stuffed animals. The students are divided into grade levels. The Colin Powell teachers become bedtime storytellers for the fun-filled evening. There are no televisions, DVDs, CDs, or movies on this night.

The storytelling skills of the teachers kindle a sense of entertainment for the evening. The teachers also share reading strategies and comprehension-building ideas with the parents.

This special annual event creates an enhanced bond between the families and staff and accelerates the learning process for everyone involved.



# Renaissance *High School for the Arts*

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



## Seussical at Center Theater

Renaissance High School for the Arts (RHSA) proudly presented the spring musical, “Seussical,” in late March to standing-room only crowds. “Seussical” is a fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza that brings to life all of your favorite Dr. Seuss characters, including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, lazy Mayzie, and a little boy with a big imagination, Jojo. “Oh, the Things You Can Think” captures the show’s spirit of imagination, as the colorful characters transport us from the Jungle of Nool to the invisible world of the Whos.

This production featured a cast of more than 50 students and was a collaboration of the theater, music, dance and visual arts departments. The musical score was played by the RHSA orchestra, and Renaissance students worked on every aspect of show production, from stagecraft to sound, lighting, costume design, makeup and videography.



All the students involved in the show—for us, it’s about 125 kids \* or 25% of our entire school! This includes the cast, orchestra, stage crew, video and costume students.

# Prisk *Elementary*

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



## A Four-Legged Student Starts School

By Marybeth Murray, Pre-K Autism Teacher

Our Prisk students are so excited about the addition of a new, four-legged furry student!

On February 29, “Flint” enrolled at Prisk. Flint is a service dog. He is a golden retriever trained to detect seizures in one of our students. He serves a first-grade student and is in her presence at all times. He rides the bus to and from school with the student each day and accompanies her to recess and the bathroom.

Cindy Young  
Principal

Before Flint arrived at Prisk, our staff and students were trained on how to interact with him while he is on campus and on duty. This was to make his first day of school successful and comfortable. The teachers also spent time reading to the students and explaining the many different jobs that service dogs perform.

Once he arrived at school, Flint was introduced on Prisk TV. After that, he visited the classrooms so that our students could learn first hand what the proper procedures are for petting and interacting with him and his owner.

We are all excited about the addition of Flint and the role he will serve while on duty. In the short time that he has been here he has already become a part of the Prisk family. Not only does he help his first-grade student participate successfully at school, he also provides a variety of socialization opportunities for the other students.

You can learn more about Flint at [http://www.lbschools.net/Main\\_Offices/Superintendent/Public\\_Information/Bulletins/](http://www.lbschools.net/Main_Offices/Superintendent/Public_Information/Bulletins/).

# Reid *High School*

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

Barbara Lindholm, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Riley *Elementary*

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



## Most Inspiring Student

What is a hero? They come in all shapes, sizes and colors. The hero at Riley Elementary is John Hardisty. He is an amazing scholar with outstanding character and leadership.

Stacy Sanchez  
Principal

At nine-years-old, John is a hero to his family, especially to his older struggling sister. Her issues touch his heart daily, and John talks openly with her, his parents and his teacher about his deep love for her and how he very much wants her to succeed. John is considering writing a book, as he is a gifted writer, for children dealing with similar issues. He has already been published in *School News Roll Call*, writing the article “What’s in a Name?” about Riley Elementary School.

John, we are all so proud of you! Congratulations!



# Rogers *Middle School*

365 Monrovia Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/434-7411 • [www.lbrogers.schoolloop.com/](http://www.lbrogers.schoolloop.com/)

By Tom Huff, Principal

No Article This Issue

# Robinson *Academy*

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



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

## Continuing the Tradition of Math and Science Excellence

MESA Preliminary results show that Robinson students took 3 out of the 6 slots in the Team Math Quest competition, which challenges students to critically analyze complex math problems.

1st Place—Team Math Quest (Category 2 Algebra/Geometry)  
Margaret Kosmata, Jowen Magturo, Lokelani Ripley

3rd Place—Team Math Quest (Category 2 Algebra/Geometry)  
Karl Peralta, Blademir Osorio, Cristobal Navarro

2nd Place—Team Math Quest (Category 1 General Math/Pre-Algebra)  
Thayz Cisneros, Diana Esparza, Daniela Morales

2nd Place—Egg Drop Container Luis Diaz, Kristian Kaiklian

Robinson also had a clean sweep in the bridge competition taking 1st, 2nd and 3rd place medals

- 1st Place – Craftstick Bridge, Arthur Zagala, Kristian Kaiklian
- 2nd Place – Craftstick Bridge, Blademir Osorio
- 3rd Place – Craftstick Bridge, Omar Medina

All of these students will advance to the MESA Day Finals on April 14, 2012 at CSULB. JROB Dolphins are committed to bringing home TROPHIES in all categories.....Go Dolphins

1st Annual Math and Science Night – March 14, 2012

Robinson began a new tradition – Family Math & Science Night for all students in grades K-8. Students got the opportunity to rotate to three different learning stations: Math Jeopardy, Information for Science Fair projects, and the CSULB Science Mobile. The Science Mobile was a huge hit as parents and students enjoyed the hands on interactive activities. What was really cool was to see the parents asking the students critical thinking questions during the learning activities.

# Signal Hill *Elementary*

2285 Walnut Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/426-8170 • http://signalhill-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/

Lauren Price, *Principal*

No Article This Issue

# Stephens *Middle School*

1830 W. Columbia St., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/595-0841 • http://lbstephens.schoolloop.com/



**Diane Prince**  
*Principal*

## Special People

The school year has been a busy one at Stephens Middle School. It is time to reflect on all the amazing things that are going on. The positive behavior incentives, classroom learning environments, and welcoming of new staff and students work flawlessly. This is due to the support staff members who work tirelessly behind the scenes to make every school day and event glitch-free.

Mrs. Yamaguchi, our school secretary, is the smiling face that greets everyone who enters our office. She is the “answer woman,” along with Miss Maria, Miss Marisol and Miss Patricia. Whatever is needed to help our students and staff have a successful day, they make it happen. Our recreation staff, Fred and Salina, make sure lunch and playground activities are meaningful, fun and safe for all students. Our plant supervisor, Miss Mona, keeps our campus neat and clean. Our cafeteria supervisor, Miss Mary, and her assistants make sure there is always a hot meal for all of our students. A new addition to Stephens this year was Intervention Specialist Rich Torres. He has been instrumental in providing attendance and behavioral counseling for all of our students.

The Stephens support staff does whatever it takes to help all of our students be successful.

# Roosevelt

1574 Linden Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-1888 • http://roosevelt-lbusd-ca.schoolloop.com/



**Dr. Christopher Lund**  
*Principal*

## Jewel for the Community

Roosevelt Elementary School, first built in 1919, will soon undergo its third makeover. The original art deco building collapsed in the 1933 earthquake. The second rendition, although beautiful, was only built to accommodate 300 students. Now, with 1,100 students, we have outgrown our location. Thanks to the passage of Measure K, Roosevelt will start construction on a new, state-of-the-art school in September 2012.

The new Roosevelt will be a jewel for the community. The school will showcase indoor and outdoor stages, a large library, a computer lab, a music room, and a garden. The play yard will double in size, and the classrooms will feature the latest technology.



During the construction, our temporary home will be at Butler School. Roosevelt is scheduled to be at 20th and Orange until December 2014, when the new site is slated for completion. What a great gift for the community!

# Stanford *Middle School*

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



**Kathleen Cruz**  
*Principal*

## Art Students Rack Up Recognition

Stanford Middle School seventh-grader Brooke Winqvist won a \$500 scholarship in an art contest, a collaboration between the California State University, Long Beach Art Education Department, the University Art Museum, Long Beach Unified School District, and the Art Exchange Gallery. All entries focused on the theme “The B-Word Project: Banned – Blacklisted – Boycotted.”

Brooke’s submission dealt with bullying and name calling at school. She was the only middle school participant to receive the scholarship. Other student participants included seventh-graders Jen Marino, Allura Wyatt, and Paolo Castellon and eighth-grader Kayla Rivas.



**Donovan Alliston poses with his 1st place creation which is entitled “A Peacock’s Story”**

Eighth-grader Donovan Alliston earned first place honors at the district-wide art contest, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center, and eighth-grader Allison Hutchings took second place at the Norman Gottlieb Youth Art Show. Other student exhibitors included seventh-graders Katie Foster and Vanndearlyyn Vong.

Art teacher Antoinette Bailey said, “Though it is a great honor for our students to be recognized for their work and talent, more importantly they had the opportunity to express their thoughts, feelings, and creativity in a visual manner.”

# Stevenson *Elementary*

515 Lime Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/437-0407 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/stevenson



**David Zaid**  
Principal

## Retired Teachers Support at Stevenson

The California Retired Teachers Association (CalRTA) is a statewide organization that is made up of almost 50,000 retired educators. One of their main goals is to support public education and our local schools.

On March 8, the president of the Long Beach Division 3 CalRTA, Becky Carroll, presented a check for \$1,000 to the Stevenson faculty. She was accompanied by a very special member and former principal of Stevenson, Julia Mendell.

Mendell served at Stevenson from 1991-2000, and the staff was delighted to see her as well as receive the support. The money will be used to purchase instructional materials and support student learning.

In addition to this help, there have been many other exciting things taking place at Stevenson. These include our snow day, Read Across America week, dairy farm experience, and a celebration of African-American history and heritage.

Stevenson is committed to educating, empowering and inspiring the next generation. Our strong programs, friendly staff members and phenomenal teachers truly make Stevenson the home of rising stars.



The faculty surrounds Julia Mendell, a former principal of Stevenson and Becky Carroll (middle of 2nd row).

# Tincher *Preparatory School*

1701 Petaluma Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/493-2636 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/tincher/home.html



**Dr. Kelly An**  
Principal

## A College-Bound Campus

In order to encourage the college-bound atmosphere for our scholars, Tincher Preparatory School has taken several steps to ensure our students see college in their futures. In addition to the college posters and pennants that adorn the walls of the school and cafeteria, Tincher commissioned a college mural for the school. The mural, which covers an entire wall of the cafeteria, serves as a visual reminder to students that post-secondary education is an option and an expectation.

Represented on the mural are: Long Beach City College; California State University, Long Beach; University of Southern California, and University of California, Los Angeles. Our goal was to represent public and

private schools, as well as community college and university opportunities.

The newest addition to our college-bound campus atmosphere is our PAC-10 school focus in middle school. Each classroom created a replica of a selected university's logo, which is proudly displayed at the entrance to each classroom.



Mr. David Thompson, 7th grade Social Studies teacher.

# Twain *Elementary*

5021 E. Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/421-8421 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/twain/home.html



**Ellen Ryan**  
Principal

## Look Both Ways

Valentines Day 2012 was a rather crazy day for second-grader Tabitha Kelley. When she woke up that morning, she never thought she would be leaving school in an ambulance. I asked Tabitha if she had any advice she

would like to share with other students, and she said "Yes, remember to look both ways before crossing the street. I forgot."

Tabitha dashed into a moving car crossing Sunfield after school, running back to pick up her forgotten sweatshirt. She ended up with a couple of broken toes and two broken bones in her ankle. Tabitha should be back to school in four weeks. She doesn't remember being hit, but she does remember the ambulance. For Tabitha, getting the cast on was the most difficult part because it was really uncomfortable.

"I miss everything about school—my teacher Mrs. Cardoza; doing crafts, just everything!" Tabitha said. Tabitha, we miss you and can't wait for you to come back.

Please remember to drive slowly and safely around school zones. Sometimes, children forget to look both ways.



# Washington *Middle School*

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



**Shivaun Williams**  
Principal

## A True Patriot

By Megan Traver, Assistant Principal

Washington Middle school is proud to honor Alex Trejo as our Long Beach College Promise

awards recipient. In 6th and 7th grade Alex struggled in school. He didn't always put forth his best effort in his classes and he allowed some people to influence him to make poor choices. After participating in the Male Academy with Mr. Enriquez in 7th grade, Alex has become an exemplary student who is a role model for our 6th graders. Alex boasts an above a 3.0 GPA this year and has shown great maturity in dealing with social situations. Alex is a true patriot and we are proud to have him as a Washington Student. Congratulations, Alex!



# Webster *Elementary*

1755 W. 32nd Way, Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/595-6568



**Maria Martinez**  
Principal

## Webster Celebrates Families

*By J.B. Kindergarten Teacher*

The importance of family is valued at Webster Elementary. Our students leave their families every morning to join the Webster family.

Webster celebrates the beauty and uniqueness of family by hosting events during the year that bring students, parents and staff together. In order to meet the needs of parents' busy schedules, events at Webster have taken place before and after school.

Our annual celebration before school is the Sweetheart

Breakfast which occurs around Valentine's Day. This event is a tradition which was started by teacher Sandy Bowen several years ago. Parents join their children for breakfast in the cafeteria which has been decorated for Valentine's Day. After breakfast, families are invited to have their pictures taken at our Valentine themed "photo booth." An arts and craft center is also set up to create Valentine cards. Many of these activities are overseen by teachers who volunteer their time. This year we had the highest attendance ever in the history of the annual breakfast tradition.

Pajama Night also occurs annually and coincides with Read Across America. After school, parents and students rotate to different classrooms to hear stories read by the Webster staff. The students arrive in their pajamas to hear "bedtime stories." Some parents get into the spirit of the evening by wearing robes and slippers over their clothing. After story time, the students and parents eat milk and cookies. The students are given bookmarks and Dr Seuss stickers to take home.

We enjoy celebrating families at Webster Elementary!

# Whittier *Elementary*

1761 Walnut Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-6263 • www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/whittier/



**Edward Garcia**  
Principal

## Who Loves to Read? We Do!

Whittier School held its annual celebration of reading and Dr. Seuss's birthday in March. Our Read Across America Committee spent weeks planning our daylong event. The activities began well ahead of our celebration day. Hundreds of students memorized and recited the Readers' Oath: "I promise to read each day and each night. I know it's the key to growing up right. I'll read to myself, I'll read to a crowd. It makes no difference if silent or loud. I'll read at my desk, at home and at school, on my bean bag or bed, by the fire or pool. Each book that I read puts smarts in my head, 'cause brains grow more thoughts the more they are fed. So I take this oath to make reading my way of feeding my brain what it needs every day."

Students created posters honoring reading and Dr. Seuss. Our celebration day began with schoolwide Drop Everything and Read (D.E.A.R.). Parents and community members joined students and teachers in classrooms to enjoy the gift of reading. After D.E.A.R., students, teachers, parents and community members gathered near our outdoor patio for our Read Across America assembly. Everyone enjoyed a skit, singing students, singing teachers and readings of our favorite Dr. Seuss books. A great time was had by all!

Many thanks to the Whittier teachers and staff who worked hard to make our Read across America Day a huge success! Many thanks to our wonderful parents and community members who participated in our special day of reading!

# Willard *Elementary*

1055 Freeman Ave., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/438-9934 • www.lbschools.net/willard/



**Kevin Maddox**  
Principal

## Special Programs at Willard

*By William Diaz-Brown, Fourth- Grade Teacher*

Throughout the Long Beach Unified School District special programs are now being offered that will give our students the opportunity to grow and achieve.

Willard Elementary runs two of these elective programs: the Excel program and Spanish Dual Immersion. Our Excel program is available from the second- to fifth-grades. It offers those students who have scored high in reading and math a special program that is both accelerated and intensive.

The students must be willing to work at a higher level academically in order to enter into the program. Our teachers receive additional training as well, and coordinate the curriculum and teaching methods that can be used across grade levels.

For example, in Ms. Pigeon's fifth-grade classroom the students develop critical thinking skills through Writer's Workshop and Thinking Maps. They work very hard in these classrooms as they aim towards varying degrees of academic excellence.

Willard has maintained a unique Spanish dual-language program for over 10 years. The students work in two languages. They exit the program biliterate and bilingual in Spanish and English. This allows them to apply to Spanish dual-language programs in the middle school and develop further bilingual language skills in an academic setting.

For example, in Mr. Diaz-Brown's fourth-grade immersion classroom, the students follow Open Court (the district's reading and language arts text). They study English for literature and learn California history in Spanish.

This Dual Immersion program is open to all families.

# Wilson *Classical High School*

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



**Sandy Blazer**  
Co-Principal



**Gonzalo Moraga**  
Principal of  
Instruction

## Stimulating Speakers

*By Mary Failing, Staff Writer – Loudspeaker*

The Wilson Speech and Debate Team showcased the team members' skills in the seventh annual Speech and Debate Exhibition. Sophomore member Sarah Carner explained, "It is a show that combines different speeches, debates, and other fun little things to showcase the different talents the participants have."

While some competitions allow only restricted participation, the Wilson Exhibition enabled all team members to demonstrate their gifts of public speaking. The exhibition also opened doors for first-timers who are often more apprehensive about public speaking, because it only showcased students on the school's team. "It feels like an open mic night," shared Pearl Hoogs, the team's vice president. "It's really casual, and there isn't a lot of pressure because it has a very calming atmosphere."

The exhibition featured a myriad of events, ranging from debates to impromptu speaking and poetry. While it provided the participants with experience and knowledge for future competitions, the audience gained new respect for this academically stimulating event.

# School News

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



Rajeshri Gandhi

• **Go directly to the teacher rather than initially jumping levels and involving supervisors/principals, etc.** Many parents feel uncomfortable and are some times intimidated to approach their child's teacher, even though that is the best person to address concerns. A good administrator will always ask, "Have you spoken to the teacher yet?" and if your answer is no, expect to be directed back to him/her and for the teacher to know that you already went to his/her supervisor. 99% of issues can be constructively resolved by the parties directly involved. In the rare case that you feel you have to go beyond the teacher, let the teacher know that you appreciate his/her consideration and understand that s/he is doing what s/he feels is right and within his/her jurisdiction, but that it is not personal and you would like to speak to another party who may have more ideas.

- **Address concerns as they come up.** I cannot tell you how many times I spoke with parents who said, "And this is not the first time I have experienced this issue." My response was always the same, "Clearly this is important to you—why did you wait to bring it up?" Prolonged feelings of concern can build resentment, which can result in a small issue exploding into a big deal. Identify your concern, evaluate the impact on your child's overall education and if it's something you deem important, address it immediately. Teachers have no opportunity to address your concern or explain their rationale unless you communicate with them. Once you have laid out your concerns, be supportively persistent in getting a resolution and immediately address any future concerns.
- **Never put your child in the middle and never disparage or criticize your child's teacher in front of him/her.** I once heard Dr. Phil say that one parent criticizing the other parent shames the child because s/he is a part of both. I would say that the same is true of students and their teachers. Avoid putting your child in the position of choosing a side—it's unhealthy. Your word as a parent is extremely powerful (even though your child may not ever tell you that) and sticks longer than you might expect.
- **Act as an individual and do not rally the troops around an issue.** While it may feel as though there is strength in numbers, it is always better for you to address your concerns and to let other parents do the same. Going in as a group immediately puts the teacher on the defensive and can undermine your actual concern as it is highly unlikely that everyone has the same concern for the same reason. However, if multiple parents raise the same concern individually and in a reasonable manner, the teacher is better able to develop a resolution that benefits all parties.

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

Are you  
looking for me  
for the contest  
on page 25?



## St. Joseph High School

5825 Woodruff Ave., Lakewood, CA 90706 • 562/925-5073 • www.sj-jester.org

# Third Quarter Activities



Dr. Terri Mendoza  
Principal

By Anna Eme, Student

As the school year continues to glide by, Saint Joseph Jesters warmly welcome the second semester with open arms and open minds. Seniors jumped right into action as they partook in the annual tradition of taking their class Panoramic Pictures—an army of red in Chapel Court dolled up outside the Flynn Center. In this same week, students who excelled in their classes the previous semester were awarded certificates in honor of their achievements. Soon after, both Saint Joseph and Saint John Bosco students combined to celebrate John Bosco's Basketball Homecoming Week.

This exhilarating event consisted of a successful game show-themed rally, speeches made by Bosco nominees and a fund-raising Faculty vs. Celebrity basketball game courtesy of a local radio station.

Catholic Schools Week arrived, and the entire faculty, staff and women of Saint Joseph were united as one community, sharing in the joys of growing and learning in a Catholic environment. It was evident during the Catholic Schools Week liturgy that the sisterhood bond shared within Saint Joseph High School could never be broken. In continuation of high-spirited events, the final group of seniors headed up to Lake Arrowhead to enjoy the Senior Kairos retreat; the week was full of love, friendship and spirituality.

## Going Forth to the Fourth!

The plethora of activities didn't stop there, as the faculty and staff put on a mesmerizing Faculty Follies show with the theme "Zombies," which was a thrilling success. ASB Executive Board also held its annual Winter Formal dance at a major entertainment complex in Downtown Los Angeles. The theme was "A Candlelight in the City"; it was a night of elegance and had a great celebratory atmosphere. In the midst of these consecutive events, SJ students always remembered to put their faith first, welcoming the beginning of Lent with an Ash Wednesday liturgy. Most recently, the Mickvaders senior team went head-to-head against the Bad News Bears junior team in the Powder Puff football game, which left the juniors victorious with a score of 18-0.

With the overload of activities and events Saint Joseph High School has participated in, the fourth and final quarter is yet to come. As these last three months of the school year are approaching, Saint Joseph is standing united and stronger than ever, waiting diligently for anything and everything.

## Friends of Long Beach Animals

3815 Atlantic Ave., Suite 4, Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/988-7647 • www.folba.org

# Feral Cats Are Not Ferocious!

By C. Miriam Yarden, BSc., MS, APDT

There is still a misunderstanding as to what feral cats are. They are believed by many to be wild, aggressive, ferocious, dangerous and unable to be "tamed." In fact, a feral cat is a domestic species of cat that has not been socialized to humans, is fearful of them and avoids them if possible. He may accept food when offered but will not be approached. He typically lives alone or in groups, called colonies, and his strong bond is with that group.

Almost all adult feral cats *cannot* be socialized, and thus they become unadoptable. Very young kittens have a better chance of accepting human contact if removed from their mothers at a very early age. But because they are not adoptable, they do *not* belong in pounds or shelters where they will routinely be euthanized.

The trap-spay-release (TNR) program is a humane approach to stabilizing the feral cat population, i.e., they are trapped, neutered and released to where they are often cared for by volunteers. It works: no more kittens, their lives are improved, and the stress of mating and the yowling and fighting stops.

Animal control's traditional method of "catch and kill" won't work for very long because it creates a vacuum into which more feral cats will move, and the problem persists—catch and kill is an endless and expensive cycle.

Surely, even feral cats who pay their way with efficient rodent control deserve better than that!

# Westerly School

of Long Beach (K-8)

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



**Chris Rodenhizer**  
Head of School



**Kalim Rayburn**  
Assistant  
Head of School

## Preparation for Future Success

As parents and members of the community, we want nothing more for our children than for them to be equipped to deal with the challenges of the future and to lead happy and successful lives. So how does Westerly School prepare students to meet the challenges they will likely face in college and the 21st century workplace? The answer lies as much in how we teach, as it does in what we teach.

Research is telling us that to survive in today's world it is no longer enough to be book and test smart. Organizations are looking for workers who are adept and creative problem solvers, who work well with others, and who are versatile. That means today's schools need to teach these skills – skills Harvard Education Professor, Tony Wagner, calls, "Survival Skills." Wagner identifies the following skills as essential abilities that all students will need to be successful in higher education and in the work force: **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving; Collaboration Across Networks and Leading by Influence; Agility and Adaptability; Initiative and Entrepreneurialism; Effective Oral and Written Communication Skills; Accessing and Analyzing Information; Curiosity and Imagination.**

As an all-school professional read this past summer, the Westerly faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees read Wagner's book, *The Global Achievement Gap*, and learned about his Seven Survival Skills. We then discussed which of the skills were successfully being taught in the classrooms and which could use more of our focus. Wagner's message both reaffirmed our approach to teaching and learning and challenged us to improve. As a result, small and amazing changes have been happening all over campus this year.



**Second graders recently learned how to tune Ukeleles using SMART board technology.**

Music teacher, Tom Mitter, for example, has always taught **collaboration** through having students understand the importance of being part of an ensemble, but this year he introduced the idea of students conducting the musical selections at concerts and introducing those selections to the audience, complete with the historical significance of the piece. What are the Survival Skills being reinforced? **Leading by Influence, Accessing and Analyzing Information, and Oral Communication.**



**Middle School Instrumental Band members performing at the California Association of Independent School Conference**

Kindergarten teacher, Lorelei Estrada, motivated her students to write about their community in postcards being sent to pen pals in a school in Michigan by pulling up Google Maps and showing the area near the school. After brainstorming all the things near the school they discovered on the map, students were fired up and ready to share with their pals across the country what land forms and businesses were close to Westerly. The skills in focus were **Accessing and Analyzing Information, Collaboration, Written Communication, and Curiosity and Imagination.**



**Third and Fifth graders celebrating Pi Day!**

On March 14, National Pi Day, Middle school math teacher, Allyson McCloud had her Algebra students infiltrate the campus to teach students across the campus the complexity and marvel of the concept of Pi. Middle School "teachers" presented as groups to classes on the SMART Board, created videos using iMovie, had them finding examples of circles in our everyday world, examined the

history of the approximation of Pi, and taught them such terminology as radius, diameter, circumference, and area. Survival Skills utilized by both "teachers" and students were **Collaboration Across Networks and Leading by Influence, Effective Oral Communication, Accessing and Analyzing Information, and Curiosity and Imagination.**

Unique and creative approaches to teaching and learning happen in every classroom every day at Westerly. Not only does it engage students and foster a joy of learning, but our approach equips our students to be more well-rounded learners, capable of taking on the challenges that they will face in their futures.

## Summer Sizzles at Westerly

To further Westerly's delivery of the mission, the school offers a summer program for students Kindergarten through Grade 8. This rapidly growing program maintains the progressive philosophy of the school and extends opportunities for student growth 12 months of the year.

*Summer with Westerly* engages students in Kindergarten through Grade 5 through mornings filled with motivating project-based classes taught by experienced teachers, while action-packed afternoons are comprised of activities for all interests: sports, crafts, performing arts, organic gardening and more.

Middle School students are offered a unique opportunity by participating in the Collaboration and Service Learning Program. Students are mentored and challenged to generate and execute a service project in their community. Throughout this process they discuss leadership principals, meet with community leaders, sharpen those Survival Skills, all while encouraging an appreciation for civic responsibilities and strengthening of community.

Westerly School ignites a passion for knowledge by focusing its curriculum on real world experiences and hand-on learning. This approach has proven to be a success during the school year and now into the summer months. *Summer with Westerly* is open to the public. Please contact the school with any questions about its year round programs at 562-981-3151.

Please consider joining us on one of our future community visits listed below

April 3, 2012

May 1, 2012

For reservations or to schedule a personal visit, visit  
[www.westerlyschool.org/admission/](http://www.westerlyschool.org/admission/)  
or contact the Admission Office at 562-981-3151.

## Child Development Center

4310 Long Beach Blvd., suite 200, Long Beach, CA 90807  
562/422-6868 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/district/departments/middle\_and\_k-8/child\_development.asp

# Our Graduates Perform!



**Lauren Shaw**  
Director

Research shows that “high-quality preschool does more for a child’s chances in school and life than any other educational intervention,” as reported in *Newsweek* magazine, August 2010. With this in mind, five preschool sites in our district’s Child Development Centers applied for and received a \$3.5 million federal Early Reading First grant two years ago to support the development of students’ literacy readiness skills. The program serves our state-subsidized preschools for low-income families and provides three years of intensive professional development and coaching for teachers as well as family literacy activities to increase achievement.

Our district recently received data that compare the results of Early Reading First programs across the nation. Our Long Beach Child Development preschool students outperformed the national average by 19 percent on measures of significant gains in vocabulary knowledge. On measures of letter knowledge, Long Beach Child Development preschoolers exceeded the national average by 15 percent. This past school year, the first group of Early Reading First preschooler participants completed their kindergarten year in our district with 94 percent of these students reading at or above grade level on the district’s Benchmark Book assessment by the end of the year, compared to 70 percent for the rest of the district. By using these research-based instructional strategies in preschool, these at-risk students are now outperforming other children across the nation.

This year, we began to train the rest of the Child Development Center teachers on the use of these effective instructional strategies. This will increase the academic success of over 1,100 at-risk preschoolers served by the Child Development Centers every year.

## Buffum Pre-K Total Learning Center

2350 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-2431

# Celebrating Dr. Seuss’ Birthday

By Marilyn Crane, Pre-K MMC Teacher

Our “Read Across America” day was a time to celebrate the importance of reading in the lives of our children. And with the help of Principal Miriam Garcia, the students at Buffum Total Learning Center did just that.

Wearing pajamas and individually designed hats in celebration of Dr. Seuss’ 108th birthday, over 83 Buffum Total Learning Center preschoolers from the morning classes enjoyed the event. They listened to a story about the Hungry Caterpillar read by Ms. Garcia, and listened carefully to all of the different foods that the Hungry Caterpillar ate during the course of a week. They watched as the caterpillar grew into a beautiful butterfly.

The students are looking forward to this event again next year. They hope their principal will read to them again, and that she may even dress up as the Cat in the Hat!



## The City of Signal Hill Office of the Mayor

2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill, CA 90755 • 562/989-7300 • www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us



**Tina Hansen**  
Mayor

FROM PAGE 1

The first Earth Day was observed in San Francisco on March 21, 1970. It all began in an atmosphere of anti-war protests and increased consciousness of groups fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife. In 1969 peace activist John McConnell proposed an Earth Day at a UNESCO Conference. His idea was to bring attention to the need to preserve and renew threatened ecological balances, and to celebrate our Earth’s life and beauty. The proposal won strong support and was followed by an Earth Day Proclamation which McConnell wrote incorporating our rights and responsibilities in the care of our planet.

About the same time, a separate Earth Day was founded by United States Senator Gaylord Nelson. At a conference in Seattle in 1969, Nelson announced that in the following spring there would be a national environmental teach-in and everyone was invited to participate. On April 22, 1970, twenty million Americans across the country demonstrated in massive rallies on the streets, at parks and auditoriums for a healthy, sustainable environment. Students and faculty at colleges and universities, concerned about the deterioration of the environment, organized protests. The Earth Day movement was supported by Republicans and Democrats, and led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.

In 1990, an organization launched by Denis Hayes, the original national coordinator in the United States, took Earth Day international, bringing environmental issues onto the world stage. Events were organized in 141 nations with the goal of boosting recycling efforts worldwide.

As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign focused on global warming and a push for clean energy. In 2000, Earth Day reached out to hundreds of millions of people with 5,000 environmental groups in a 184 countries. Hundreds of thousands of people gathered at the National Mall in Washington, DC. Activities were organized worldwide, even including a talking-drum chain that traveled from village to village in Gabon, Africa.

On Earth Day 2010, 225,000 people gathered at the National Mall for a Climate Rally. The Earth Day Network launched an international, 1-million tree planting initiative with director James Cameron, and initiated a 2012 goal of A Billion Acts of Green®. At that time, they began to amass 40 million environmental service actions toward the goal of a billion environmental commitments from individuals and organizations. Everyone can register an “Act of Green” on their website at <http://act.earthday.org>. The theme for 2012 is Mobilize The Earth, with our goals to be brought before the United Nations Rio+20 Conference in June.

The City of Signal Hill is committed to the environment. We believe that our parks make lives and communities better now and in the future by providing access to the serenity and inspiration of nature. We hold a “Mayor’s Clean-up” of neighborhoods several times each year. It is the mission of our Sustainable City Committee to strike a balance between economic growth, social responsibility, and environmental well-being by partnering with our neighbors, businesses and the community to provide a healthy and enduring environment for future generations.

Every act, no matter how small or large, helps in our fight for a clean environment. Every one of us can celebrate our magnificent planet Earth – go to a park, stroll through the trees, help clean up a neighborhood, recycle - maybe even plant a tree.



**BOARD OF EDUCATION • FROM PAGE 1**



**Mary Stanton**  
Member

seldom connect their lives with Long Beach. One such notable graduate recently passed away. He was James Q. Wilson, a graduate of Jordan High School. Mr. Wilson a political scientist was known as the ‘father of community policing’ for his “broken windows” approach to law enforcement. He was also the past winner of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Perhaps one of our current students will be the next to leave an equal measure of greatness for our world.

As I speak with students throughout the district, I always ask if they are aware of the College Promise. This is a compact between LBUSD, LBCC and CSULB to help our students be accepted into higher learning within our city. Qualifying students receive financial aid to attend LBCC as well as acceptance into CSULB. Parents, be aware of this tremendous opportunity for your kids. Long Beach is unique in helping our students go on to higher education. There is more help offered such as the Presidential Scholars program where the best and brightest are given a full 4-year scholarship to CSULB including room and board on campus. LBUSD, LBCC and CSULB will be celebrating soon to bring awareness to these outstanding programs. Watch school-loop for additional information about the College Promise.

And finally my hat is off to all the families from Burroughs who transitioned into Longfellow. We encountered some problems related to traffic at peak times but the parents came together to work for a good solution. In addition the district is installing another rest room on site to better serve all students at Longfellow. Thank you parents for your patience and fantastic help working to keep our students safe.

**SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1**



**Christopher J. Steinhauer**  
Superintendent

rigorous college-level classes. But California must find a way to stabilize its volatile funding for K-12 and higher education. Without such a basic commitment of resources from our state, the College Promise is in greater peril than ever. In fact, state cuts already are impacting students in significant ways, and yet further cuts to education loom.

Our recent fourth anniversary progress report on the College Promise highlights key steps that our three educational institutions are taking to prepare more students for success in college and in high-demand, high-paying jobs. Included in these efforts is a commitment to cover the cost of first-semester fees for every local high school graduate who enrolls directly at LBCC after graduation.

The LBCC Foundation has raised more than \$6.5 million and established an endowment to pay the enrollment fees in perpetuity. Thousands of students already have taken advantage of the tuition-free semester.

The College Promise also guarantees LBUSD graduates admission to CSULB with minimum requirements. The latest report shows that 729 LBUSD students entered CSULB as freshmen in 2011 – more students than ever before and a 40 percent increase from 2008 when the College Promise began.

The new report also shows that nearly three of four LBUSD graduates (74 percent) are pursuing post-secondary education within one year of graduation. Half of those students are enrolled at CSULB or LBCC.

Because of results like these, the College Promise has earned state and national recognition. Most recently, California Community Colleges Chancellor Jack Scott called the College Promise a statewide model of collaboration.

Learn more about the College Promise at [www.longbeachcollegepromise.org](http://www.longbeachcollegepromise.org). Click on “Outcomes” to view the full progress report on this important effort to provide our students brighter futures.

**PROGRAM • FROM PAGE 1**



**Dr. Felton Williams**  
President

“This is a great chance for students to learn about many, many law-related fields while attending high school,” said City Prosecutor Doug Haubert. “I wish they had something like this when I was in high school.”

One goal of CALJ is to link the high school educational experience to a career opportunity by creating a “justice pathway.” There are three basic linked pathways of study: Law, Public Service & Social Justice, and Homeland Security & Law Enforcement.

A sample of activities and topics in the “Law” pathway include civil and criminal law, student government, forensic science, philosophy, psychology, Teen Court, and legal apprenticeship.

The “Public Service & Social Justice” pathway includes sociology, psychology, journalism, environmental science, and black and Latino studies. The “Homeland Security & Law Enforcement” pathway includes law enforcement, teen court, police explorers, forensic science, and NJROTC.

All of these pathways overlap one another. Students in any pathway learn the importance of the law in the democratic process from community organization, and participation in the democratic process, to creating and enforcing the law. Students are also exposed to careers they might never have otherwise considered.

CALJ students will gain knowledge about a wide range of careers, including some that require just a high school degree or a 2 year college degree, such as law enforcement profession (police, corrections officer, highway patrol), court reporter, port security, and paralegal. But they will also be exposed to careers that require advanced levels of education, such as lawyer, forensic scientist, court interpreter, community activism and law-related government jobs.

CALJ continues LBUSD’s innovation in creating “small learning communities,” where students can pick a program to match their personal interests. An academy like CALJ can also give a student a head start in a particular field and help them compete against others in college admissions.

Of course, students still receive a complete, balanced education that meets the CSU/UC requirements in all core subjects, but the smaller learning environment allows students to simultaneously receive specialized instruction on topics that interest them. Smaller learning environments have been shown to boost student achievement and give students more personalized attention.

CALJ’s Mission Statement says it all: “To build knowledge, develop leadership skills, and uphold justice and integrity through integrated curriculum, work-based linked learning, relevant instruction and field work experiences.” We will all watch with pride as students from the CALJ program move beyond high school to become Long Beach’s new legal professionals, community organizers and community leaders.



**Dr. Felton Williams**  
President



**Jon Meyer**  
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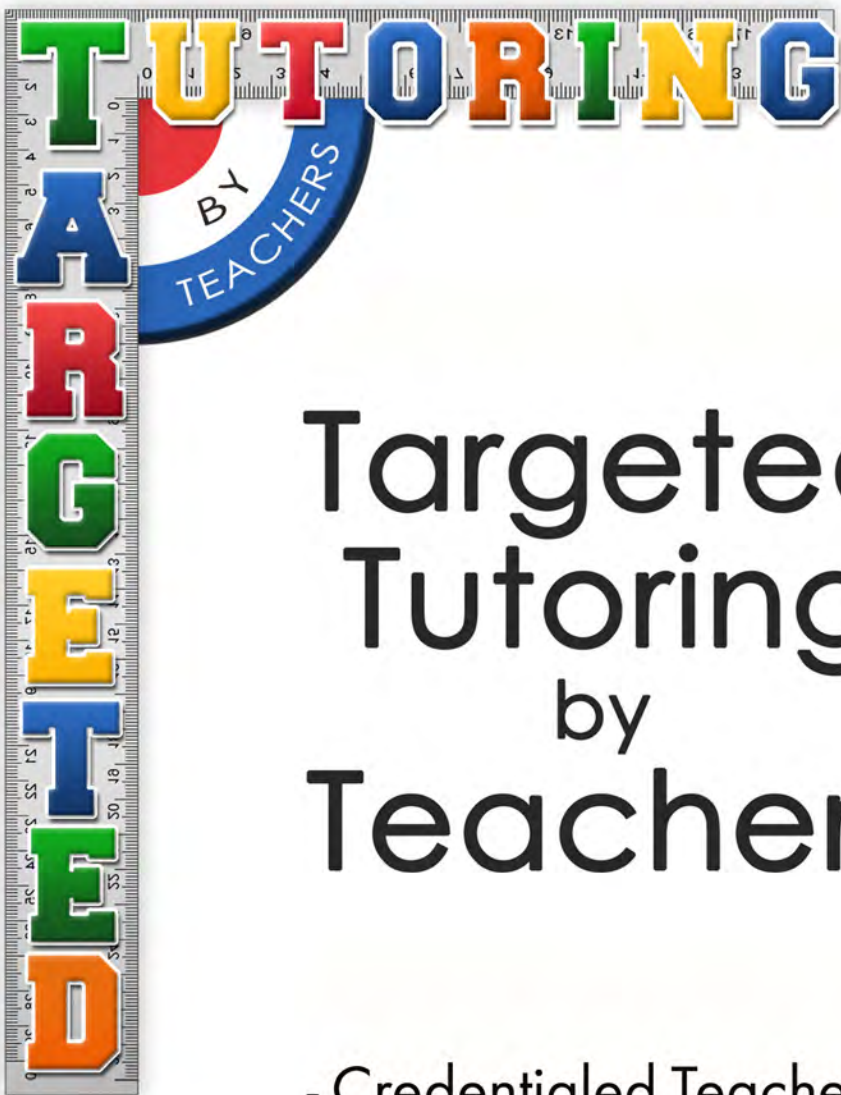
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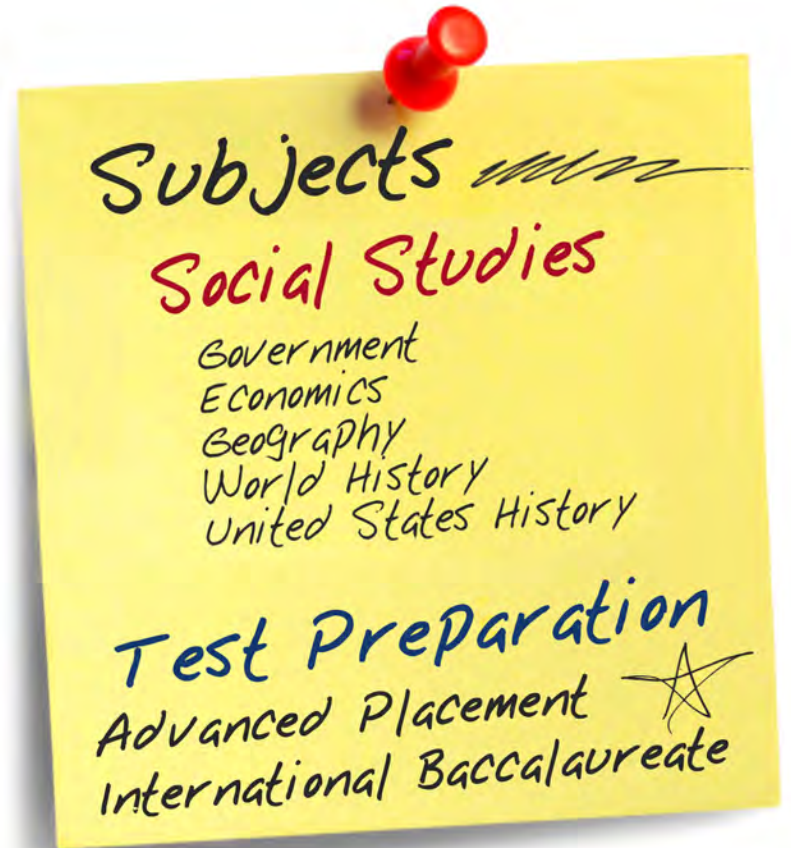
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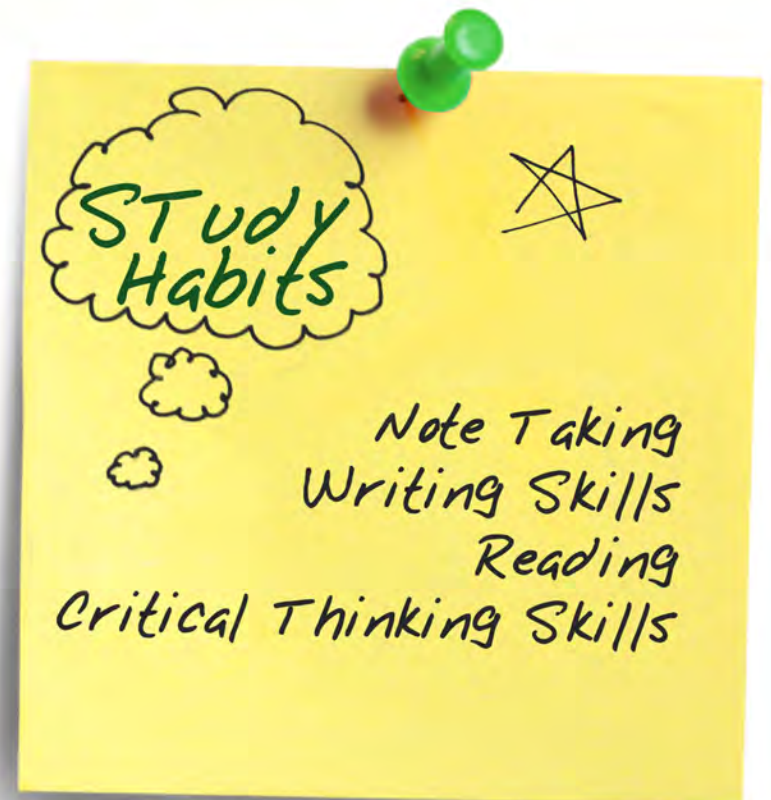


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