

**FREE**

# School News



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

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**DECEMBER 2011 / JANUARY 2012**

## SUPERINTENDENT



**Christopher J. Steinhauser**

### Giving a Special Gift

The season of giving is upon us. But for our employees and our many supporters, giving is not limited to a certain time of the year. Day in and day out, they give of their talents, time and even their own resources to support the students in our schools.

I was touched by the recent donation of a beautiful, \$800 violin that we received as part of an instrument drive to maintain the high quality of our music programs. Amazingly, the violin was donated by one of our recently laid off teachers.

This selfless act illustrates better than any numerical performance index or test score why our schools are some of the best in the nation.

SEE SUPERINTENDENT • PAGE 32

## When Students Succeed, Communities Prosper



**LBUSD Superintendent of Schools, Chris Steinhauser, President of CSULB, F. King Alexander and Superintendent-President of LBCC, Eloy Ortiz Oakley committed to the Long Beach College Promise.**

*By Judy Seal, Executive Director  
LB Education Foundation*

### When Students Succeed, Communities Prosper – The Long Beach College Promise

We have something special in Long Beach, the Long Beach Way. The Long Beach Way is our abiding concern for the welfare of our residents, our education, our many ways of life, our various traditions. A key component to the Long Beach Way is our collective dedication to creating a world-class seamless education system where students can begin here in preschool, grow up in Long Beach and succeed in school through a Masters Degree or professional doctorate. "We want to ensure that the pathway from preschool to graduate education is as smooth as possible," said CSULB President F. King Alexander. Everyone is involved from

SEE WHEN STUDENTS SUCCEED • PAGE 32

## BOARD OF EDUCATION



**Dr. Felton Williams**  
*President*

### Local Schools Excel in All Neighborhoods

As school board president, it's a privilege to witness first-hand the tremendous academic gains that the Long Beach Unified School District is

making. Our schools are repeatedly recognized as some of the best in the nation, and even the world, for their ability to serve students no matter what daunting challenges we face.

SEE BOARD OF EDUCATION PAGE 34

## December On the Hill



**Larry Forester**  
*Mayor  
City of Signal Hill*

### Brunch with Santa

Santa Claus is coming to town and he would like to have brunch with you! Tickets are still available for both breakfast and lunch with Santa for Saturday,

December 10, 2011. Make your reservation today by calling (562) 989-7330. The cost is \$12 for Signal Hill residents and \$17 for non-residents. Ticket price includes: a delicious meal, crafts for children, entertainment by Wilson High School Choir, and a visit with Santa.

SEE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL PAGE 34

## State of the Port Address



**Randy Gordon**  
*President/CEO  
Long Beach Area  
Chamber of  
Commerce*

Long Beach unemployment has increased over the last few years, but there's a bright spot on the horizon thanks to one of the community's oldest residents.

The Port of Long Beach has steadily employed residents here and in the region for over a century. Despite dire economic conditions, the Port remains committed to providing employment with modernization and environmental efficiency projects that have and will provide thousands of jobs for

SEE LB AREA CHAMBER PAGE 34

## On the Road to Safety



**Douglas P. Haubert**  
*City Prosecutor*

Now that families are settled into their school year rituals, it's a good time to consider an important, but often overlooked topic: safety.

It's true that students are safer on campus than just about any other place. Parents, however, need to make sure their children get to school safely and teach them how to be safe at all times.

If your child walks, bikes or scooters to school, make sure he or she understands and obeys traffic signals and signs. Quiz them to

SEE CITY OF LB, CITY PROSECUTOR PAGE 35

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**Kay Coop**  
 Founder / Publisher



As we celebrate our 12th Anniversary publishing *School News Roll Call* we really are celebrating the privilege of publishing the excellence from LBUSD. Thank you for continuing to include this publication among your reading choices. Everyone has a vested interest in public education. We also thank our loyal advertisers who make it possible for us to publish.

We are always mindful of our service men and women who have volunteered to protect our country.

Happy Holidays to you and your families. Our next issue is February 8, 2012.

Happy New Year!

## School News

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 LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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## 'Journey to Success' College Fair



**F. King Alexander**  
President

Reaching out to its large local Cambodian community, Cal State Long Beach (CSULB) hosted "Journey to Success," a college fair for Cambodian and other Southeast Asian Communities recently in the campus' University Student Union.

Some 250 middle school, high school and community college students and parents attended the free event to learn how to prepare early for college. A variety of workshops provided information on CSU admission requirements and application processes; how to pay for college; and CSU's other college preparation and admission resources that are available online.

"The CSU's Journey to Success college fairs are valuable because they serve to educate both prospective students and their parents about what it takes to go to college," said CSU Chancellor Charles B. Reed. "These events are strongly family oriented because parents play such an important role in the education of their children."



**A trio of middle schools students works with a class assistant to put together a car in one of the physics workshops that was offered at "Journey to Success: A College Fair for Cambodian and other Southeast Asian Communities," which was held recently at Cal State Long Beach.**

Parents shared their experiences and heard about the relevance of college to life in the United States, job satisfaction and giving back to the community. They also received tips on how to help their children meet their educational goals.

A group of Cambodian professionals who have received degrees in medicine, social work, law, and psychology at universities in the United States shared their feelings of self-worth, financial stability, sense of achievement and satisfaction received from their professional careers.

Receiving a higher education degree in Cambodia is a privilege, said MaryAnn Seng a psychologist who works for the Long Beach Unified School District. "In the United States it is an opportunity that is open to you," she added. The professionals agreed that as a result of having higher education they have become more interested in traveling to see the world and enriching their lives.

Students heard from CSU officials about the habits they need to acquire when getting to college and about the rewards of learning to be independent and responsible for themselves.

"You have to wake up on your own when you live in a college dormitory; you pick your own schedule; you decide what and when to eat and you make things happen," said Corion Lucas, a member of CSULB's student services office. "You enrich your life by being with all kinds of people and you can take classes in another country and get credit for them."

In addition to the workshops, the college fair included booths and tables with representatives from many local area colleges and universities ready to provide information and assistance to students and parents in attendance.

## Foundation Newest Member



**Judy Seal**  
Executive  
Director

Damon Dunn was born in Fort Worth, Texas to a 16 year-old single mother. He grew up in a three-bedroom trailer with ten people. His father was killed when Damon was three years old. Two of his uncles went to prison. But that mother of his kept going to school, setting her sights for herself and her son as high as she could set them. She taught him the value of hard work and told him to be a good boy because "God has a plan for you."



**Damon Dunn**

Damon went on to be an honor student in high school and was recognized as a Texas All-State Football player. He was awarded a scholarship to Stanford University. At Stanford he had a record-setting football career, ran track and was a stellar student academically. He was awarded the NCAA Academic Scholarship, All-Pac 10 Honors and Academic All-Pac 10 Honors, and the NFL and College Hall of Fame Award. He went on to play pro football for the NFL with the following teams: Dallas Cowboys, Jackson Jaguars, Cleveland Browns, and New York Jets.

Since leaving the NFL, Damon co-founded a successful real estate firm and has at the age of 35 retired so that he can devote his life to helping youth succeed in school and in life. He moved back to Long Beach this year. He has already set a blistering pace for fundraising and program development as the newest member of the Board of Directors of the Long Beach Education Foundation. His Future Business Leaders Academy works with 23 high school youth from the MALE and FEMALE Academies, programs that seek and find at-promise youth and help them develop their potential and enroll in college. The Future Business Leaders program is a collaboration between the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce, Long Beach Unified School District, and Long Beach City College. He has had a 100% success rate in his first go-around.

"We talk about the achievement gap a lot. I want to talk about the Expectation Gap. Some of our most at-promise youth have tremendous potential within, but they don't believe it. I started this program and invested enough to give each participant a \$1,000 scholarship to college if they finish it. My Mom always said, "God has a plan for you." Eventually, I began to believe it. But it takes hard work."

The Long Beach Education Foundation is proud to announce its newest Board member, Damon Dunn.

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## Real Estate Matters

### Beware of New Scam to Steal Your Identity



CathyLyn Brooks

I continue to be amazed by how much effort and creativity “crooks” use to scam or otherwise steal or hurt innocent people. If they were employees, and performed this imaginatively and thoroughly, they’d surely be employees of the month.

The new scam involves the use of Craigslist and homes that are for sale. The scammers identify a property that is for sale, collect images from the Internet, and then list it for rent on Craigslist. The advertised rent is very appealing, usually low or offering to pay utilities, or cable service. When a person makes an inquiry about the property, the scammer invites them to complete an application. This application is what they are after, of course.

The Craigslist ads are vague. When a party calls about the rental, they are given a story about how the homeowner is forced to move out of state to care for an ailing relative. And that the move is going to be for a substantial period of time, so they are looking for an honest, sincere family to move into their residence during this absence.

Scammers may make viewing the property hard to view. A reliable landlord or rental agent will want you to see the property. Scammers may say the keys will be delivered after the application is completed. This is not standard protocol. Run quickly from a person who tells you this.

To avoid scams, work with reputable firms. And do your research. If average rents are \$2000 and you see a home advertised for \$1000, ask yourself why. Remember that things that seem too good to be true, really can be.

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

## Financial Tips

### Money Saving Tips for the Holidays



Jeffrey A. Napper  
President & CEO  
LBS Financial  
Credit Union

The holiday season is upon us! With the ongoing financial squeeze felt by many consumers; this time of the year can be stressful. However, with planning and organization, you can still enjoy and celebrate the holidays with your loved ones stress-free.

#### Holiday Saving Tips:

**Make a budget:** A lot of the financial stress during the holidays can be avoided by planning ahead, creating a budget and sticking to your budget. Create a priority list of who should be included in your holiday gift giving, including possible gifts and dollar amounts. You may also consider giving “the gift of time” instead of purchasing gifts. For example, if you normally exchange gifts with your neighbor, you may offer to mow their lawn or help out with their shopping or yard work.

**Smart Shopping:** Refer to your budget and stick to the spending limits for each person on your list and start looking for bargains now. Watch the advertising and sale flyers for the items that you are planning on buying. Using the internet is also the most convenient way to compare items and pricing. Be careful not to indulge in impulsive shopping.

**Give Back to the Community:** At office holiday functions or other holiday parties where you might be asked to exchange gifts with other people for a specific amount, suggest that instead of gift exchanging, support a local charity by bringing canned foods or other items that your agreed charity of choice needs. Easier for the pocket as well as good for the heart.

**Smart Spending:** Only use cash or your debit card as much as possible when spending for the holidays. Charging purchases on credit cards can get out of hand and may lead to overspending.

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# Seven Strategies for Saving

By Jeff S Yanc, LUTCF, CFP—State Farm® Agent

Are you doing your best to save for your future? It can be very challenging to begin a savings program. After necessities such as food, clothing and housing, there can be little left to put aside for future goals.

Unfortunately, failing to save could mean the difference between enjoying a comfortable retirement and giving up some basic needs. Often it is a matter of making the decision to begin saving now in order to buy a new home or car later. The goals you set are important to you. Making changes to prepare for those goals can make a difference.

For that reason, State Farm has looked at various ways to get a person's savings plan on track and came up with seven strategies that you can use today.

1. Don't splurge with your tax refund. Instead of spending your refund, use it wisely by paying down debt, funding an individual retirement account, or saving it for future financial goals.
2. Take full advantage of your employer's retirement contributions. Your employer may match a percentage of the contributions you make to your retirement savings plan. It's a good idea to do what it takes to get the matching limit. It's free money that can really help your bottom line during retirement.
3. Start small and stay steady. The first word is the most important – start. You should begin as early as possible to get the most out of your savings plan.
4. Pay yourself first. Think of your savings or investments as a bill you must pay on a regular basis, much the same as a car or mortgage payment. Be disciplined and make the payments according to a set schedule. For better results, establish an automatic monthly deduction from your paycheck or checking account to fund an investment or savings account.

SEE STATE FARM PAGE 31



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## Connect to Hot Topics/Social Media!



**Tina Gandy**  
National  
President

Résumé development, interview skills and connections to social media—these are three hot topics that any woman, whether young, a seasoned worker or retired, must have. Today, whether on a board, in a committee appointment or serving as a volunteer, a résumé that represents your skills, experience, education and training is required.

The skills for a successful interview come with preparation and practice. When used properly, social media open many doors. Through the American Business Women's Association's (ABWA) Career Connection and the Women's Instructional Network, these hot topics are available to you. Develop your résumé and interview skills and network through our exclusive social media network that connects you to thousands of ABWA members who possess a diversity of backgrounds, experience and wisdom.

On January 28, 2012, ABWA will host the 15th Annual Women on the Go Conference in Fullerton, California, with expert presenters on our hot topics. To learn more, visit [www.impactabwa.org](http://www.impactabwa.org).

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 our office for more information.

Cecile Harris Walters is a national ambassador for the American Business Women's Association and vice president of the Diamonds of South Bay Chapter, Long Beach.

## Friends of Long Beach Animals

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## Urban Wildlife Among Us

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

This article is about the Long Beach residents of many species, forms and faces with whom we share our gardens, yards, streets and sometimes even our homes. Their names are coyote, raccoon, possum, skunk, crow, squirrel, fox and others. Each one is beautiful in his or her own way, delightful to look at and gives us a wonderful feeling of being a part of nature.

Looking at them is a pleasure, but making "friends" is dangerous behavior on our part. Feeling sorry for them because of lack of food or water is misguided, because all are highly talented at finding them. When we leave food and water for them or neglect to remove pet dishes outside—why would you feed your pet outside?—they lose their fear of humans and, instead of hunting, come in for the easy food sources. In the process, some species also get your cats and your small dogs, attack medium dogs and even show aggression toward children.

They also carry diseases such as distemper, rabies and parasites like fleas and ticks. They are not necessarily rabid, but they are carriers, the exception being the possum.

Leave them alone, especially the skunk. He'll get the best of you every time. And do not allow your cats and dogs outside alone after dark. That goes for children, too!

If Alaskans can manage to live in peace with bears by eliminating food of any kind outside their homes, can we do any less with these small Long Beachers?

Urban Wildlife:  
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**Rosana Madrid-Arroyo**  
Principal

## Meet the Family!

The staff at Addams is working diligently to provide high-quality education to all students. As we enter November at the writing of this, parents are meeting individually with teachers and all are granted the opportunity to get to know one another to help students achieve. Thank you to all parents for the time you set aside for these critical parent-teacher conferences.

All of our excellent instructors have depth of knowledge. Many are longtime members of our staff, and there are a few new teachers. The teachers new on our campus, but not new to the district, are kindergarten teacher Mrs. Sharma and fourth-grade teacher Ms. Alcalá. Filling in for Mrs. Steinberger is Ms. Puentes in kindergarten.

Ongoing teachers who have changed grade levels are Mrs. Barba, who is teaching our new transitional kindergarten (TK) class; Mrs. Millhouse, now teaching a first/second-grade combo; Sean Bath, now teaching fourth grade; and Mrs. Short, now teaching fifth grade.

Other new team members at Addams are Ms. Rach, our EL specialist; Ms. Olive, our speech and language pathologist; Mrs. Carbajal, our nurse; Mr. Ruelas, our community worker; Mrs. Sanchez, our office clerk; Mrs. Leon, our media assistant in the library; Mr. Borgerding, our vocal music teacher; and Mrs. Looney, our recreation aide.

Please introduce yourself to these valuable members of our Addams Family. The staff, students and families are all appreciated.

# Bancroft *Middle School*

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



## A Chain Reaction at Bancroft

*By Gabriela Mercado, Teacher*

Bancroft students recently participated in a program called “Rachel’s Challenge.” Born out of the tragic shootings at Columbine High School, this program is the legacy of Rachel Joy Scott, who was the first victim of this horrific incident.

During her life Rachel strived to show compassion and kindness to the people around her. Today her legacy lives on when it encourages other students to “Start a Chain Reaction” of kindness.

Last week our Friends of Rachel Club launched their own chains of kindness program. The students are completing a chain link for each random act of kindness that they complete or witness. Their goal is to have a chain with 20,000 acts of kindness in it by the end of the school year.

Over 100 highly committed students meet each week to continue the positive impact of Rachel’s Challenge. Their various activities include sending thank-you letters, holding welcoming activities for new students (including sixth-graders), seeking out students who need an extra smile, starting a blog, and encouraging other students to get more involved.

A banner displays over 1,000 signatures of Bancroft students who have agreed to continue Rachel’s Challenge.



# Alvarado *Elementary*

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



**Dr. Brett Geithman**  
Principal

## Keeping Alvarado Beautiful

The lively school community, colorful murals, and now vibrant plants and flowers welcome students, families, and visitors daily at Alvarado. This type of environment is exactly what a school should be – energizing, motivating, inspiring. This issue I want to highlight the work of one of our Instructional Aide – Specials, Ann Stakias. She works in Alvarado’s innovative Collaborative Inclusion (Community of Learners) program, where general education students and special needs students are team-taught together for 75-100% of the day. Ann has taken on a school-wide beautification project where she has planted and tended to a variety of flowers and plants throughout the school. This attention to our environment makes an



**Ann Stakias with Mrs. Flores and Mrs. Hall's Community of Learners**

impact on welcoming all who enter our school. Ann has spent many hours tending the Alvarado gardens, along with her years of enriching our Collaborative Inclusion program. Thank you Ann, not only for your dedication to your students, but to the school-wide community.

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

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



**Angelica Gonzalez**  
Principal

## Ride the Drug-Free Wave

Catalina Citizens Helping Our Island Children End Substance Abuse (CHOICES), a non-profit organization whose mission is to help youth make good decisions regarding alcohol and other drugs, joined Avalon Schools in celebrating Red Ribbon Week in October. Red Ribbon Week is a nationally recognized week of substance abuse awareness and prevention.

Avalon students participated in a wide range of activities and events on-campus with the theme “Ride the Drug-Free Wave.”

All students received red bracelets and were encouraged to wear them throughout the week to demonstrate their commitment to living drug-free lives.

Elementary students decorated their classroom doors with prevention and awareness messages and created surfboard pledges, which were displayed on a wave mural.

Secondary students completed in-class activities to teach the harmful effects of alcohol on the brain. Students decorated the campus with red ribbons and banners with anti-drug messages and participated viewed “Natural High 5,” a fast-paced video using action sports, hit music and popular culture to bring a simple message: find your natural high and say no to drugs. Secondary students also competed for class points by wearing red to school and enjoyed a Red Ribbon Week lunch, hosted by CHOICES.

“Red Ribbon Week is about encouraging kids to be drug-free,” said CHOICES Director LeeAnn Human. “Red Ribbon Week provides the community with an opportunity to show support for our youth and their commitment to drug prevention and education.”



# Barton *Elementary*

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



**Albert Gallo**  
*Principal*

## The Family Library

Barton School parents and students are now being offered a great opportunity at their very own school. Our extremely knowledgeable and super personable teacher librarian, Melody Hubbard, has been opening the doors to the family-friendly Barton Library before and after school on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Parents are encouraged to come in and sign up for a family library card.

Mrs. Hubbard welcomes parents to ask her for book, author, and title suggestions for grade-level appropriate books for their children. Parents, together with their children, can check out up to six books to read at home. Reading with your children and letting your children see you reading is a great way to encourage a child's lifelong love of reading. The more your children read, the better students they will be in all academic areas.

Mrs. Hubbard looks forward to seeing Barton families in the school library. Together we can share the joy of reading with our children!



**Barton student Emilio Davis and his father Joseph Davis with Barton Librarian Melody Hubbard. This year 75 parents have signed up and are actively participating in the Parent Lending Library.**

# Burcham *(K-8)*

5610 Monlaco Road, Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2685 • [www.lbburcham.schoolloop.com/](http://www.lbburcham.schoolloop.com/)



## Author's Day

*By Melvina Raschke, Teacher-Librarian*

Writer Mike Knudson visited Burcham School for our Author's Day event in October. Mike entertained the children with his interactive writing plan. He told them about how he became an author, and how his books are about the people and teachers he grew up with.

Mike also led the audience through his writing plan. He explained in detail how to brainstorm, and why it is necessary for a successful story. He explained that even though spelling might not be fun, it is a part of life and you just have to deal with it!

Mike's characters Raymond and Graham are funny, and their stories are jam-packed with hilarious events. His books *Rule the School* and *Dancing Dudes* are also filled with nonstop action and kid-friendly humor.



Mike recently won the 2010-2011 New Mexico Land of Enchantment Book Award. He was also nominated for the 2010-2011 Pennsylvania Young Readers Choice Award, and the 2009-2010 Cochecho Book Award in New Hampshire.

# Beach *High School*

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



**Matt Saldana**  
*Principal*

## New Opportunity for Success

Beach High School, opened in September 2011, provides a unique opportunity for credit-deficient LBUSD high school students to make up credits and get a new start toward academic success.

"We are already having many great success stories with students who just needed a little extra individual help or a special schedule," said lead teacher Lisa Lauriano.

Under the direction of Matt Saldana, Beach High's principle, Ms. Lauriano and the other teachers have developed a safe, educationally sound program. The 350 students attend classes in a lab setting in conjunction with teacher-directed pullout classes and small-group instruction. The curriculum covers all courses required to complete individual grade requirements, including physical education for 10<sup>th</sup>-graders. For students who need remedial assistance in basic subjects, there is a literacy center on campus for basic math, reading and writing instruction.

Beach High School offers an alternative to the traditional high school schedule. There are three sessions daily—8 a.m.-noon, noon-4 p.m. and 4-8p.m.—to meet the needs of individual students and their families. Students who attend Beach High must be referred by their high school counselors.

The school is open to 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students but is proving to be especially beneficial for students who did not start high school successfully or do their best work in ninth grade. Making up lost credits provides the opportunity for these students to start afresh. Once they are back on track, it increases their chances to be successful students and graduate with their respective classes.

# Birney

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

**Thomas Espinoza, Principal**

No Article This Issue

# Burbank *Elementary*

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



**Lorraine Griego**  
*Principal*

## Burbank Joins the 800 Club!

*By Damon Jespersen, EL Specialist*

According to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), federal and state governments set performance markers based upon the results of statewide standardized testing. In California this is known as the California Standards Test (CST).

For accountability purposes, the federal government implements the Adequate Yearly Progress scale (AYP), and the state government utilizes the Academic Performance Index scale (API). Each year, a school is given a target number of points to gain or exceed on both its AYP and API.

The goal of the state's accountability measure is to have each school at or above an 800-point threshold (the scale ranges from 200?1000). The API serves as a catalyst for driving school improvement related to student achievement in combination with the federal legislation.

Burbank began the last school year at 788 points, and was given a target growth of 5 API/AYP points. Through the continuous and dedicated efforts of our teachers in providing a quality, standards-based instruction, and the diligent work of our students and parents, Burbank reached the state's milestone with a resounding AYP and API growth of 17 points, and an overall total of 805!

This achievement is the result of the Burbank community working together to support the Long Beach Unified School District's mission of providing the best education for every student, every day.



# Bixby *Elementary*

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



**Stephanie Jones**  
Principal

## Busy as Mr. Beaver!

Bruce B. Beaver is Bixby Elementary School's Mascot Scholar. He is partnering with Ms. Jones and the Bixby staff to encourage students to read daily and to show good character. He has his own page on the Bixby website, where he shares his book of the month and makes himself available to students. Through this page, students may report good news or report bullies. He is a regular presenter at the Call to Order student of the month celebration, and he recently led the Bixby Beavers Team in the annual Beach Walk for the Children's Clinic.

Recently, Mr. Bruce told Ms. Jones: "I have always been drug, alcohol and tobacco free, and I plan to stay that way. At Bixby's Red Ribbon Week Kick-off assembly in October, I met CHP Officer JP Beav! He gave us the history of



of Red Ribbon Week and told us about DEA Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena. Displaying Red Ribbons began in honor of Agent Camarena and as a symbol of intolerance toward the use of drugs."

# Bryant *Elementary*

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



**Doris Robinson**  
Principal

## Harvest Happenings

In October, students and parents at Bryant School enjoyed an evening watching "The Lion King." The school provided the food for a wonderful family night. The organizers included Rebecca Cornejo, Mike Jones; I.C.E.S. Director, and Steve Phelps. Thank you to all for a great evening!

The Harvest Festival started out with a big bang. A spooky haunted house, a Halloween costume parade, grade-level dancing, and jumpers were provided for all students to enjoy. Included in the day was a western-style barbecue, organized by the cafeteria supervisor, Anna Christina Munoz-Aguirre. The food was delicious, and the benches were full of families eating all that was served.

The student council worked very hard last year putting together a community service project to benefit animals at the Seal Beach Animal Care Center. Students donated items necessary for emergency kits for each animal at the shelter. The student council separated the items into gallon-size baggies and boxed them for delivery to the shelter. Mrs. Burkes, the speech and language specialist at Bryant,



has volunteered there for 22 years and discussed with the students how important it is that animals at a shelter be safe in case of an emergency. Now, the animals will have what is needed in case we ever experience a catastrophe. Thank you, students, for helping animals.

# Burnett *Elementary*

565 E. Hill St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/595-9466 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/burnett/](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/burnett/)



## They Made a Difference

By Nancy Jo Rettig, Counselor

What started off as a desperate effort to get more uniform pants in sizes 8-12 ended up as a lollapalooza of excitement in honor of "Make A Difference Day."

Families come to us in need, and with the troubled economy it has been happening more than usual. We do our best to respond, yet many families cannot even afford the school basics this year. So Burnett supplied some gently used uniforms, and even outside neighbors added to our "stash." But it still wasn't enough.

Our friends at the Rick-Rackers /Assistance League heard about our plight, and then suddenly, voila! They called and offered us not just sizes 8-12 but all sizes for all students. Then they topped it off with free jackets, socks, undies and backpacks. Some sorority bake sale proceeds were added and the Ballet Folklorico dazzled.



# Book Today

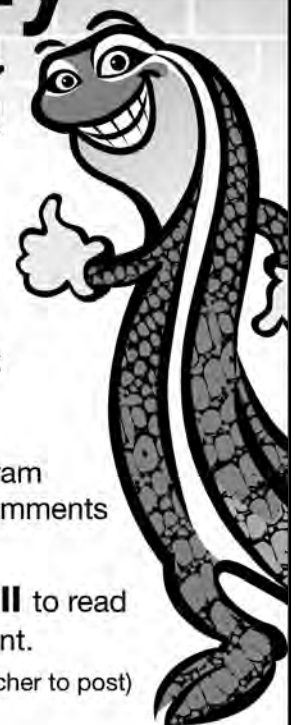
Mr. Scales, the litter-free Lizard, is back for the new school year!

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

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

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

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



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES BUREAU  
WINNER NATION'S BEST SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AWARD





# Butler

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

Sparkle Peterson, Principal

No Article This Issue

## CAMS

1000 E. Victoria St., Carson, CA 90747 • 310/243-2025 • [www.californiaacademy.org](http://www.californiaacademy.org)



Dr. Janice Filer  
Principal

### On the Cutting Edge

By Nancy Brown, Engineering Depart. Chair & Robotics Advisor

The California Academy of Math and Science (CAMS) sent three Vex Robotics teams to compete at Viewpoint High School in Calabasas. Team 687 K won the coveted Excellence award and now qualifies to compete in the VEX World Championships to be held in Anaheim in April 2012. Teams 687 K and 687 N will be competing in Hawaii's Pan Pacific Vex Robotics Championship in December.

As part of the Principles of Engineering curriculum, all CAMS sophomores were invited to attend one of four field trips to expand their knowledge of alternate energy sources. At the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility in El Segundo, students discovered that the West Basin Municipal Water District uses a 60,000 square-foot solar power generating system to help reduce their use of electricity generated by non-renewable resources. Other students toured the facilities of a windmill blade manufacturer in Huntington Beach. When assembled, these blades exceed 150 feet in length.

CAMS is entering the prestigious Solar Cup for a second year. This engineering competition, sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, requires high school teams to build, equip, and race 16-foot, single-seat canoes powered only by the sun. In November, 14 CAMS students traveled to Claremont to build the boat's wooden hull and received support to furnish the boat for competition in May 2012.

# Cabrillo High School

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

### Cabrillo Opens New Parent Center

Cabrillo High School is very excited about our new Parent Center! Conveniently located in the Library/Media Center building, the Center will provide a room for a variety of parent activities. Computers are available for parents to log on to School Loop to check grades and attendance, and learn basic computer skills. The Center has already hosted classes presented by the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE) on school and college success, and a series presented by Special Projects on "Understanding Your Teenager". The Parent Center will also provide parents information about school and community events. During Homecoming Week, parents, students, and community members filled the



Dr. Elio Mendoza  
Co-Principal



Alejandro Vega  
Co-Principal



Center as they made pink ribbons for Breast Cancer Awareness activities. The Parent Center is being equipped by donations from the Cabrillo PTSA, community, parents, staff, and Title 1. Donations of books and toys helps provide a safe place for small children to play while parents are on campus.

# Carver Elementary

5335 E. Pavo St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-2697  
[www.lbschools.net/carver/Carver\\_Elementary/carver\\_Home.html](http://www.lbschools.net/carver/Carver_Elementary/carver_Home.html)



Jennifer Rodarte  
Principal

### Disability Awareness Day

On October 31, Carver Elementary School celebrated its differences in the most special way that a school can do!

We dedicated an entire day to disability awareness. Everyone at the school came together to honor our students with disabilities and celebrate their differences.

We had two guest speakers who shared their own stories of challenge and success. Both talked about how they had managed their lives with these disabilities. They had come to Carver to encourage our

students with disabilities to always do their best and shoot for the stars. They also advocated for the students to treat each other fairly.

Carver Elementary School is a campus of compassion and acceptance. We learn from a very early age that it is normal for people to look and speak differently. This idea is promoted through the inclusion of our special education students into the general education classes beginning at the kindergarten level.

It was a magical day and the message was clear! Carver Cougars appreciate our differences.



Katie Hull 3rd Grade Student at Carver.

# Chavez Elementary

730 W. Third St., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/590-0904 • [www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/chavez/](http://www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/chavez/)



Kimberly Weber  
Principal

### Celebrating Success

We started this year by recognizing the third- through fifth-grade students who met the state's criteria for proficiency in English language arts and math on the 2011 California Standards Tests. Over 90 Chavez Elementary School students scored proficient or advanced on both tests and were celebrated at our September assembly. All of the students received certificates of achievement and new T-shirts, which can be worn as part of the uniform.

We know that we need the families' support to celebrate even more students at the next awards assembly. Thanks to the planning of three of our teachers, we had a Volunteers In Public Schools (VIPS) and PTA recruitment event in September that quadrupled the number of PTA members for the 2011-2012 school year! The parent workshops we have offered so far this year have been better attended, too. Working together, we will have the best year ever!





# Constellation *Community Middle School*

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

**Daphne Ching-Jackson**  
*Executive Director*

## Constellation Observes Red Ribbon and Spirit Week

Constellation Community Middle School teachers and students had a great time observing the combined “Spirit Week” and “Red Ribbon Week” in late October. The school’s “Spirit” week was observed starting on Monday with pajama day and students and teachers wore, yes, their best pj’s! Tuesday was “crazy hair day” and Wednesday was “twins’ day.” Teachers and students enjoyed these special days with laughter and Constellation spirit!



As a part of the Red Ribbon anti-drug observance, students learned about Enrique Camarena, an agent of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol Firearms, and Tobacco who was murdered in 1987. Students learned about his legacy and heroic efforts to shut down the drug cartels and saying “no” to drugs.

Among the celebrants were Teresa Lowther, Lead Teacher at Constellation, and 7th grader Jahkohbe Birdsong, as they compare notes about their crazy hair.

# Dooley *Global Studies Magnet School*

5075 N. Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/997-2655 • [www.lbschools.net/dooley](http://www.lbschools.net/dooley)



**Gerardo Gloria**  
*Principal*

## Internationally Minded

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) describes, in its mission statement, how it aims to develop the qualities of a successful student: “IBO aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who will help create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.”

Students at Dooley Global Studies, an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, are recognized monthly for their growth as IB learners. Each month, teachers select two students from each classroom who they identify to demonstrate the attributes associated with the IB learner profiles: inquirer; risk taker; communicator; principled; reflective; open-minded; balanced; knowledgeable; thinker; and caring.

At a school-wide assembly, these students are acknowledged and presented with certificates that highlight the IB learner attributes they exhibited during the month.

Dooley’s IB Primary Years Program promotes the education of the whole child. Teachers at Dooley focus on the combination of knowledge, skills, independent critical and creative thought, and international-mindedness. It is our goal at Dooley to develop internationally minded people who will help to create a better and more peaceful world.



# Cleveland *Elementary*

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



**Teresa Montoya**  
*Principal*

## A Season of Success!

Our new school year is off to a wonderful start at Cleveland Elementary. Students are happy to be back and ready to learn in their new grade levels. I extend a special thanks to our staff, parents and students for giving me such a warm welcome as I began this year as their new principal.

The Cleveland team, which consists of staff, students, parents and community members, promotes a community of motivated learners. The dedicated staff is well prepared to provide quality education for each of our students. The many parents and families provide great support in our classrooms and office. We are a team that is focused on students.

Our first Spirit Assembly was held recently, with numerous students receiving positive rewards from their teachers and our counselor.

PTA has had many wonderful activities for our students. With the support of staff and a tremendous number of families, we had a successful teacher’s night at a burger restaurant. Special Friends Day, organized by our PTA, had a super turnout in every classroom from traditional kindergarten to fifth grade. Teachers provided interactive lessons that included students and special friends collaborating.

Our Cleveland students took a stand against drugs during Red Ribbon Week. Students and teachers decorated classroom doors with clever ideas, pledging to “Say No to Drugs.” The PTA’s first Trunk or Treat night was a huge success and provided a safe evening of fun for all.

This has been a great start to what we hope will be a fantastic year!

# Cubberley

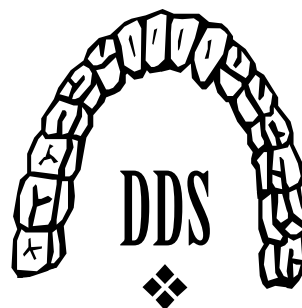
3200 Monogram Ave., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/420-8810 • [www.lbcubberley.schoolloop.com/](http://www.lbcubberley.schoolloop.com/)



**Terri Jarels**  
*Principal*

## Many Thanks Due for Cubberley’s Rockin’ Carnival *By Elizabeth Powell, Cubberley parent*

The Cubberley field was filled with food, games, music, vendor booths, bouncers and, most important, smiling faces during the Country Fair fall carnival Friday, Oct. 28. Thanks to the hard work of our staff and parent volunteers, we’re estimating that this year’s event attracted more than 1,000 revelers and brought in a whopping \$10,000 for Cubberley’s classrooms, groups and sports teams. The weather was glorious, the entertainment superb, and the dedication of all the parent volunteers invaluable. In these difficult times, the priority was to have a community event, with activities for all ages. The fact that the Carnival raised money is icing on the cake!



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

3410 Los Coyotes Diagonal  
Long Beach, CA 90808

**562-420-3158**



# Edison

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



**Richard Littlejohn**  
Principal

## Work and Fun!

Edison is in the mode of work and fun! We began the year by jump-starting Edison's Early Preparatory Program. We added two new units to our early preparatory team: Edison's Transitional Kindergarten Program and Head Start. Along with the Edison CDC and our Kindergarten Academy, these four programs are designed to help give all future potential Edison first-graders the opportunity to be academically, socially and emotionally ready. We are looking forward to a year of learning, discovery and laughter!

Edison has had phenomenal API growth, with an increase of 15 percent proficiency in ELA during the last two years. This amazing growth is attributed to our dedicated staff, parents and students that work together to make it possible even during these tough and tumultuous times! However, the elementary experience is more than just academics. Fun is all a part of the experience! The Edison "Spooky" Carnival was as spooky and scary as advertised.



Students played chilling and nerve-racking games at the Spooky Carnival like "Dracuball" to help raise funds for the school.

Carnivalgoers came dressed in their costumes and played thrilling games at booths run by spooky volunteers, but the famous Edison Spooky House was the main attraction!

Thank you to the Edison PTO and WRAP for all their support! The combination of academics and fun makes Edison a great place for students and staff!

# Emerson

*Parkside Academy Charter*

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



**Margaret Kerns**  
Principal

## Kindergarten Family Data Night

*By Becky Peterson, Kindergarten Teacher*

Kindergarten rooms were buzzing on Thursday, October 13, as children and parents sat down together to look at student data portfolios. Students set goals and keep track of how smart they are in letter knowledge, letter sounds, sight words, benchmarks passed, counting, and number recognition. They graph their own monthly writing scores and math chapter test scores. Assessments shared during this first Family Data night of the year reflect

baseline testing information gathered in the first week of school. The students are so excited to show their families how much they know. They are even more excited to share how much they are learning. "I didn't used to know that, but now I do!" was a familiar phrase throughout the evening, along with "I can read that!" and "Look how many points I got!" Another Family Data Night will be held in the spring.



Hannah Osier sharing her Data Portfolio with her family.

# Franklin

*Classical Middle School*

540 Cerritos Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • **562/435-4952** • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/franklin/index.htm](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/franklin/index.htm)



**Maria Pilar Perossio**  
Principal

## Franklin Eco Club Gives Back to the Earth

*Sponsor Ms. Lisha*

Many students volunteer their time each Tuesday to attend the Franklin Eco Club. The students join for a variety of reasons. Some come for the fun fieldtrips, others want to learn more about saving the environment, but mostly, these students come because they want to give back to the Earth.

Eco Club does campus clean-ups, recycles and learns a little each week about saving the Earth. The group has participated in events like the Beach Walk, Go Green Festival and the Heal the Bay Beach Clean-up. The group raises money for these trips by recycling beverage containers. We raise awareness by promoting recycling around Earth day and by sponsoring an eco friendly booth at our school fairs.



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

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

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

The program includes:

- Individual tutoring
- Small class size, student/teacher ratio of 5.5 to 1
- Direct instruction strategies
- A safe, consistent daily routine with breakfast & a hot lunch provided



**Zinsmeyer Academy**

a division of

**ChildNet Youth and Family Services. Inc.**

4223 East Anaheim Street

Long Beach, CA 90804

(562) 961-6300

(562) 961-6368 FAX



# Fremont *Elementary*

4000 E. 4th St., Long Beach, CA 90814 • 562/439-6873 • <http://fre-lbusd.ca.schoolloop.com/>



**Matt Hammond**  
*Principal*

## Jog-A-Thon

This fall, Fremont Elementary School recently held its annual Jog-A-Thon, an event that combines fun, fitness, and fundraising. Students have been warming up and preparing for the run for weeks which included students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Fremont families also participated by providing water for the runners, tallying laps, spraying refreshing water mists, handing out snacks, cheering on the runners, and even some joining in on the jogging. There were over 100 volunteers to help make this activity a rousing success. The funds raised through the efforts of all involved go to support the many worthwhile programs that benefit the students at Fremont which our wonderful PTA provides. The PTA sponsors a wide array of valuable programs for students from computer technology to science instruction, drama club to Meet the Masters art education, Home Reading Club to enriching field trips, and much more. What a fun run it was indeed!



# 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*

## Committed to Our Community

Minnie Gant Elementary School is developing well rounded leaders of the future. Our high expectations for student achievement are complemented by efforts to ensure that all students have the skills and characteristics to become positive productive members of our community. We support their development through character education, involving them in improving the school community, and giving back to our community.

October was the kickoff for our character education program.

Based upon the Six Pillars of Character Education, students engage in learning about, practicing and modeling positive character traits. November began with lessons in bullying prevention. Mrs. Snyder, our school counselor, conducted an assembly aimed at identifying and addressing the elements of bullying. These assemblies were tailored to the age of the students and involved situations developed to initiate conversations.

Character education continues in our commitment to others in our community through our holiday food drives and new partnership with the Bethune Transitional Center. First, our food drives will benefit two different organizations: the Long Beach Basket Brigade and the Salvation Army. The Long Beach Basket Brigade is a unique food drive in that Gant families are asked to donate stuffing. Donations will be paired with those of other schools to create food baskets for a wonderful Thanksgiving meal. Our newest partnership with the Bethune Transitional Center was recently established by our PTA to provide support to families who are homeless through donations of food and clothing.

At Gant, character never goes out of season!

# Garfield *Elementary*

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



**Donna McKeehan**  
*Principal*

## Building Home Libraries

The Garfield staff and community know how important it is for children to read every day as they work towards becoming more proficient readers. So Garfield has made it a priority that books get into the hands of every student.

Parents are also being encouraged to take their children to the public library, as well as take advantage of the monthly book orders that can be placed with teachers. The school looks for every occasion it can to help add books to the homes of our students.

The "Reading is Fundamental" program is strong at Garfield, and is supported by the Parent, Teacher and Kid organization (PTK) and the district. Three times a year each student has the opportunity to choose a book that is theirs to keep.

Books are also given out to groups like the Citizens of the Month and the Stars of the Week, as well as in recognition of passing our reading benchmarks. There are a wide variety of schoolwide events held during the year that also focus on the importance of reading.

Often a parent asks, "How can I help my child?" The first response is to tell them that they should make sure that they are being read to, or are reading, every day!



## Your school can win a free visit from the Aquarium of the Pacific!

---

### Deadline for turning in Clean-up Report Forms is March 2, 2012

Order your free "Clean-up in a Box", everything your class needs to remove campus litter. After your clean-up, send in the supplied Clean-up Report Form. The school that sends in the most forms wins a FREE visit from "Aquarium on Wheels", and one class from the winning school wins \$500 through a special drawing.



Order your free box online:  
**[www.litterfreeLB.org](http://www.litterfreeLB.org)**  
Only K-3 teachers at LBUSD schools in Long Beach may participate.



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# Gompers *(K-8)*

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



**Kelly Ludden**  
*Principal*

## Safe, Welcome, and Respected Campaign

At Gompers K-8 there is a new spirit in the air. Students, families, and staff have committed to making our school a place where everyone feels safe, welcome and respected. To begin the year, grade levels met in the auditorium for an assembly on the expectations for the year. They learned techniques to handle situations where others are acting or speaking in a way that makes them uncomfortable. Throughout the year, students will be rewarded for behavior that is in line with our school's goal.

At Gompers' first annual Trunk or Treat event, the PTA unveiled new T-shirts to advertise our motto and gave out wristbands. Families, staff, and the PTA made the event a huge success for all of our students. The message on campus is clear- Gompers is a community where character counts and everyone feels Safe, Welcome and Respected!



# Grant *Elementary*

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



**Mona Cook**  
*Principal*

## Welcome Back Picnic

Students, parents and staff attended Grant's Welcome Back Picnic on September 16, 2011 from 5:30-7:00 PM. Families and friends brought blankets and chairs, and enjoyed picnic dinners on the lawn while listening to music. Mrs. Cook led teachers, parents and kids in various group dances. Students played together and parents and staff got to visit with one another. Mrs. Cook and Mr. Franceschini called out names to hand out Grant t-shirts, restaurant coupons and other fun items which were given to several raffle winners. The most exciting part of the evening was



the hula-hoop contest for students. Each grade level had two winners — boy, can Grant kids hula-hoop! This was a fun beginning to what will undoubtedly be a great year!

# Hamilton *Middle School*

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



**David Downing**  
*Principal*

## Remodeling Project

On October 28, Hamilton and The Downtown Lions Club broke ground on a project to landscape and remodel the front of the campus. With a desire to build community, improve the school and involve students, teachers and families, Lions members obtained grant funding and designed a new look for the campus that will positively impact the community for years to come.

Participants and speakers for the groundbreaking ceremony included superintendent Chris Steinhauser, LBUSD Board Member Mary Stanton, Lions Club members, community leaders, students, teachers and families.

Students are now busy designing and building mosaic stepping stones which will be included along with new flowerbeds, improvements to the marquee, a new sprinkler system and beautiful granite in the walkway area.

Hamilton is truly grateful to the Lions Club for their generosity, dedication to the community, and their having chosen Hamilton for this wonderful project.



# Harte *Elementary*

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



**Scott Tardibuono**  
*Principal*

## What's New?

The answer to that question is: a lot! Read on and find out.

Bret Harte Elementary School welcomes the following new staff members new to our staff this year: April Campos, kindergarten; Angie Azpeitia, second grade; Diana Hernandez, fourth and fifth grades; Shannon Ramos, fifth grade; Jason Cordero, fifth grade; Karen Harmon, librarian; Nicole Chiles, assistant principal; Mandy Emerson, counselor; and Lucy Carbajal, nurse.

This year we are excited to offer the new two-year Transitional Kindergarten program. Ms. Debbi Harrison teaches this class, which targets students with fall birthdays who are beginning their kindergarten experience. Feel free to contact the school with questions pertaining to Transitional Kindergarten for the 2012-2013 school year.

Harte will host its first annual Fit-a-Thon in February. Our hope is to raise awareness about the importance of student fitness, while also earning some much-needed extra money for our school. Watch for details in the coming weeks!

This year students will have the opportunity to purchase school supply items, as well as healthy snacks, at the Bulldog Boutique. This student store debuted in November and will be open Monday through Thursday immediately following school dismissal. Check with the office for more details.

What's not new to Harte? The same unwavering commitment from teachers, staff, students and parents to make Bret Harte Elementary School a top-notch learning community.



# Henry *(K-8)*

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



**Claire Alvarez**  
*Principal*

## 21st-Century Learners

Technology is used to enhance learning at all grade levels at Patrick Henry School. Beginning in kindergarten, students access a state-of-the-art iMac computer lab on a weekly basis. Students practice skills on educational software, conduct research using Web-based media, and produce projects using Kidpix, PowerPoint, and iMovie. Each classroom also has a minimum of three computers with Internet access for practice and enrichment. Our computer lab instructor, Ms. Roberts, collaborates with teachers to develop project-based learning while students gain proficiency in technology standards.

In middle school, students master more advanced technology standards as they complete computer electives. Our technology teacher, Mr. DeSantiago, integrates technology instruction with core curriculum standards. Students produce projects using Word, Excel, PowerPoint, iPhoto, iMovie and Web browsers. Technology courses are taught in both English and Spanish as part Henry's Dual Immersion program.

Donations from PTA, state and private grants, and technology fund-raisers have made it possible to provide excellence in technology education.

# Holmes *Elementary*

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



**Luana Wesley**  
*Principal*

## A 'Grape' Time Was Had by All!

Our amazing Special Day Class teachers for students with autism work hard to meet individual needs and make learning fun. Teacher Diana Yuzon recently took her students on a Community Based Instruction trip to a grocery store. The students had learned about grapes all month, reading about them in the book *California Grapes* by Karen A. Alder and completing activities in the Harvest of the Month workbook.

One of our speech and language therapists, Cheryl Muzzy, collaborated to make the trip an integrated learning experience.

Before they left, Ms. Muzzy read a story focusing on where the class was going, the purpose of grocery stores and what they were going to buy. On the walk, the students practiced reading street signs and following safety rules.



**Miss Tina and Ryan T.**

Once the students got to the store, they asked a clerk to assist them in locating grapes. They got to taste them, too! Not everyone liked them, but all students got the opportunity to try them.

What a wonderful real-life experience for our students!

# Hill *Classical Middle School*

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



**Sophia Griffith**  
*Principal*

## AVID Program Soars

*Amy Pendray, AVID Teacher*

Recently, AVID teachers Jeannette Higginbotham and Amy Pendray hosted a dinner for students and their parents. The AVID program is geared toward students who demonstrate the academic ability to succeed in college but do not have adults in their family who have attended college. An important part of the program is involving parents and creating a scholarly study atmosphere at home. At the evening program, parents were informed about the requirements, students and parents signed a pledge contract and students received an AVID pin.

Ms. Higginbotham and Ms. Pendray are delighted by the academic attitude displayed by the students and the commitment of the parents to the program. Said one parent, "I want her to excel and I'm very sure that by participating in this program and by making the effort she'll succeed. Just like her brother who attended AVID for three years in this school and is now a student at CSULB."



# Hoover *Middle School*

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



**Dr. Avery Hall**  
*Principal*

## AVID Program

*By Tracie Gallagher, AVID Teacher*

Our AVID students have been truly showing their "Individual Determination" as they continue to stride toward success. This year, we have one complete class of second-year eighth-graders, one class of seventh-grade first-year AVID students and one split seventh/eighth-grade one-year class. Our AVID Site Team carefully chose these students by going through an interview and application process and conducting interviews last spring. It wasn't easy—we had an abundance of applications, but we definitely made the right choices. These students are fantastic in guiding their peers to answer higher-level questions and use thinking maps to help get those answers. Their organization skills are honed through AVID binders and taking two pages of Cornell notes per academic class per week.

We currently are building inquiry and discussion skills as we participate in Philosophical Chairs and Socratic Seminars. Students learn about LBUSD High Schools, various colleges and universities, careers and scholarships through in-class activities, projects, guest speakers and field trips. AVID Students also participate in community service activities throughout the school year.

These students are taking responsibility for getting their grades to the top. They are held accountable, and if their grades slip, they come to mandatory after-school tutoring with their AVID teachers. We have been told by high school AVID Coordinators that our AVID students are well prepared for High School.

Family events encourage parent involvement. We have a few upcoming workshops, a family Bowling Night at CSULB and a Family Skate night, and have active parents on our Site Team. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful program full of extraordinary students, supportive parents and dedicated teachers.



# Hudson *(K-8)*

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



**Cathleen Imbroane**  
Principal

## Hudson MESA Honored by State Superintendent

State Superintendent of Instruction Tom Torlakson, Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster and CSULB President King Alexander honored Hudson MESA students last month for winning the MESA USA National Wind Energy Challenge for two consecutive years in Denver and Seattle.

The two all-girl teams spent hundreds of hours developing a wind turbine that gathered wind energy, converted it to mechanical energy to lift as much mass as possible as fast as possible. In addition, the device also pulled a car with the same goal. The girls also presented their projects in a 20 page technical report, academic display, and oral presentation. The former 2010 Hudson champions reassembled

as freshmen to win the 2011 State title for Poly High School.

Accolades also came from other notable guests such as Assemblyman James Johnson, LBUSD Board Member Felton Williams, and MESA USA President Oscar Porter. Hudson's MESA Advisor is James Mills.



# 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

## Preparing Students for the World of Work

When students select a high school, they should look at Jordan if they want to be prepared for the work of work. Jordan offers a variety of programs to prepare students for a career as well as college.

AIMS gives students hands-on opportunities to work in the medical field. Seniors who have completed a rigorous course of study are placed at either the VA Hospital next door to CSULB or at Memorial Hospital to work side by side with doctors, nurses and medical technicians. Students get a real feel for the world of work, specifically the medical field. Imagine the advantage you will have on your application to nursing school when you can list this internship.

ACE—Architecture, Construction and Engineering—gives students the opportunity to take classes that require students to read blueprints, draft their own design, and build, wire and plumb structures. These translate into skills needed in life and college. Students also have the opportunity to take college courses while still in high school. A recent graduate got a job paying \$150 per day at a construction site because he could read a blueprint and explain the design to other workers.

Do you like cars? Do you want to learn to work on cars? Do you want to learn to repair a fender, replace a headlamp or weld? These are all skills taught in JTech. Students who like to work with their hands and work on cars thrive in the JTech Academy.

# Hughes *Middle School*

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



**Dr. Sally Gregory**  
Principal

## Reflections 2011

By David Michaels, 7th Grade English Teacher

On November 3, the Hughes Middle School PTA sponsored its annual "Reflections" night in the school library. Approximately 100 students, parents and teachers were in attendance to celebrate this showcase of artistic and literary talent. Students submitted entries in several categories including: Dance Photography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts.

One highlight of the event was when "Literature" winner Ryan M. shared his story about what diversity means to him. Ryan metaphorically compared how student diversity is like the different instruments in an orchestra. The audience was also treated to a short film by Rodwin D., who filmed different neighborhoods and events in Long Beach to show the diversity of our city. Other winners included Reylyn C. for Visual Arts, Isaac N. for Photography, and Rebecca R. for Dance. Over 80 students participated in this event. It is students like you who continue to make Hughes shine!



It was a full house in the Hughes Library for Reflections Night. Sixth grader Rodwin D. smiles in the foreground after winning first place for Film Production.

# 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

## Committed to Your Child's Education

We recognize that parent involvement is critical to student success, regardless of the age of the child. So Jefferson is hard at work designing and implementing the kind of meaningful events that can bring families together, educate parents to support their children and improve the climate of our school.

At the end of Red Ribbon Week our "Power Lunch" saw over 100 students, parents and staff members mingling together. This was a great kick-off to the rest of the events.

In conjunction with our BookStravaganza book fair, we also held our first-annual "Moms and Muffins" morning. Hundreds of students brought in

their moms, grandmas, sisters and aunts to have a complimentary breakfast and chance to shop at the book fair.


Our first parent education workshop also provided useful tips and supplies for parents to help their students with homework. This third large turnout of the month showed that parents are committed to their children's education.

The Jefferson Jaguars are on the move!



Teachers join students and parents for the 2nd Annual JLA Power Lunch.





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in the world  
begin in the  
imagination.

—Barbara Grizzuti Harrison



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Members in Uniform \$5 / Parents \$10  
(Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts & Camp Fire USA)  
Sundays—Senior Days: Seniors \$10  
Fridays—Jr. & Sr. High School Days: Students \$10 (with ID)

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## Note-ables

# Songs from the Baobab



Kate Karp

This beautiful collection is one that parents may play even if the children aren't home, particularly if they were fans of Miriam Makeba or were blown away by the South African group Ladysmith Black Mambazo on Paul Simon's *Graceland*. The set includes a CD and a colorfully illustrated book by French children's book artist and illustrator Élodie Nouhen; it includes lyrics, explanatory notes translated into English, and geographical information that shows children that Africa isn't one large country but 54 independent ones, with different languages spoken throughout.

On the disc are lullabies, game songs, and nature anthems, all to be sung to or by children. The lullabies calm and amuse crying, upset children through rocking and movement. In light of the hard lives that so many African children endure, it isn't surprising that the greater part of the songs falls into the lullaby category. A lilting shepherd's flute threads plaintively through "Yum-maa yehii jaabe," (Your Mother Has Gone to Search for Jujubes); in the song, the child's mother is absent, and the singer tells the child that the mother was out hunting fruits. Orphaned African children are often taken in by other families; "In Ga" and "Faatime Hawwaa" tell of the sadness of children who know that they aren't as valued as are the birth children.

There are joyful songs as well. "Îtä Zâke" translates from the Sango tongue to "Frère Jacques"; it was taught as a "time to wake up" song in Central African French schools. Game songs include "Kabuye Kanjye" (My Little Pebble) with clear instructions for playing a stone-passing game, and there is a Togo version of "This Little Piggy," titled "Eya Bé" (He Says).

A best-seller in France, *Baobab* is set to tell its stories on this continent. Welcome it into your home, heart and ears.

# Love Me for Who I Am

"Please don't try to fix me. Love me for who I am. I may not talk the way you talk, but I've got some things to say....And I may not walk the way you walk, but I've got some place to go." *Love Me for Who I Am* Grammy-award nominee Brady Rymer has taken diversity and inclusion to a new and worthy level.

*Love Me* was inspired by Rymer's work with children at the Celebrate the Children School in Wharton, N.J. The school specializes in alternative learning styles, including autism and other communicative disorders. Rymer's lyrics celebrate the children there and surprise us with the realization that the feelings and thoughts in them are universal among us.

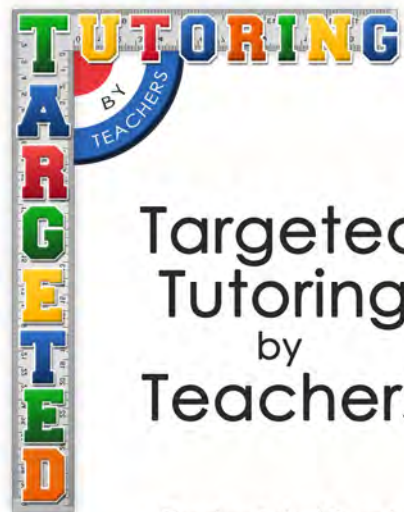
Rymer and the musicians provide catchy folk- and reggae-flavored tunes. The CD art was created by Zoe Kakolyris, an artist with Asperger syndrome who is also deaf. The songs themselves deal with identity, discomfort, tuning out, moving around—or not—and other traits that characterize autism but have a broader reach. "Picky Eater," "I Don't Like Change" and "Who Wants to Wear Shoes?" describe a special-needs child's extreme discomfort with certain sensations or things that go off pattern. "So Many Ideas" addresses the frustration of not being able to communicate feelings and ideas—"I've got so many ideas in my head, Yeah, they're hard to get out, I wanna scream and shout"—ever have writer's block? "Wiggle Alive" and "Squish Me, Squeeze Me" are about physical issues. "Squish Me" brings to mind the "hug machine" invented by Dr. Temple Grandin, arguably the most celebrated person diagnosed with autism; as a teenager, she created the machine to deal with stress and sensory overload.

Grandin herself commented on *Love Me*, saying "I really liked it. I hope it gets widely played." Such an endorsement is underscored by the five percent of the sales that will go to Autism Speaks, a nonprofit research and advocacy group.

Visit [www.BradyRymer.com](http://www.BradyRymer.com) to find out more about his work with under-standing autism.

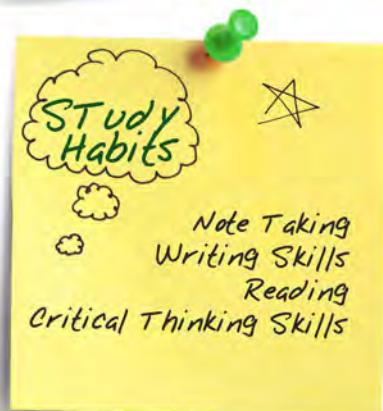
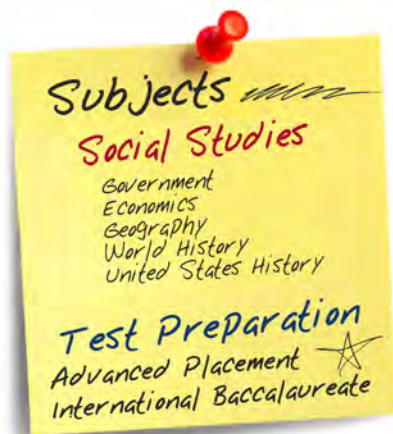
Kate Karp is an editor for *School News Roll Call* and a freelance writer and editor.





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## On The Run

### Night Splints Can Help Foot Problems



Dr. Doug Richie

It is common for people to consult the internet to search solutions for medical problems before contacting their doctor. This practice can be beneficial for the patient in providing valuable information about their condition so they can make informed decisions about treatment options when they visit with their doctor. On the other hand, many so-called medical education websites are actually a disguise for a commercial entity which is trying to sell remedies for medical problems which may or may not have any proven value.

When a runner researches the internet for remedies for heel pain, they often see advertisements for shoes, arch supports and “night splints.” Night splints actually have proven value to help treat the underlying cause of many forms of heel pain in active athletes. The purpose of these devices is to provide a gentle stretch of the Achilles tendon of the patient during sleep. Improved flexibility of the Achilles tendon is thought to reduce the symptoms of plantar fasciitis which is the most common cause of heel pain in runners.

Night splints can also be an effective treatment for Achilles tendinitis. While stretching of the Achilles is always recommended for treatment of this condition, many runners will find that they always get tighter in their calf while sleeping. Night splints can prevent the natural tightening of the calf muscle and Achilles tendon while sleeping and this can greatly enhance the normal stretching program which runners should do during the day in treating painful heel conditions. These splints can be purchased not only from internet web sites but also from physicians, podiatrists, and physical therapists.

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

## Football 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 January 15, 2012**

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

Clipping	Interference	Safety
Coach	Kicker	Scrimmage
Conversion	Linebacker	Special Teams
Cornerback	Loss of Down	Super Bowl
Defense	Offsides	Tackle
Downs	Personal Foul	Tailback
Field Goal	Possession	Touchdown
Flanker	Quarterback	Yardage
Goal Post	Roughing	

**Congratulations to Bob Hoppe**  
**Winner of the October Word Search Contest.**

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



From the Boathouse

# Life is But a Dream

Suzy was 13 when she was introduced to rowing crew by participating in the Long Beach Recreational Rowing Program at Long Beach's Marine Stadium. She enjoyed it so much, that when she was asked to be coxswain for the novice boys team, she eagerly agreed. The coxswain is responsible for steering the boat and coaching everyone so that the whole crew stays together and puts the oars in at the same time. This leadership role provided Suzy with the opportunity to be around the water, to learn more about rowing, and, as Suzy jokingly pointed out, "I get to boss the boys around."



Suzy Toms

The next year Suzy excelled in all of her races. She was especially proud of her scull (single person boat) racing, winning all four regattas that she entered. However, the highlight was earning a position in the varsity lightweight 8-boat. With that team, she placed second at the San Diego Invitational Regatta. Last summer, Suzy had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to row with the Shanghai Rowing Team in mainland China. She made new international friends and learned about another culture, all thanks to her skills in rowing.

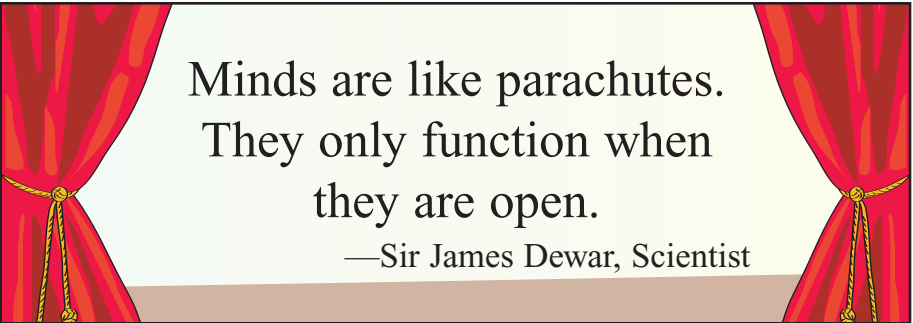
This year she had another exceptionally successful season. Not only has she enjoyed rowing and improved her physical condition, but Suzy has continued to win races. Suzy earned two first-place blue ribbons at the US Rowing Southwest Youth Regionals and the opportunity to compete in the prestigious US Rowing Nationals in June. With all her success, it's no wonder Suzy is already looking forward to her next season rowing with the Long Beach Junior Crew.

Suzy's hopes to attend college at the US Naval Academy, where she will spend part of this summer training. She will also spend a month training with the Long Beach Junior Crew at the Powerhouse Fitness Rowing Facility in order to improve her speed, which is already exceptionally fast. In fact, her current goal will put her at the level of the US National Lightweight Women's Rowing Team.

Rowing has been a very healthy experience for Suzy that has helped her physically, mentally and socially. I believe Suzy is a fine example of a great young lady who is "rowing her way to college."

You can row your way to success as well. Powerhouse Fitness is a great choice to get in shape while having fun. All workouts consist of High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) for all levels of fitness and all ages, burning a tremendous number of calories and achieving that lean-muscle tone in a very short period of time. These workouts are unique and effective for competitive rowers like Suzy and for the average person who has never rowed before. The results are amazing, and individuals generally burn about 800 calories per class per hour. All levels of fitness and ages 10 to 100 years are welcome.

Jack Nunn/Owner, Powerhouse Fitness Center, 5750 Boathouse Lane, Long Beach, CA 90803  
562/688-1716, [www.powerhousefit.com](http://www.powerhousefit.com).



Minds are like parachutes.  
They only function when  
they are open.  
—Sir James Dewar, Scientist

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# Kettering *Classical Elementary*

550 Silvera Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/598-9486 • www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/kettering/kettering.html



**Deborah Anderson**  
*Principal*

## Terrific Trunk-to-Trunk

Kettering has numerous activities throughout the year that are sponsored by PTA and Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students), with help from many groups around campus. Shereen Moustafa, the new Kettering student council president, recently wrote about the latest activity, Trunk-to-Trunk.

It was the evening of October 28 when Kettering Elementary School's most recent Halloween event happened: Trunk-to-Trunk. All the family-car trunks were decorated with scary Halloween themes. Every student entered with costumes on. They came with their pillowcases or their trick-or-treating bags. The children were ready to collect some trinkets and tasty treats by "Trunk-or-Treating."

Moving from trunk to trunk was not the only activity. The Watch D.O.G.S. put on the Haunted D.O.G.S. House! It was very spooky! Many volunteers donated blood to the Presbyterian Hospital that evening, and the students and staff of Kettering's CDC were helpful by making signs.

After everyone finished collecting candy and treats, we began to dance to the tune of the "Cha-Cha-Slide." While we all danced, Mrs. Anderson, our new extra-awesome principal, walked over in her witchy attire to join in.

Soon, everyone was tired, and the trunks began to close. The students and families all felt the Trunk-to-Trunk was fun, cool and exciting. The Haunted D.O.G.S House was creepy. This is an event that must continue through the years! So, here is a big thanks to our PTA and Watch D.O.G. for creating an absolutely terrific Trunk-to-Trunk event!

# King

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



**Dr. Cecilia Santos-Camerino**  
*Principal*

## Harvest Fun

King School's annual Harvest Festival was a huge success! We were proud to host students, staff and family members during this great celebration and popular community event. This was a momentous occasion to kick off the fall season. As families enjoyed having dinner, they were entertained by the hundreds of children in costume and got a chance to watch our fabulous costume contest. Students were delighted to pass through our Trunk or Treat area. Some were even brave enough to enter our haunted house. We all had a wonderful time, and it was a huge success.

Our Harvest Festival was spectacular because of the many volunteers we had throughout the evening. Thanks to numerous teachers and parents, this night was very special for our students. A popular local retailer also sent many volunteers to help set up and run our booths. A special thank you to our Winners Reaching Amazing Potential (WRAP) program for creating the popular haunted house.



# Keller *Elementary*

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

Marjean Hughes, *Principal*

No Article This Issue

# Lafayette *Elementary*

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



**Wendy Thompson**  
*Principal*

## Harvest Festival 2011-2012

Each year, Lafayette hosts the Harvest Festival. This annual event is an opportunity for the school staff, parents and community to enjoy good food, great fun and fellowship together. In October, Lafayette's Parent Booster Club, with over 90 parent volunteers, participated in planning and setting up the festival. Additionally, over 20 business partners contributed both their time and resources to support the school. Many classroom teachers also volunteered working in the booths and helping to supervise fun activities for the students.

The Festival raised over \$5,000 for the school. The funds will be used to purchase printers for all classroom teachers.

# Lakewood *High School*

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



**Cheryl Cornejo**  
*Co-Principal*



**Mario Jimenez**  
*Principal*

## Female Leadership Academy

*By Elizabeth Horton, SLC Facilitator*

Lakewood High School is proud to be one of six high schools to inaugurate the Female Leadership Academy. Ten young women at each high school were selected to participate in this team of future female leaders, whose goal is to "empower young women and increase their graduation rates and their entrance into institutions of higher learning."

Lakewood's Academy has been meeting weekly to identify and strengthen their own leadership skills and to foster these skills in others. They were welcomed, along with their mothers, at the high school office at a dinner reception hosted by Ms. Webster, and they attended the Port of Long Beach Conference for Women in the Trades and Goods Industry. Students participated in discussion groups with women leaders from all sectors of the trades and goods industry. Former mayor Beverly O'Neil was one of the guests. The Female Leadership Academy members attended CSULB's Young Women's Empowerment Conference, and they will attend The College Promise at LBCC.

These 10 young women will be mentoring 10 more young women in the second semester, growing female leadership at Lakewood High and in the community.



**Hazel Gomez, Anna Hunter, Aleah Bluitt, Rayanna Abram, Avery Swinson, Ms. Horton, Ms. Bilvado, Dannise Kelley, Jessica Johnson, Verlaine Smith, DaShari Samuel.**



# Lee

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



**Caroline Nemec**  
Principal

## Fall Family Festival

Lee Elementary School enjoyed its Second Annual Fall Family Festival. Students danced to D.J. Lauren Olivares and had their pictures taken against a back drop made by our very own President of our School Site Council Viviana Gonzalez. Lee VIP and PTO member Melissa Thompson provided the hay for the back drop making it look even more authentic. Many of our wonderful VIPs came to lend a hand making the festival a fantastic success.



# Lincoln *Elementary*

1175 E. 11th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/599-5005 • [www.lbschools.net/Lincoln/Home.html](http://www.lbschools.net/Lincoln/Home.html)



**Christi Granado**  
Principal

## Student Council

*Submitted by Monica Blumenfield, Counselor*

Lincoln Student Council is an important part of our school. We have been meeting since the beginning of October planning our calendar and selecting officers. We are learning and implementing the Robert's Rules of Order. Robert's Rule gives everyone an opportunity to speak, participate, practice leadership and make responsible decisions. For the school year, Student Council has planned numerous fundraisers for school-wide projects and sponsor student activities that are fun for all students like Red Ribbon Week and monthly school spirit awards.



# Lindbergh *Middle School*

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



**Connie Magee**  
Principal

## Lindbergh Celebrates Student Success!

Students were recognized for academic improvement, academic attitude, and academic achievement. Award winners received a certificate, a free dress band, and a SpeedPass letting them out early to lunch one day a week for the next month. Students and parents also enjoyed treats and coffee, milk, or juice. Teachers on the SOTM committee organized the event and there was a fabulous turn out, even with the rainy, cold weather. Proud parents enjoyed the early morning assembly, taking pictures and visiting with their award winners over breakfast treats. This is the first of the monthly assemblies to be held this year to encourage Lindbergh scholars. Lindbergh is looking for sponsorship to add Student of the Month t-shirts to the loot.



# Lindsey *International Studies Magnet*

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



**Stephanie Dunn-Cooper**  
Principal

## Global Friendship through Space Education

*By Adrienne Sandstedt, Science Teacher*

The students at Lindsey International Studies Magnet participate in a variety of programs that promote international mindedness. The Global Friendship Through Space Education sponsors a "Partner School Science Program" that connects young people from around the globe.

Over the past three years, Lindsey MESA students have communicated via email and videoconferencing with students in Izmir, Turkey, a sister city to Long Beach. They share space and science-related projects through NASA's learning Web site.

As a culmination of their year-long collaboration, the students had an opportunity to attend space camp and meet their e-pals. This past July, five adventurous and deserving Lindsey MESA students attended E-Pal Week at the Space Camp in Izmir.

In addition to the one-week Space Camp program, our students also traveled around Izmir to see the sights of the city, including the local picturesque beach towns and ancient biblical sites.

Eighth-grader Zaida Rodriguez, who attended the space camp in 2011, said that, "It was an amazing experience. I learned so much about the history of space exploration. I loved Turkey, and I hope to be able to go again next summer."





# Long Beach School for Adults

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



**Matt Saldana**  
*Principal*

## Helping Students Succeed

For many years, hundreds of adult second-language learners have come to the Long Beach School for Adults (LBSA). The number of dedicated English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers has been greatly reduced, but the remaining 15 teachers are giving more time and effort to ensure that students receive a quality education from the beginning level through the vocational level.

Our newly appointed lead teacher, Janet Cassara, who has been a teacher in the adult school ESL program for more than 10 years, said, "My joy in this wonderful ESL program has been watching students start with no English skills, continue through the entire program, take career classes at the adult school, and then be able to find good jobs to support their families." Cassara also taught in Community-Based English Tutoring (C-BET), which helped second-language parents become involved in their children's education, before accepting her current assignment. Cassara is a Long Beach native, and both of her parents were teachers in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Five levels of ESL classes are currently held at the Willow campus, and there are morning classes at the Cedar site. Information about enrollment, class schedules, and registration can be found on the LBSA Web site or by calling the adult school office.

"We are much smaller now than in the past," Cassara said, "but our devotion to helping students become productive citizens by teaching them to speak English properly is as strong as ever."

# Los Cerritos Elementary

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



## A Visit to the Los Cerritos Wetlands By Leilani Vane, Student – 4th Grade

The Los Cerritos wetlands are an amazing place to go on a field trip and a fun place to go with your family.

There is a path for the owners of horses to ride them and also a gate surrounding a whole lot of dirt, which is there for the horses to practice tricks.

**Donald Beaver**  
*Principal*

The Los Cerritos wetlands have lots of food webs and food chains. The wetlands are home to jack rabbits, pelicans, ducks, turtles, red-tailed hawks, and bats.

Did you know that the Los Cerritos wetlands are home to a few different snakes? But they're not harmful to people. They mostly come out at night. There also are some coyotes that come out at night, too.

The Los Cerritos wetlands have a path for us to walk on and see the bats and animals that hide in the big tall grass that grows in the water. There are some cacti with lots of cactus apples. The wetlands have so many beautiful plants because there are so many bees there, too.

There is a lot of garbage at the wetlands because some people don't care about Long Beach's environment. I think that all students and teachers should have field trips there and clean the trash up to save the endangered species at the wetlands.

The wetlands are a place filled with nature. Once you see how nice the wetlands are, you'll want to bring your whole family.

# Madison Elementary

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

**Armando Duenas, Principal**

No Article This Issue

# Longfellow Elementary

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



**Laurie Murrin**  
*Principal*

## Part of the Best

The Longfellow Lions started off the school year with another fabulous "Moms 'N Muffins" celebration, coinciding with our Back To School Night.

This year's fest was special because we welcomed the students (and moms) from Burroughs Elementary School, due to its recent closing. We have added approximately 150 Burroughs children to our enrollment, including first-grade teacher Annette Rosenlof.

Judging by the attendance, fine pastries and smiles at this annual event, our new enrollees felt quite at home being part of the "Lion's Pride."

Third-grader Sidnee Justice said of her new school, "I miss my old one, but Longfellow has been good so far." Classmate Jake Howard added, "There are good things here at my new school."



**The Rockenbachs and friend enjoy a successful  
Moms and Muffins in September.**

Veteran teacher Rosenlof, who taught at Burroughs for over 11 years, said her transition to Longfellow has been most delightful. "I am delighted to be a new Longfellow Lion," Rosenlof said. "I have received such a welcoming warmth from my first-grade team."

With the recent Harvest Festival and 25th annual Turkey Trot in November, plus many more events planned for the new semester, our Burroughs newcomers have judged their new home to be one of the very, very best!

# Lowell Bayside Academy

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



**Samuel Platis**  
*Principal*

## Giving Thanks

With November upon us, there is a natural tendency to reflect upon things we are thankful for. The first two months of school have provided countless events and interactions that elicit our appreciation and gratitude. Here are a few that we're thankful for at Lowell Elementary School.

We are thankful for our teachers and staff. We are always reminded how seriously they take their responsibility to have a lasting and positive impact on students. Every day our stellar staff is hard at work in the classrooms, on the playground, in the office or at the cafeteria.

Not only does our team have high expectations for academics and behavior, we are also thankful that they provide a warm and nurturing environment where children can feel valued as scholars and people.

We are thankful for our students and their families. There are countless examples of the word "community" that are personified in each one of them. That wonderful, strong sense of connection can also be found in our many PTA-sponsored family events, as well as projects that build awareness around important topics like recycling and our beautiful new learning garden.

In addition to coming to class ready to learn, our students are seeing another example we set, that together we can all make a difference in our community and the world.

It is precisely because of everyone's hard work and dedication that Lowell continues to be a shining example of a school that provides students with a world-class education. This is the key to opening the door to the American Dream, and for this we are all thankful!



# MacArthur *Elementary*

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



**Juan Gutierrez**  
Principal

## They've Got What It Takes!

Our amazing staff of recreation aides, aka MacArthur WIT Team (Whatever It Takes Team), does an outstanding job creating a safe and enjoyable environment during lunch and recess and at the end of the day.

Supervised by recreation leader Della Pielaat, or Miss Della, staff members LaVerne Cooks, Letti Peters, Diana Hays, Pam Sides, Maria Trigueros and Cynthia Watts offer ways for children to reenergize while learning important character skills of friendship, teamwork, kindness, respect and following rules.

"We love our MacArthur children and continue to work hard at keeping our school playground a safe and happy environment for them," Miss Della said.

During recess, lunch and after school, children can play games, participate in coloring contests or have fun dancing. They also can work with Miss Della in the

ball shed, where they earn points toward awards for helping and following rules.

MacArthur Elementary School is grateful for the many hours that Miss Della and her staff commit to our children. They are a precious gift to our school.



**MacArthur's outstanding Recreation Team.**

# 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

## Active Charity Where It Counts

As a community service project last year, Mann students decorated 300 Thanksgiving bags for seniors who participated in the Volunteer Action for Aging program. This program is operated through Independence at Home, a division of a senior health plan. This year, our students are designing Thanksgiving Cards for approximately 200 seniors. The cards will be delivered Thanksgiving Day, along with a special dinner.

Last year, 1,200 meals were delivered to disabled adults and socially isolated seniors in the Greater South Bay area who have little resources to celebrate the holiday. This is a wonderful project for our students; we look forward to bringing joy to those who otherwise might not receive anything on Thanksgiving.

This year, we joined the national PTA organization. With a newly elected slate of officers, they are already hard at work. Their first fund-raiser was held in December. In addition, they are opening a student store to recognize students who display excellent character traits and maintain proficient or advanced-proficient grades.

During our recent book fair, PTA donated \$100 in free books to each of our classrooms. We appreciate all of their hard work, time and support.

Until Dec. 15, we're holding our annual charity food drive. Students and community members are encouraged to donate any of the following: canned fruit and vegetables, dried beans, packaged pasta, macaroni and cheese, canned spaghetti sauce, juices—no glass containers, instant potatoes, cereal, oatmeal, peanut butter—no glass containers, jelly, soups, and rice.

Please contact the office for additional information.



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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

## What An Awesome Turnout!!

Back to School Night at Marshall Academy of the Arts was a huge success!

Marshall's orchestra, dance class, and Mr. Robinson and Ms. Trecker's classes performed for our guests.

In addition, our wonderful Student Council helped to organize the cookout trailer and our families had the opportunity to enjoy a great dinner. The parents and guests enjoyed learning about the new class structure and focus on the arts at Marshall. We are looking forward to an exciting new year!!



# 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

## McKinley Students Soar to New Heights!!

*By Christy Cleveland, McKinley Counselor*

We are so proud of our scholars at McKinley Elementary! Each day our scholars work very hard in the classroom and out on the playground. Their efforts have paid off by raising McKinley's test scores by 46 points this year! Out on the playground our students practice good sportsmanship, respect for others and fairness. Each day our McKinley students exhibit what a safe and civil school looks like. Our McKinley Cougars continue to climb the ladder to success!



# Millikan *High School*

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



**Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo**  
Principal



**Monica Daley**  
Principal of Instruction

## Principal "Hits the Roof" As Test Scores Soar

*By Katie Hickox, Millikan English Dept.*

Principal Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo wore sunglasses and a raincoat at work recently as he spent the day on the roof, ducking water balloons.

Dr. Cornejo celebrated another record year of growth on the Academic Performance Index, or API, a statewide ranking based on test scores. Students celebrated with a "Free Dress" week and paid \$1 each to lob water balloons at the principal—proceeds support school programs.

Millikan's API soared 71 points during the past five years. Rams rank at a 740 API, just below Poly and Lakewood, at 748 and 747 respectively, and above Wilson's 739 score, according to Chris Brown, Millikan's Small Learning Communities coordinator.

"I attribute this increase in API to the infusion of the SLC program at Millikan, an excellent teaching staff and a wonderful group of students who care about their educations," notes Dr. Cornejo, who became a Ram in 1991 as an assistant principal.



# Monroe *(K-8)*

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



**Mark Curran**  
Principal

## Parent Volunteers Make a Difference

On a beautiful Saturday morning, several parents were busy clearing out weeds from the plots at our Monroe garden. That's because Monroe students will be able to plant their fall seeds and care for their new plants until harvest time!

The Monroe Garden is being maintained in these difficult budgetary times by Karen Glynn and Kimi Ishibashi. These two women arrive every Saturday morning to help organize the weekly clean-ups that allow our students to participate in this healthful activity.

On a recent Thursday afternoon the students gathered after school in a classroom with parent volunteers to participate in Monroe's first book swap. They were very eager to trade in the old books they had read for new ones.

The book swap was organized by Monroe parent and PTSA member Julie Williams, who wanted to provide this service for our students. The students are now eagerly waiting for the next book swap to take place.

Thanks to these parent volunteers, we are able to provide extra activities that help make Monroe a special place for every child.



# Muir Academy

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



**Lori Clark**  
Principal

## Thank You, PTO!

*By Anita Gonzalez, Teacher – 1st and 2nd Grade*

The John Muir Academy PTO has begun its work for the 2011–2012 school year and is proud to announce that 10 wonderful parents have committed to make up this year's PTO Board of officers and coordinators: Simon Anaya, Diana Anaya, Estella Wimberly, Devorrus Pryor, Yolanda Castro, Maria Rangel, Benjamin I. Torres, Willie D. Reyes, Lupe Martinez, Sonia Majano and Julie Nunez. PTO's goal is to see more families join and support our school.

It's marvelous to see some of these officers who were students at John Muir offering their volunteer service to the school and community. Simon Anaya, the PTO president, and his father worked long hours when he was a young student at John Muir, and he now continues to serve the school with his wife, Diana Anaya.

Estella Wimberly and Devorrus Pryor continue their outstanding contributions by serving as fund-raising coordinators. Estella can often be found preparing coffee and treats for the staff to encourage everyone to have a productive day.

Our PTO began the school year with several fund-raisers, including the school's T-shirt sales and the parent and staff membership drive. Family nights will be held at a local pizza restaurant every month. All families are invited to attend and support the school.

The December Holiday Gift Shop, which was a big success last year, is coming soon. Also upcoming is a rummage sale, a spring fair, and a talent show. Students, parents and teachers will be needed to make these events a success.

# Newcomb Academy (K–8)

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



**Gray Lange Jr.**  
Principal

## Factoring in the Fun!

The Newcomb Academy Middle School Math Club, Atomic Division, is in full swing for its second year. The club is registered with MATHCOUNTS, whose goal is to inspire excellence, confidence and curiosity in U.S. middle school students through fun and challenging math programs. The club, held on Wednesday afternoons, entertains and educates students interested in math. Coached by Newcomb parents Cari Noble and Joanne Jones, these student athletes competed in a MATHCOUNTS competition held at a global security company in Redondo Beach last year. We plan to compete in that competition again this year as well as in a couple of others.

Approximately 30 students attend Math Club weekly. Our student "mathletes" complete and review challenging math problems and participate in fun math activities while enjoying the all-important snack. Our eighth-graders have a

chance to explain challenging problems, and our sixth-graders are exposed to math problems they have never seen before. It is the sponsorship of the Newcomb Academy Foundation that allows this great club to operate free of charge.



# Naples Bayside Academy

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



**Elizabeth Flynn**  
Principal

## Naples Bayside Academy State Fair

Naples Bayside Academy fifth graders hosted a State Fair on Wednesday, October 19th. Each student was required to research one of the fifty states of the United States of America and create a colorful, engaging display depicting key facts about the state. To enhance the experience for all participants, the students dressed up as someone — or something — significant from the state. Students also provided samples of popular foods from each state, enticing. The playground was transformed into an amazing State Fair. Students and parents enjoyed walking from booth to booth learning important facts about the states, listening to music and tasting delicious foods.



# Polytechnic High School

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



**Joseph Carlson**  
Principal of Instruction



**Victor Jarels**  
Co-Principal

## Team Building

*By Jenny Lindell, Student*

Originally started to help integrate Poly, Poly North has developed into a place to meet new friends and to step out of one's comfort zone. For two and a half days, sophomores participated in activities at Camp Oakes in the Big Bear Mountains.

Team building activities came in the form of the spider web and the see-saw in addition to a few other activities. Campers were forced to use their brains as well as each other's ideas to complete the tasks.

Seminar groups discussed topics such as values, harassment, violence, and cultural differences. The easy going atmosphere of the seminars allowed students

to open up and share information about themselves that they seldom shared.

At the end of the trip, there was more than one teary eye as goodbyes were said, and promises to stay in touch were made. Although experiences differed, the memories made will surely last a lifetime.





# Powell Academy

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



**Wendy Clafflin**  
Principal

## Thinking Maps

Powell Academy for Success teachers are engaged in a collaborative review and implementation of Thinking Maps. Grade-level meetings have been combined to encourage interactive Thinking Map discussions. Teachers are reviewing maps a few at a time to plan lessons together that teach the use of the maps and the type of thinking associated with them. Follow-up discussions provide a forum for relating what worked with a specific map, what caused difficulties, how to differentiate instruction using the same map, and ways to integrate multiple maps across disciplines. During each review session, grade levels spend time planning together for the following four weeks. As a result, many great examples of Thinking Maps are displayed all around our campus and inside the binders of our students.

Powell parents also had an opportunity to become acquainted with Thinking Maps and the types of thinking their students are using when they work with these organizers. Parents attended a Thinking Map introduction workshop on November 8, coordinated by our English language specialist and Advancement Via Individual Determination coordinator. Parent conferences seemed the perfect time to show the tools students are using in their learning. A packet of Thinking Map examples and what thinking goes with each map was given to each person in attendance at the workshop. Parents expressed that this workshop greatly assisted them in their efforts to support their children at home.

# Prisk Elementary

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



**Cindy Young**  
Principal

## Students as Leaders

One of the many visions of Prisk School is to engage and support our students in meaningful and active learning through activities that prepare the students to be creative thinkers and problem solvers.

This year, a group of fifth-grade students demonstrated leadership skills by coming together to save the life of one of our school pets, Cookies and Cream. These students brainstormed ideas and came up with an idea to raise funds for a surgery which will save our pet's life.

The students made several items, including bookmarks and friendship bracelets, and purchased colorful shoelaces. They created flyers, made posters, and advertised the sale of these items on Prisk TV. Thanks to the generosity of the students, enough items were sold to cover the cost of the surgery.

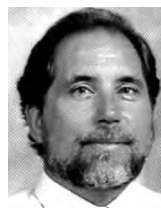
The students have learned a great deal about compassion, leadership and decision making. It was an experience they will remember for years to come.



Hannah Rodrigues, Isabel Lopez, Madeleine Tully, Luanna Sayh, Halle Washington, Marcos Ayon

# 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/)



**Mark Zahn**  
Principal

## The World Will Be Their Stage

Long Beach Renaissance High School for the Arts provides dynamic and innovative education that embraces and integrates arts, academics and technology with equal access for promising young performers and artists. Students seeking arts careers can use their creative gifts while engaging in real-life experiences that prepare them for onstage, front-of-the-camera and behind-the-scenes career opportunities.

Our school was included five times in a weekly news magazine's list of the top 5 percent of national public high schools. As we move into our seventh year, student achievement continues to improve at a tremendous rate. RHSA has made a spectacular achievement jump measured by the Academic Performance Index (API). This gain of 311 points during seven years, 2004–2011, placed Renaissance as a top academic high school. Interdisciplinary schoolwide visual and performing-arts projects increase student success.

However, achievement scores alone do not begin to reveal the culture of learning that has been established on the Renaissance campus. A highly qualified faculty crafts unique artistic experiences. Graduates are able to think, create, communicate and lead and are ready for top universities or artistic and technical careers.

All students must apply to RHSA. There is no attendance boundary. Eligible students receive preprofessional training by a staff of exemplary artist-teachers and professional guest teachers in all dance genres, theater, technical theater, stage and screenwriting, television production, music technology, vocal music, instrumental music technology, vocal music, instrumental music—jazz band, piano, guitar—visual arts and design, and digital art. For admission requirements and application information, call our office.

# 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

## Reid High School Students—Saving Lives!

On Monday, October 24, 2011, Reid Raptors hosted a Red Cross blood drive. Students successfully donated a grand total of 32 units of blood. Due to diligent screening ahead of time by student commission, few students were turned away. Raptor donations will save up to 96 lives!

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# Riley *Elementary*

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



**Stacy Sanchez**  
*Principal*

## The Cream Flies, School Supplies and—You Want Fries?

There are many reasons to celebrate at Riley! Our state test scores continue to show tremendous growth for our students, classes and school. The grade level with the highest growth was third grade, so they got to cream Mrs. Sanchez! Included with those students, were all students who scored 100 percent on the ELA, math or both. Congratulations to Jacob A., Mariah, Joshua N., Kelly T., Jordan S., Lucas N., Zachary C., Xyjae A., Mia C., Ismael C. and Mhico L.!

Following this, we celebrated one of our fabulous teachers who received recognition from an office-supply superstore through their program “A Day Made Better.” She was nominated by her colleagues as a deserving teacher because of her dedication and work with the first-graders and all students at Riley. She received \$1,000 worth of classroom supplies! The store also generously gave our school 15–20 additional boxes of school supplies for the entire school! We thank the store and staff.

Finally, we celebrated with a fast-food chain where dedicated teachers and staff members learned the ropes of the behind-the-scenes work at the restaurant. We thank the generous donation of \$500 plus tips! We look forward to next year and even more students and families coming out to support our school and business partner next year!

# Roosevelt

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



**Dr. Christopher Lund**  
*Principal*

## Bears Foster Learners and Tutors

*By Clarissa Tolentino, Vice Principal*

We focus on growing students who will provide ways to help other students grow as learners. Roosevelt's Peer Tutor Leadership Council is made up of third-, fourth- and fifth-graders who are selected by their teachers and the administration team to be the school's student representatives.

Student Peer Tutors exemplify the traits of caring, justice and fairness, respect, responsibility, civic virtue and good citizenship, and trustworthiness. The purpose of this team of students is to provide extra support through cross-age tutoring for grades K–2 in reading, math or both. The Peer Tutors were taught what questions to ask the students they'll be helping, and how to ask them, to encourage their use of critical-thinking skills instead of just recalling answers relating to basic facts, learning letters, sounds and reading questions.

We appreciate all the work that our student leaders do to contribute to making Roosevelt the best place to learn and grow!



Third, fourth, and fifth grade peer tutors.

# Robinson *Academy*

2750 Pine Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/492-6003 • [www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/robinson](http://www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/robinson)



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

## Field of Excellence

As the new principal to Jackie Robinson, I begin my 20th year in education. I am humbled to serve in this capacity and look forward to leading and supporting our Robinson students through a “Field of Dreams and Opportunities” for academic success.

To start the year, we have new Team JROB Members who have joined us to be a part of our teaching and support staff: Emily Matto, kindergarten; Jesica Saikley, K/1 combo; Victoria Bahr, fourth grade; Luke Serviss and Puthea Ing, fifth grade; and Victoria Joo, sixth grade. Also, joining us are Shayla Brown, EL specialist; Patricia Marquez, psychologist; and Shirley Lane, speech and language. They bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experiences to support our students' continued success.

I invite and welcome you to become actively involved in your children's education through our active and supportive Parent, Teacher and Student Association (PTSA). When the partnership between Jackie Robinson faculty and staff and the families is strong, student achievement is strengthened and accelerated.

One of the goals for Jackie Robinson this year is to improve the communication between school and home. We will continue to use technology to aid us in achieving our goal of improving our connection with you via our school website, School Loop for Middle and Elementary, and TELEPARENT. These are avenues to inform and support parents in monitoring the progress of their children's academic success.

I am excited to begin our 2011–12 “Field of Excellence” experience together. Go JROB Dolphins!

# Rogers *Middle School*

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



**Tom Huff**  
*Principal*

## Horn of Plenty of Good Reasons for Thanks

It doesn't seem possible, but the Thanksgiving holiday is just a few weeks away. I would like to share some thoughts about our school and several reasons I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as principal at Rogers Middle School.

I am thankful for...the fantastic children who come to school daily with an eagerness and love of learning that one can't help but catch. These are children who, despite their many different backgrounds, demonstrate a common pride in the school, concern for one another, and a level of respect for adults not found at many schools. This is a tribute to you as parents who have taught your children meaningful values and respect for others.

I am thankful for...a staff of caring, professional adults who go beyond the job descriptions to do whatever it takes to meet the needs of our boys and girls. I am surrounded daily by adults who care deeply about the quality of education at Rogers and the success of our students.

I am thankful for...the volunteers who give time and of themselves to make Rogers a better school. I am thankful for everything, from the hundreds of hours of parent time to the college students who give so unselfishly. I am particularly thankful for the leadership of our PTA, who sacrifice so much for the students and the school. Our PTA is committed to serving the children at Rogers, and it is a pleasure to work with individuals who value education.

As you gather for the celebration of Thanksgiving, please engage your children in exploring their reasons for being thankful. It is easy to take much for granted, and both adults and children need to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy.

**Happy New Year!**  
Thank you for including *School News*  
among your reading choices for the last 12 years.  
Our next issue is February 8, 2012



# Signal Hill *Elementary*

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



**Lauren Price**  
Principal

## Eagle Scout Beautifies Kindergarten Playground

When I was approached a few months ago by a young man about his Eagle Scout project, I had no idea what to expect! But after a great deal of planning and hard work, on one hot September weekend, Nick Bass of Troop 212 made a miracle happen for our Kindergarten students!

Nick and his team of young scouts worked over a period of two days on a project which included repainting and roofing the play equipment shed, sanding and repainting a wooden table, covering a fenced off area containing electrical equipment, and building four

beautiful planter boxes. The project was conceived and executed by Nick, and the results are just amazing!

Thank you, Nick, for making the playground a more beautiful place for our youngest students to learn and grow!



# Stanford *Middle School*

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



**Kathleen Cruz**  
Principal

## Getting Acclimated

All Stanford Middle School sixth-graders participate in the Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) program. WEB begins prior to the first day of school when seventh- and eighth-grade WEB Leaders introduce themselves to small groups of incoming sixth-grade students and assist in their orientation to our campus. It doesn't end with that day, however. The leaders "follow" their sixth-grade friends throughout the year, teaching lessons in advisory classes, such as how to stay organized, attending the sixth-grade welcome dance to ease students into their first middle school dance, and meeting periodically for fun activities, such as a picnic held on the front lawn of our campus.

On October 27, all Stanford sixth-graders had the opportunity to participate in our annual Abilities Awareness Day through their physical education classes. This event allows students to experience challenges our special needs students face each and every day. During a single period, students learned the basics of American Sign Language and how our visually impaired pupils maneuver around

campus. They participated in a wheelchair obstacle race and communicated with friends by way of vocal output communication devices. Pupils had great fun learning about the many different abilities that make up our Stanford community!



**Stanford 6th graders receive a lesson on how pupils use Vocal Output Communication Devices to converse with friends.**

# Stephens *Middle School*

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



**Diane Prince**  
Principal

## Walk & Bike to School

Stephens Middle School encourages all students to arrive at school safely each day. A co-sponsored program by the LB City Council and Long Beach Bike to school was a huge success, "Walk & Bike to School Day." Safety first was the message, use the crosswalks,

look both ways, if you ride a bike, scooter or skateboard to school wear a helmet. Raffle tickets were given to students who were arriving safely to school. A brand new bike and helmet were donated by the Safe Moves Program won by 7th grade student Victor Ramos! The bike and helmet was given on our video broadcast by the Safe Moves Program to Victor and his mother. Congratulations Victor enjoy your new bike and helmet!



# Stevenson *Elementary*

515 Lime Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/437-0407 • [www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/stevenson](http://www.lbusd.k12.ca.us/stevenson)



**David Zaid**  
Principal

## Red Ribbon Week and Fall Fun

Pumpkins, candy apples, brown leaves, costumes and sweaters always mean that fall is here.

And this season our students also learned about the dangers of drugs during our Red Ribbon Week celebration. Red ribbons and banners were hung outside the school and in hallways to help engage the entire community. Each class offered lessons and activities that empowered the student's hopes and dreams to commit them to education and the goal of keeping their lives drug free.

The students dressed in red and received red bracelets. They even decorated their classroom doors. The week concluded with a schoolwide assembly and an announcement of the winners of the decorating contest.

The fall season also brought other activities, such as a costume contest, a student costume parade and a spooky story time that shared reading experiences in a secret reading room. Each class was tiptoeing as they waded through fog, spider webs, flashing lights and spooky sounds.



This enjoyable school experience fostered a love for reading in the kindergarten through third-grade classrooms, as well as an appreciation for writing imaginative narratives in the fourth- and fifth-grades.



# Tincher *Preparatory School*

1701 Petaluma Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/493-2636 • [www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/tincher/home.html](http://www2.lbusd.k12.ca.us/tincher/home.html)



**Dr. Kelly An**  
*Principal*

## National Demonstration School

*By Tim Schugt, Teacher – 2nd Grade*

Tincher Preparatory School is one of only six schools in the country to be named a National Demonstration School by the Verizon Foundation. Using funds from Verizon's foundation, Tincher will develop and implement an instructional program that integrates technology into math and science instruction in kindergarten through eighth grade. This year-long program will serve as a model for other schools looking to enhance instruction and increase student achievement using Thinkfinity educational resources.

The Tincher Thinkfinity Team consists of teachers at all grade levels who will incorporate and expand the use of technology-based lessons into their classrooms.



In addition to this prestigious recognition, Tincher recently opened the doors of its newly upgraded elementary technology lab, courtesy of our generous PTA. Students will use the brand-new Apple iMacs to learn basic technology skills based on the national educational technology standards and participate in online activities designed to enhance classroom lessons.

# Webster *Elementary*

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



## Citizen of the Month Recognition Assembly

*By Jamie Berry, Kindergarten Teacher*

At Webster Elementary, the social and emotional development of our students are as important as their academic achievement. For this reason, our students are not only scholars but also students of great character who demonstrate positive behavior toward others.

Janice Nabbout, one of our two wonderful counselors, has initiated a Citizen of the Month Recognition Assembly that honors students for displaying positive character traits. Each assembly acknowledges one positive character trait, such as fairness. A student from each class in school is nominated and attends the assembly. Parents are also invited to attend. Principal Maria Martinez presents a certificate to all students, and a brief description of the positive actions that lead to each student being nominated for the award is announced. Character traits that will be addressed this year include trustworthiness and responsibility. We believe all students should lead fulfilling lives, both academically and as citizens of the world.



**Principal Maria Martinez (top left) and counselor Janice Nabbout (top right) with students at the Citizen of the Month assembly.**

# Twain *Elementary*

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



**Ellen Ryan**  
*Principal*

## Thank You Veterans

Mark Twain Elementary school held their fifth annual Veterans Day Celebration, saying THANK YOU to our VETERANS. Our key note speaker, the most captivatingly precious, Rosie the Riveter, 92 year old Marjorie Groome stole the show. Other program highlights included the following: Cub Scout Troop #23 presenting the colors, representatives from our five Military branches displaying their respective flags, High Tide singing a melody of patriotic songs, Melissa Segura beautifully reading an incredibly honoring tribute she wrote to our veterans, Korynne Leon, student council president, reading a Veterans Day Poem, Kayla Quiroz who sang, "Hero", beautiful tributes shared by honored guest Chief Braden Phillips, LBPD, and our Mistress of Ceremonies Robin Norris. Twain students singing the five military



**Mrs. Mitchell's first graders singing our National Anthem**

branch theme songs, and Nathaniel Williams amazing the crowd with a medley of popular patriotic American songs on his bagpipes. A special shout out to 5th grader Alicia Casey who designed an incredible program cover.

# Washington *Middle School*

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



**Shivaun Williams**  
*Principal*

## Cleanup Time!

*By Rogelio Martinez, Youth Mentor*

Greetings from Washington Middle School! We are happy to inform you that in October, a dedicated group of young men committed a morning of community service to cleaning the accumulated debris that surrounded our middle school. The Male Academy students led the way in making the Community Cleanup a reality. Our school principal, Ms. Williams, came up with the idea and donated her Saturday morning to being a role model for our students. Mr. Hall, the Male Academy teacher, and I, a Building Healthy Communities Youth Mentor, moved forward with the idea and enlisted the Neighborhood Services Bureau to provide the cleaning tools and dumpster.

The eagerness and commitment from the Male Academy students was evident in their punctuality, attendance and willingness to go beyond the expected. The scheduled cleanup was at 9 a.m., but by 8:30 a.m., the majority of students were already cleaning the sidewalks on Cedar and Pacific avenues. Because of the great number of students and community members in attendance, the designated zone was cleaned up within 40 minutes. With the support of Sigma Lambda Beta members, Mr. Hall was excited to be able to expand the area for cleanup to include the nearby skate park and additional streets.

The next week, when they reflected on their time at the community cleanup, students wrote about their pride in collaborating and their contribution. This was a positive and successful event. Our next step is to extend an invitation to the Long Beach Community about our next Community Cleanup on Dec. 10, 9–11 a.m.



# Whittier *Elementary*

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



**Edward Garcia**  
Principal

## Seasonal Message

As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, it is a good time to reflect on all the wonderful people in our lives—the people we are truly thankful for. At Whittier, we have so much to be thankful for! I am truly thankful to work at a school where teachers and support staff work so hard to make sure all of our students are successful learners! I am thankful to all of our supportive parents who attend meetings, volunteer in classrooms, help with our school fund-raisers and make sure their children come to school every day, on time, ready to learn! I am so thankful that Whittier students are excited, enthusiastic and thoughtful learners! Whittier has the *best* students! I hope that you will take time from your busy life to reflect on all that you are thankful for.

On behalf of Whittier teachers and support staff, I wish you a very happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

# Willard *Elementary*

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



**Kevin Maddox**  
Principal

## New Faces at Willard

*By William Diaz-Brown, 4th Grade Teacher*

We have many new faces at Willard this year. Tanya House has worked as Willard's new school secretary since August. She previously had served at Lincoln, and stated that she was happy to be a new part of the Willard family. Gail Stoter is working as our new speech and language teacher, serving many of our younger Willard students.

We have also welcomed Ruth Alcade, our new school psychologist as well as Jessica Torres our new Recreation Aide and Dorothy Booker our new cafeteria worker.

We have one new teacher joining the staff, Jaycee Leitner. Ms. Leitner joins the staff as a fifth grade teacher. She previously had taught 2nd grade Excel at Lee. When asked of her perception of Willard, Ms. Leitner smiled broadly and said that she was happy to join the staff. On the part of the Willard community, the affection is mutual.



Jaycee Leitner, Jessica Torres, Dorothy Booker,  
Tanya House, Gail Stoter

# 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

## WWCHS Canned Food Drive

*By Loudspeaker Reporter, Lily Phillips  
(11th Grade)*

Wilson students were ready to do their part to end hunger. The annual canned food drive hosted by ASB began November 1st and ended November 30th. All types of canned food were donated such as soups, canned vegetables and dry pasta. The proceeds of this very important drive we donated to the Salvation Army who distributed the cans to local food banks. Wilson's Activities Director, Ms. Erin Fekjar, affirmed, "ASB will buy a pizza or donut party for the winning English class."

Since the economic downturn started in 2008, the number of families in need has increased. According to City-data.com, in 2009 27% of children were below the poverty level in Long Beach. The poverty level in America in 2010 was 15.1%, reported in the U.S. census Bureau. This translated into 46.2 million people being affected. The Salvation Army stated that there is a 94% increase in the need of food assistance but there has been a 60% decline in donations. This means that every can a Wilson student donated will make a big difference.

## Buffum Pre-K Total Learning Center

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

# Pumpkin Parade

*By Ann Mantel, Maria Pena and Jinky Steinberg  
Buffum TLC Pre-K/SDC Teachers*

More than 100 parents, families and friends applauded their children during Buffum Pre-K Total Learning Center's inaugural October Pumpkin Parade and Performance. Both a.m. and p.m. SDC students donned costumes and performed season-themed songs and finger plays.

Teachers and staff, led by Miriam Garcia, began the school year developing program goals and objectives. One important goal is fostering involvement and collaboration with families and the community. This event was an exciting example of working toward meeting and maintaining this goal.

The entire Buffum community hopes this will be the first of many programwide events that connect with home and community. Parent Janika Givens couldn't have been more pleased to see her child participate in the performance.

"It's so great to see the kids perform with such enthusiasm," she said. "You can tell how hard the teachers worked with them. And of course, they all looked so adorable in their costumes. I can't wait to see what they come up with next."



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# The Health Way



**Lauren Shaw**  
*Director*

At North Child Development Center, we are learning about health and nutrition. Our current six-week thematic lesson is designed to introduce healthy concepts about food and nutrition while developing healthy lifestyle choices.

We have implemented physical education practices into our curriculum in order to promote positive and fun physical activities. We have introduced the Five a Day Healthy Way theme. Children are learning about fruits and vegetables, including how they grow, what they look, and how they taste. Children are learning the importance of eating five servings of fruits and vegetables every day. They are using classification skills to identify healthy and unhealthy foods, as well as fruits and vegetables. Children have planted tomatoes and beans and are patiently waiting for sprouts. They have tasted different fruits and vegetables. Children are also eating a variety of colors and experiencing multicultural healthy foods, which were introduced in the story "Morning Meals Around the World" by Michelle Zurzkowski.



To celebrate health and nutrition, we are planning a family literacy night. Children and their families will be encouraged to bring in a healthy family favorite recipe that include fruits and vegetables and share them with each other. We will make a collaborative recipe book for each family.

## St. Joseph High School

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

# Working Together and Giving Back



**Dr. Terri Mendoza**  
*Principal*

This fall semester has proven to be a busy, yet exciting time for the students at St. Joseph High School and their friends at St. John Bosco. They were able to share new experiences and create lasting memories together at the SJHS carnival. Thanks to the tireless work of parents and the decorating prowess of the Associated Student Body, the carnival went off without a hitch. Family and friends were able to go on rides, play games, win prizes, and eat delicious food.

Another important bonding event for the students was the senior seminar, where the young men of St. John Bosco and the ladies of St. Joseph's were able to have a dialogue with each other about the problems that teenagers face today. They were separated into small groups, led by their own peers, where they could discuss their opinions on social media, relationships, etc. in a comfortable, non-judgmental environment. The seniors shared laughs, opinions, and memories while learning to cooperate in a variety of ice-breakers. They were also treated to a skit performed by their fellow students that outlined the differences between a good date and a bad date. Students were able to make friends with people they had never had the privilege of knowing before and were able to reminisce with the friends they had since they began their high school journey.

This semester, students learned that you can have fun while still being able to give back to the community. Large numbers of students participated in the annual CHOC Walk at Disneyland. They each raised over \$3000 to donate to the Children's Hospital of Orange County and enjoyed the magic of Disneyland as they walked throughout the park waving at different characters and having a great time.

St. Joseph High School students also learned that healthy habits and having fun can go hand in hand together during Heath Awareness Week. Throughout the week students were able to participate in fun, health promoting events in Chapel Court such as yoga, a jump-rope competition, and a limbo contest. They were given healthy snacks to enjoy and learned a new health fact every morning on announcements. The week came to a head with the always highly anticipated Jog - A - Thon, where students were able to run (or walk) together and raise money with each step they took. They were cheered on by their teachers and student leaders at every checkpoint and were congratulated upon reaching the finish line where they were rewarded with snacks and a feeling of accomplishment.

The juniors were honored at their Junior Ring Ceremony and the students were able to share common interests during Join-A-Club Week. The memories and fun shared by all the students, teachers, and administration of both St. Joseph and St. John Bosco are evidence of the exciting time that awaits the students as the rest of this beautiful fall season unfolds.

## STATE FARM • FROM PAGE 5

5. Create separate pots of savings for upcoming life stages. Retirement may be an important goal for which to begin saving, but other goals or events need as much or more preparation. Don't short-change other goals while concentrating on one thing. Whether it's a home, car or child's education, it is important to give appropriate attention to each.

6. If you have children, find the right education plan. You have a number of choices when it comes to saving for a child's education. Finding the one that makes sense for your situation takes planning and information. This takes us to the seventh and, quite possibly, the most important point...

7. Work with someone you know and trust. Everyone's needs and goals are unique. Just as you go through many changes during your lifetime, your financial goals may change. You should work with a professional who not only knows about various plans and strategies, but knows you and will stay with you through the long haul. Most people feel the best guidance they receive comes from a financial professional they know and trust.

In the end, it all boils down to making a plan, getting started and staying the course. When you make the decision to finally start, contact a financial professional who knows you and understands your needs.

Jeff Yanc can be reached at State Farm Insurance, 4087 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA. 562-595-6969.



**WHEN STUDENTS SUCCEED • FROM PAGE 1**

nonprofits to communities of faith, from the Chamber of Commerce to presidents of large and small businesses, from parents and grandparents to elected officials. We all play an important roll in the success of our students.

At the center of the activities are the hard-working educators in the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College, and California State University Long Beach who are buoyed on by the Greater Long Beach community. The three institutions have held monthly, sometimes more often, cross-institutional meetings focused on student success without skipping a single month since 1994. When students succeed, communities prosper.

Though the three education institutions have been making consistent improvements in education together through Seamless Education since 1994, garnering one national recognition after another along the way, never have they been more focused on college-going rates than in the last three and a half years. On March 20, 2008, after two years of gathering stakeholders' input and rigorous strategic planning to put the structures in place, the three institutions have made the biggest commitments to each other in Long Beach history. LBUSD Superintendent of Schools, Chris Steinhauer, Superintendent-President of LBCC, Eloy Ortiz Oakley, and President of CSULB, F. King Alexander signed the Long Beach College Promise. The goals of the promise are:

- Increase the percentage of LBUSD students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school;
- Increase the percentage of LBCC students who earn degrees and/or career and technical certificates;
- Increase the percentage of LBCC students who successfully transfer to CSULB or another four-year college or university; and
- Increase the percentage of CSULB students who graduate with a bachelor's degree and/or advanced degrees.

Part of the Promise is LBCC's commitment to a tuition-free first semester for our local students immediately following high school graduation. The LBCC Foundation has raised over \$6 million to pay for students' tuitions. The number of LBUSD high school graduates going directly to LBCC has increased significantly since 2007. About 75% of LBUSD grads enroll in college and about half of them go to either LBCC or CSULB. Part of the CSULB Promise is to give priority admission to our local students. While other CSUs are abandoning priority admissions for their local graduates, CSULB is keeping their promise despite receiving over 72,000 undergraduate applications.

Other positive findings of the Long Beach College Promise:

- LBCC students from LBUSD have stronger math skills than other incoming students.
- Every local high school 2011 graduate who enrolled at LBCC this Fall paid no enrollment fees – that's over 1,600 students.
- LBCC students from LBUSD are more likely to persist than other students: LBUSD students are twice as likely to persist from their first fall term of enrollment at LBCC to the following fall semester.
- CSULB accepts over 80% of LBUSD applicants compared to 30% for students from other high schools.

Both LBCC and CSULB are committed to increasing the number of students successfully graduating from their institutions with certificates and/or diplomas. LBCC has set targets and timelines for students to successfully matriculate from LBCC to CSULB with their Promise Pathways Program. In the community college world, this is a unique strategy being deployed by LBCC to ensure LBUSD grads get priority registration and course placement, and academic advising, all part of the goal of getting students prepared for and on their way to CSULB or other

colleges and universities in a timely fashion. The same course offering improvements are happening in certificate programs at LBCC.

On December 1, 2011, the three institutions hosted a joint faculty symposium at LBCC, bringing together key stakeholders to discuss how to be more successful with fewer resources. Teams of educators from each of the comprehensive high schools comprised of principals, counselors, and faculty from mathematics and English/language arts met with their job-alikes from LBCC and CSULB. They discussed everything from student achievement data to end-of-course exams. Symposia like this one is key to communication among educators so they can strategize and plan for their students' successful graduations and transitions.

Who funds the Long Beach College Promise? The institutional leadership insists on not only a mentality of collaboration but collaborative action plans each year among the three institutions' executive level faculties. It is written into their job descriptions. Therefore, collaborations are guaranteed and never dependent on state or federal funding. This one characteristic of the Seamless Education Partnership and the Long Beach College Promise is the reason collaborations never stall in Long Beach. This institutional commitment was recently noted in a nationally published case study on our Seamless Education Partnership by the Business and Higher Education Forum as the most important feature for sustaining successful P-18 collaborations. But outside funding is welcomed enthusiastically!

The Boeing Company has been hugely instrumental in funding innovative programs and components of Seamless Education including the Long Beach College Promise activities. They have funded student success programs like the Male Academy and Counseling Reform. They have funded scholarships for elementary teachers to go back to college and take more mathematics classes to make them stronger math teachers. They have funded more Seamless Education programs than any other public or private foundation. This year, Boeing is funding the joint faculty work, the heavy lifting by high school teachers exhausted from teaching who are meeting with higher education counterparts to find more ways for students to succeed. Boeing will announce a \$75,000 grant to the Long Beach Education Foundation on December 7th at the State of Education Address at the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center

"The joint faculty work across the institutions is critical to removing barriers to higher education and the world of work for our local students. The Long Beach Education Foundation is honored to bring resources to our dedicated faculties to work on the Long Beach College Promise. Student success is our mission and we are dedicated to it," said Scott Dionne, President of the Long Beach Education Foundation after hearing the announcement that Boeing will give the Education Foundation \$75,000 to continue College Promise work this year.

If you are a student, a parent, or interested in reading more about the Long Beach College Promise, please go to: [www.longbeachcollegepromise.org](http://www.longbeachcollegepromise.org).

**SUPERINTENDENT • FROM PAGE 1**



**Christopher J. Steinhauer**

We care deeply about our students in Long Beach, and we go beyond the call of duty to ensure their success.

Not that data isn't important. In fact, one national expert just observed that we in LBUSD are "almost fanatical about data." With all our test scores now tabulated, including our year-round schools that tested on a later calendar, it's clear that more and more schools are reaching the state's target of 800 out of 1,000 points on the Academic Performance Index, a success story that's repeated throughout our many diverse neighborhoods no matter the challenges they may face.

But using data is simply a means to an end. Driving the effective use of data is our underlying dedication to the powerful notion that every child deserves a good education. Equal access to good schools is nothing less than the civil rights issue of our time, and public schools are still the best equipped institutions to handle this challenge. For the vast millions of students nationwide, public schools remain the primary means of upward mobility and a path to a better way of life. Public schools are still the backbone of our democracy.

In Long Beach we're proving that public schools can stand for excellence and equity, and that we deserve to be supported. To all who continue to assist us, I thank you for providing our children the lasting, precious gift of a good education, and I wish you a wonderful holiday season.

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# 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*

## Project Based Learning Defines Westerly School's Program

In the world of teaching and learning, there are many ways to help students gain access to academic content. To do this well requires study, practice, and reflection, processes that all great teachers embrace. If quality instruction were not challenging enough, however, the fact that people learn differently from one another further complicates the matter.

One way the Westerly faculty addresses the various ways students learn best is through project-based learning, which is a hallmark of the school's philosophy and program. With the mission to develop each child's full potential: intellectually, emotionally, morally, and physically, the act of project-learning facilitates a deeper understanding of the material and of one's self. Students are posed with a "driving question" to spark interest and then work in small collaborative groups to explore the topic at hand. Through the combination of independent and group work, students develop their confidence as learners, collaborators, and problem-solvers, while also honing their organizational and time-management skills.

Below are some of the projects that Westerly's students are engaged in, which provides them a broad and varied platform from which to deeply understand instructional concepts.

Second and third graders studied geometry and measurement by taking a closer look at the shapes around them. Third grade students invited the second-graders to be featured artists at a "Geo-measurement Palooza," which created intrigue and guided the initial inquiry. The students photographed geometric figures in their classroom and around campus, and then analyzed and measured these to identify scale. The photos were displayed at a gallery opening with a written summary answering the following driving questions: How does Geometry and Measurement appear in the world around us? What shapes do we see in our environment? How can we measure the size of those objects?



**2nd and 3rd grade students collaborating.**

In making a connection between the curriculum and real life, students in fifth grade applied their study of fractions and their decimal equivalents by being "hired" as a reviewer for a magazine publisher. Their job was to investigate competitor's magazines to determine what parts of the magazines include articles compared to advertisements. They used fractions, ratios, and decimals to prepare a report to summarize their findings. In their report, they included a bar graph to show the comparison between four different magazines.

Westerly's Middle School enlivens the program through project-based learning as well. Sixth graders recently studied statistics and data analysis in math class. They participated in the Census at School program and used a random sampling of U.S. 6th grade responses to create data displays. Each student chose a quantitative response and created box-and-whisker plots, bar graphs, and stem-and-leaf plots based upon the data. Students learned to sort data and remove extraneous responses, display the same data in different manners, used Excel to create a chart and graphs, and were part of a nationwide collaboration.

Regularly integrated into Westerly's project-based curriculum are the enriching subjects of visual arts, music, foreign language, and physical education, all of which are subjects that are integral parts of the Westerly program and experience and contribute to the school's mission of educating the whole child.

## Westerly Community Visits: Seeing Firsthand

Each month Westerly School hosts a community visit, which provides the public an opportunity to see the type of teaching and learning that occurs every day on campus. The visits last just over an hour and include an overview of Westerly's history, mission, and programs, followed by a tour of the classrooms and a question and answer session. This first-hand view of a Westerly education in action enables visitors to hear about and see a variety of ways the school's mission is delivered including, but not limited to its:

### Strong Academic Program

A Westerly education includes a rigorous and supportive academic program along with instruction in Visual Arts, Music – both vocal and instrumental, Spanish, and Physical Education. In addition, Westerly's commitment to the development of the whole child includes opportunities to address the emotional and moral development of its students.

### Sense of Community

Westerly is known for its small class size and inclusive and safe environment. Families know one another, parents are involved, and each student is encouraged to take academic risks and is challenged to reach his or her full potential.

### Student Mentor/Mentee Program

The Mentor/Mentee Program has been a long standing tradition at Westerly. Each year a younger class is paired-up with an older class and each pair will spend the year forming a relationship and engaging in activities and projects.

### Differentiated Learning

Throughout the classrooms, teachers engage in a variety of approaches to meet the needs of individual students. This could include one-on-one or small group instruction, student-centered stations, activities, experiments and project-based learning.

### Interactive White Board Technology

Each classroom is equipped with a SMART interactive white board. These modern "chalkboards" extend learning opportunities for students where faculty and students find numerous ways to integrate this technology across the curriculum.

### Computers

Each middle school student is loaned their own laptop computer, which extends learning opportunities between home and school. Lower School students are also provided daily opportunities to engage with computers and technology to enhance their learning experiences.

### Intangibles and Anecdotes

Day in and day out, the value of a Westerly education presents itself in unexpected ways. Community visits allow for the sharing of these unique moments, which help complete the tour that may lead to an education that we believe will change a child's future.

Please consider joining us on one of our future community visits listed below:  
December 6, 2011 • January 10, 2012 • January 24, 2012 • February 7, 2012

For a reservation, please contact the Director of Admissions, Crystal Barnwell, at 562 981-3151 or cbarnwell@westerlyschool.org. Westerly's priority application deadline is January 23. We hope to see you on the campus soon!

Westerly School is a non-profit, non-denominational independent school located on a five-acre campus in the heart of Long Beach. To learn more about Westerly School, please visit [www.westerlyschool.org](http://www.westerlyschool.org) or call (562) 981-3151.





**Dr. Felton Williams**  
President

While I am one of five school board members elected to oversee our entire school district, I also represent a distinct geographical area of our school system known as District 2. In a school system frequently recognized among the best urban school districts in the nation, District 2 is certainly among the most urban areas of our system, and I take special pride in the outstanding progress that our District 2 schools have made despite unprecedented cuts in state funding for education.

Just five years ago, none of our District 2 elementary schools had yet to achieve the state's ultimate target of 800 on a scale of 1,000 on the Academic Performance Index. Parents, realtors, investors and homeowners know these numbers well, for they affect property values and quality of life in our neighborhoods. Today, two-thirds of District 2 elementary schools have surpassed 800 on the API. Some of these schools have far surpassed the state goal. Among them are Roosevelt (840 API) and our highest performer, Lafayette (860 API). In fact, both Roosevelt and Lafayette have won the prestigious National School Change Award for their incredible transformations in just a few years.

We are excitedly watching the remaining three elementary or K-8 schools in District 2 that have yet to reach an API of 800, because they are very close. Garfield is at 790, Hudson is at 779 and Robinson is at 770. By this time next year, we think all will reach the coveted 800 target, which is an amazing testament to the hard work going on in our schools every day.

At the high school level, District 2 includes Cabrillo and Poly high schools along with the California Academy of Mathematics and Science. Far more students are taking Advanced Placement college prep courses there, and the amount of scholarships earned by graduating seniors at these schools has grown by a whopping 70 percent to \$27.7 million in just four years. Students routinely are gaining admission and full-ride scholarships to the nation's most prestigious college and universities.

It's no wonder our high schools have been named among the nation's best by *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report*, and mostly recently by the *Washington Post*. At the same time, Poly was recognized by ESPN recently for having the best sports program in the nation, maintaining the school's proud tradition as the "home of scholars and champions."

These are just a few examples of what we can achieve when we work together for the same noble cause – the betterment of our children and their future. With your support, I am confident that our schools will continue their great progress.

I encourage you to remain involved in our schools, and be sure to visit [www.lbschools.net](http://www.lbschools.net) regularly for all the latest news and information about the world-class education that thousands of students are receiving here in the Long Beach Unified School District.

Warmest wishes to all for a joyous holiday season.



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**Randy Gordon**  
President/CEO

### STATE OF THE PORT ADDRESS • FROM PAGE 1

Long Beach.

The Port's commitment to the community continues with multi-billion dollar projects which will employ local residents for years to come. The Port's slew of projects require years of construction. It is the people of Long Beach that will benefit most – with a place to find steady work during difficult times, and a partner in the Port who is committed to improving the community's environment. The Middle Harbor Redevelopment Project and infrastructure projects like it will provide an estimated 1,000 jobs a year and more than 14,000 jobs once the construction is completed. This project proves the Port's commitment to expanding operations and improving their community. When completed, a new terminal will move twice as many goods with half the pollution.

The Port is entering its second century as the premier gateway for trans-pacific trade, and is a recognized leader in the goods movement industry around the world. The new Executive Director, Chris Lytle, will address these projects and more at the annual State of the Port Address on January 19, 2012 at the Long Beach Convention Center Ballroom.

## 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](http://www.ci.signal-hill.ca.us)

### DECEMBER ON THE HILL • FROM PAGE 1



**Larry Forester**  
Mayor

### Free programs at the Signal Hill Public Library

**Evening Book Club** – Second Monday each month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Adults only please. On December 12th, *Wench* by: Dolen Perkins-Valdez. Please read book prior to the meeting and come ready for a lively discussion. National Public Radio (NPR) listed this book as one of the best books in 2010. This book was selected in recognition of the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War.

### First Fridays' Book Club—

Alternating fiction and non-fiction titles. Featured are such books as *Watchers* by Dean Koontz, *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett and *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls.

**Story & Play Time**—Introducing literature, music, movement and play, parents and caregivers are encouraged to participate. The program is divided into age groups for Babies and Toddlers, Preschoolers, and School Age children. Snacks are included.

**Signal Hill Social Club**—A morning of games, time on the computers or browsing through our books, refreshments, and conversation during this special time just for active adults aged 55 and older.

**Computer Access and Workshops**—Six access computers internet access. Monthly workshops are also offered to inform and teach the community about all of the useful resources available for patrons that go beyond the printed medium.

**B.A.R.K. Dogs for School Age Children**—On the third Saturday of the month at 11:30, Story Time features B.A.R.K. dogs. Children (14 and under) are invited to visit the Signal Hill Public Library on these dates to read a book to a canine reading companion.

**Bilingual Story Time**—On the first Tuesday of the month at 11:00 a.m. you can enjoy stories and songs in English and Spanish. Cuentos para ninos a la biblioteca de Signal Hill.

For more information about our programs, please visit our website at [www.cityofsignalhill.org](http://www.cityofsignalhill.org) or contact the Library at (562) 989-7323, 1770 E. Hill Street, Signal Hill, CA 90755.





## City of Long Beach, City Prosecutor

333 West Ocean Blvd., 2nd Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/570-5600 • www.longbeach.gov



**Douglas P. Haubert**

*City Prosecutor*

### ON THE ROAD TO SAFETY • FROM PAGE 1

make sure they practice good habits, such as looking both ways and always crossing in the crosswalk.

Make sure your children take the same route to school and back home every day. Taking the same path means less chance of getting lost, and you'll know where to find them when they are in transit. Even if your students are capable of walking or biking themselves to school, go with them occasionally so you are familiar with the terrain and possible hazards.

Children should walk, never run, when crossing the street.

Drivers can't always see pedestrians, and a child sprinting across the street might not be seen until it's too late. Some concepts that are simple for adults need explanation to a child. For example, everyone knows cars must stop at a red light. But cars may, after stopping, turn right against a red light. I've seen too many near misses when a child steps onto a street just as a right-turning car passes.

Finally, I'd like to caution you about distracted driving. This is not just an admonition to drivers: pedestrians also need to be careful to protect themselves from distracted drivers.

Parents who drive their children to school have their hands already full. After rushing to get the children fed, dressed and in the car, moms and dads then race through rush hour traffic while discussing after-school activities, homework deadlines, field-trip permission slips, and what's for dinner—or at least attempting such discussions when the children aren't fighting.

Getting students to school comes with its own distractions. A driver doesn't need to be texting, listening to loud music on the radio, making a call on the cell phone, or putting on makeup to get sidetracked.

Just remember, when you enter the school zone, all attention must be focused on careful driving and looking out for students walking and biking to school. And just as important, families walking or biking to school need to look out for distracted drivers.

The Long Beach Unified School District's 2011–2012 school year is well underway. Practicing good habits with your children will help make sure you and your family enjoy it safely.

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For more information contact Laura Harvey at [lharvey@uclaextension.edu](mailto:lharvey@uclaextension.edu) or (310) 825-4581.



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- The charitable event must benefit students directly by raising money for educational programs.
- 100% of the money raised must go directly toward the intended program(s).
- PTA's need to get their applications in by 12/30/11!
- The school must be part of the public school system.
- Schools must apply online.

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

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We will be showing movies every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month\*. We'll provide the goodies, you bring the fun!

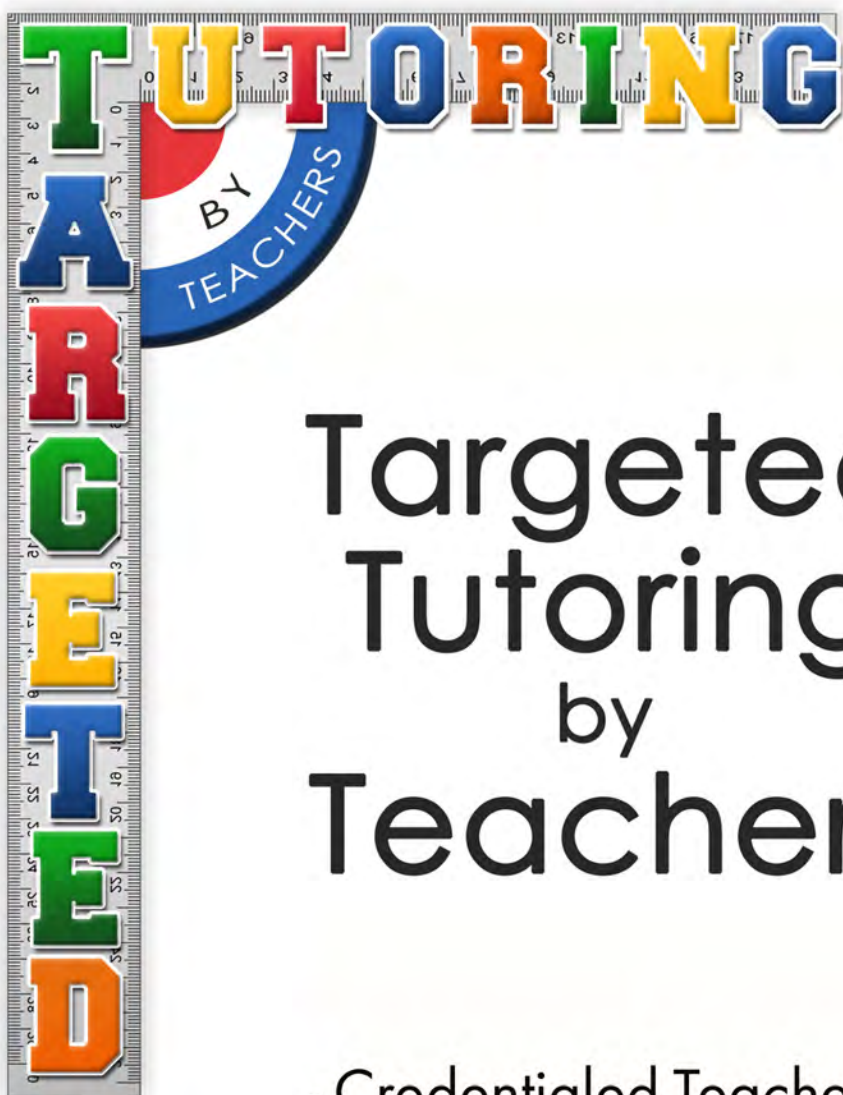
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