

**FREE**

# School News

*Education + Communication = A Better Nation*

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



Volume 16, Issue 119

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

April / May 2015



## Planning for a Better Long Beach

Laura L Doud, *City Auditor* (page 4)

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

## Summer Day Camp Registration Starts April 15

Long Beach Parks, Recreation & Marine will offer a variety of day camps for boys and girls ages 5-12 this summer. Campers will experience sports, games, tournaments, art, aquatics, excursions, team building, new friendships and more. Parents can know that their child care needs are met in Long Beach day camps with enriching activities conducted by enthusiastic, caring camp staff.

### **Park Day Camps / Fee: \$105 per week**

El Dorado West • 562.570.3225  
Silverado • 562.570.1675  
Stearns Champions Creative Arts Camp • 562.570.1685  
Veterans • 562.570.1695

### **High Five Sports Camp / Fee: \$105 per week**

Pan American • 562.570.1660

### **Music & Arts Camp / Fee: \$110 per week.**

*Online registration strongly recommended.*

Whaley Park • 562.570.1710

### **Pee Wee Camp / Ages 5-8 Fee: \$105 per week**

Wardlow • 562.570.1705

### **Register on line starts April 15, 2015 at 8 a.m.**

It's easy to create an account and register.

Visit <http://activenet.active.com/lbparks>

or follow the link at [www.lbparks.org](http://www.lbparks.org).

2760 Studebaker Rd., Long Beach, CA 90815

All camps operate from June 22 to August 28, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Extended hours are available from 7-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. at an additional cost. Field trips are an additional cost and will vary by site. Financial aid is available and is subject to limited availability. Inquire at camp site.

### **Aquatics Day Camps / Fees vary per camp**

Call 562.570.1888 for information

Belmont Junior Beach Camp (ages 5-7) \$155 per week.

Full day pre-school or kindergarten experience

required. Games, crafts, beach play, American Red Cross swim lessons, excursions, canoeing and sailing.

Bayshore Beach Camp (ages 8-12) \$155 per week.

Sailing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, crafts, excursions and weekly Marine Biology lesson.

Bay Club Teen Camp (ages 13-15) \$118 per week.

Must have completed 7th grade. Sailing, canoeing, kayaking, beach activities and excursions.

Counselor in Training Camp (ages 13-17) \$310/session.

Must have completed 8th grade. Participants learn team building, camper supervision and boating skills. Must

attend entire three-week session from July 6-24.



**Summer**

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[WWW.LBPARKS.ORG](http://WWW.LBPARKS.ORG)

**DAY CAMPS**

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**APRIL 15**  
**AT 8 A.M.**

Our enthusiastic and dedicated staff want your child to experience the endless benefits of a great summer day camp.

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Unless otherwise noted. Extended hours are available for an additional fee. Field trips are an additional cost.

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Stearns Champions Creative Artist Camp • 562.570.1685 Veterans • 562.570.1695

**HIGH FIVE SPORTS CAMP FEE: \$105 PER WEEK**  
Pan American • 562.570.1660

**AQUATICS DAY CAMPS FEES VARY PER CAMP**  
Belmont Junior Beach Camp (ages 5-7) • Bayshore Beach Camp (ages 8-12)  
Bay Club Teen Camp (ages 13-15) • Counselor in Training Camp (ages 14-17)  
562.570.1888

**PEE WEE CAMP**  
**FEE: \$105 PER WEEK**  
**AGES 5 - 8**  
Wardlow • 562.570.1705

**MUSIC & ARTS CAMP**  
**FEE: \$110 PER WEEK**  
Whaley Park • 562.570.1710  
Online registration strongly recommended

**REGISTRATION • IT'S AS EASY AS 1-2-3! • CREATE AN ACCOUNT**

- 1 Visit <http://activenet.active.com/lbparks> or follow the link at [WWW.LBPARKS.ORG](http://WWW.LBPARKS.ORG)
- 2 Click on the "Request an Account" button.
- 3 Fill in your information, then click "Submit" (or click "Submit and Add Family Member" to register more people at the same address.)



**Kay Coop**  
Founder/Publisher

Spring is here and summer is right around the corner. Students are testing, choosing colleges and focused on academic goals.

It's that time of year to make plans for summer fun and the LB Parks & Recreation has something for everyone.

I appreciate your emails and special messages when you enter the contests. In addition to this LBUSD edition, we publish 28 *School News* publications and they are all available on our web site [www.schoolnewsrollcall.com](http://www.schoolnewsrollcall.com). Most issues have Word Search Contests open to all ages to enter.

In this issue the City leaders bring you up to date on plans for a better Long Beach, the District's plans to reduce truancy, STEM subjects as an area of study and as a future career, the planned Browning High School, health issues, LBCC, CSULB and LBUSD updates. Lots of information to enjoy.

April is National Library Month. Please see page 29 for information.

As always we thank you for including *School News* among your reading choices.

Our next issue is June 10.

## School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

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

covering the

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

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## City of Long Beach, City Auditor



**Laura L. Doud**  
*City Auditor*

### Planning for a Better Long Beach

Yogi Berra, the baseball catcher, coach and manager for the New York Yankees, reminded us about the importance of planning in one of my favorite Yogi-isms, "If you don't know where you are going, you'll end up somewhere else."

Recently, we issued the Long Beach City Auditor's Office 2015 Annual Work Plan so that everyone -- citizens, City officials, and City employees -- can all be informed of the audits we plan to perform. In our work for the City of Long Beach, my staff and I have set a plan for our work each year since I was first elected in 2006, however, this is the first time we have published it.



The purpose of publishing the plan is to increase public involvement, to engage the stakeholders, and to improve and maximize the effectiveness of City services. The City of Long Beach is such a wonderful and beautiful place and as stewards over the taxpayer dollars, we want to partner with the community to bring excellence to all City services.

When I speak to community groups, the question I most often hear is, "How do you decide what to audit?" In addition to describing audits planned, our 2015 Annual Work Plan explains how we select and prioritize projects.

I encourage you to take a look at our Plan and to send us your suggestions or comments. Issues important to the public in the past, such as the cost of the Alamitos Bay Marina rebuild or Harbor travel expenses have resulted in recommendations for improvements to benefit the City and have kept the public and City leadership informed.

We know about the value of setting plans, and we know plans are more likely to be achieved if we share them with others. You can read about our plans online at [www.CityAuditorLauraDoud.com](http://www.CityAuditorLauraDoud.com), or you can call our office (562.570.6751) to request a copy.

333 West Ocean Blvd., 8th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/579-6751  
[www.CityAuditorLauraDoud.com](http://www.CityAuditorLauraDoud.com)

## City of Long Beach, City Prosecutor



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

### LBUSD's Focus On Reducing Truancy

At a recent LBUSD Board Meeting, the topic of truancy was the center of discussion. And while the Board heard that truancy remains a persistent problem in LBUSD, just as it is throughout the state, it is notable what our district is doing to reduce truancy.

Dr. Erin Simon, Director of Student Support Services for LBUSD, explained why attendance matters. "Students who have excessive absences cannot keep up with their classmates," stated Dr. Simon. "Chronically absent students, unfortunately, often drop out and the cost to the individual and our society at that point is great."

The Board heard that the district keeps track of "chronic absenteeism," which includes both excused and unexcused absences. Even if a child is out sick or away from school with the parent's knowledge, the child is missing school and falling behind.

A student with excessive unexcused or unverified absences can also be considered "chronic truants" under state law. School officials make many attempts to work with parents to document the reasons for absences and assist parents with resources to improve attendance.

The school district has an active Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) that can get involved if a child's truancy persists. The SARB Board consists of representatives from law enforcement, the District Attorney's and City Prosecutor's Offices, the Long Beach Health Department, as well as individuals representing parent and community groups. Also, several Los Angeles County Departments sit on the SARB Board, including Probation, Children and Family Services, and Mental Health.

After numerous attempts at intervention to improve attendance, there is also the possibility of legal action against parents. In 2011, the school district partnered with the Long Beach Police Department and City Prosecutor's Office to form the Parent Accountability and Chronic Truancy (PACT) Program.

Even with the population of chronic truants, results show that many students referred to the PACT program improve their attendance by 50% or more. In addition, families can benefit from social services, such as parenting classes, substance abuse counseling, assistance with uniforms and backpacks, grief counseling, and other programs offered in an effort to reduce truancy.

Some attendance turnarounds are remarkable. One remarkable story, Frank, an eighth grader, saw truancy drop from missing 10.5% of classes to missing less than 1%.

While LBUSD is making program progress, there is still more work to be done. As Dr. Simon explained at the Board meeting, the district is making a year-long push to improve attendance. Under the slogan, "All In," the district is pushing each school to improve attendance each day, from the first day of school to the last bell in June.

333 West Ocean Blvd., 2nd Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/570-5600  
[www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov)

## City of Long Beach Office of the Mayor



**Dr. Robert Garcia**  
Mayor

### STEM is the Future

The City of Long Beach has long been a home to some of the most innovative companies in the aerospace business. For years, some of the world's most important aircraft were built here, and good jobs in engineering, manufacturing and technology helped build our city's middle class.

Recently, Long Beach is seeing a resurgence in these kinds of businesses, and now is a great time for students to start considering careers in technology and aerospace. For example, Virgin Galactic is opening a facility in Douglas Park and will build rockets to launch satellites. Shimadzu has relocated here from Torrance, and will build important precision instruments for commercial airplanes right here in Long Beach. We're working hard to continue attracting world-class technology companies like these, in aerospace and other industries, and these companies need educated, prepared employees to succeed. There's no reason those employees shouldn't come straight from the Long Beach school system.

Studying science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) can help prepare you for some of the great jobs that will be available when you finish school. If you are interested in space flight, computers, or any aspect of science and technology, there has never been a better time to begin studying those subjects and preparing to be part of the innovative and exciting 21st century industries that are rapidly changing our economy and changing the world. You have the opportunity to participate in those changes, and to make our city and our world a better place. I hope you will consider the STEM subjects as an area of study and as a future career.

333 West Ocean Blvd., 14th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802 • 562/570-6801  
www.longbeach.gov

## City of Signal Hill Office of the Mayor



**Ed Wilson**  
Mayor

### Successful Partnership

The successful opening of a new school starts with a cooperative partnership between the school district and the city that the school district serves. I am very pleased with the partnership that has developed between Signal Hill and the Long Beach Unified School District. This partnership contributes to the ongoing success of the Jessie Nelson Academy that opened in Signal Hill in 2013. Signal Hill will again be partnering with the School District as well as the City of Long Beach to work out issues related to the School District's newest high school planned to open in September.

Browning High School is located in Long Beach at the intersection of Redondo Avenue and Hill Street. This thematic high school, which is also on the border of Signal Hill, will enroll up to 840 students interested in a curriculum with an emphasis on tourism and hospitality.

Signal Hill will be leading a subcommittee to address concerns legitimately raised by neighboring residents and businesses that are worried about impacts the high school may have on traffic and their neighborhoods. The subcommittee will include members from the Signal Hill City Council, LBUSD Facilities Planning and Management, traffic engineers from Signal Hill and Long Beach, and the Signal Hill Police Department. Local business operators and residents from adjacent neighborhoods will also be invited to participate. The subcommittee will meet periodically before and after the school opening to address issues that may arise.

I am confident that through this working partnership, the Browning High School will become a valued and respected institution serving the Signal Hill and Long Beach communities.

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## Children's Lung Center

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of Miller Children's Hospital Pulmonary Center,  
Professor of Pediatrics, UCI

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**(562) 933-8567 • 2801 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90801**

# Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services



**Dr. Mitchell Kushner**  
City Health Officer

## The Public's Health

Recently, I caved in to pressure and bought a popular activity tracker that counts my daily steps. I was surprised to see the impact that being stationary due to office work or long car commutes has on the number of steps I take each day. My tracker is helpful because I can make up activity on my "low step" days. Just as daily activity is important for me as an adult, children and youth need regular physical activity to help

them build healthy bones and muscles, control weight, and improve strength and endurance. Physical activity also helps reduce the risk of developing chronic diseases (like diabetes or cardiovascular disease), can reduce feelings of depression and anxiety, and may help improve students' academic performance. Currently, the CDC recommends that young people aged 6-17 participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity seven days a week. In 2013, only 27.1% of high school students reached this goal.

With so many distractions – social media, television, video games – it can be challenging for some of us to be active on a daily basis. Concerns such as safety and limited access to open spaces and recreational resources may also make it difficult for some young people to be as active as they'd like to be. It's up to all of us – communities, families,

and schools – to support youth in staying active, especially high school students since participation in physical activity declines as people age. What sorts of things can be done? Schools can ensure that opportunities for physical activity are available during the school day (e.g. during recess or activity breaks, and through physical education classes) and also after school with intramural and interscholastic sports, or through the establishing special projects such as walk- and bike-to-school programs. Community and government agencies can work together to make changes that make it easier to be physically active, such as through the development of walking trails or paths, and through programs that make neighborhoods safer. Families can take advantage of local, low-cost, or free places like public parks, baseball fields, or basketball courts; build physical activity into daily routines, such as doing house or yard work together; and encourage children to be active with their friends.

As the City Health Officer, I'll continue to do my part by setting a healthy example for young people, making sure I stay active daily. Working with all of the stakeholders in the city, we can support the health and wellness of young people in our community by helping children and teens be more active.

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

## The City of Long Beach Department of Health & Human Services

**It is OUR MISSION to improve the quality of life by promoting a safe and healthy community in which to LIVE, WORK, and PLAY.**

- Routine & Travel Immunizations
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(562) 570-4000

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



**Gary Feldman, MD**

Medical Director,  
Stramski  
Children's  
Developmental  
Center

## Autism Awareness— What Parents Need to Know

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, around 1 in 68 American children are identified with an autism spectrum disorder. More than 3.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder, so autism is a condition that can't be ignored or overlooked.

Autism is a complex developmental disability that affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Symptoms almost always start before a child is 3-years-old and can present themselves as early as 18 months.

Children do not outgrow autism, but studies show that kids who received early diagnosis and intervention tend to have better brain function and communication skills. This is why knowing the signs of autism and taking action is so important.

## Common signs of autism are:

Unusual behaviors:

- Hand flapping
- Lines up toys or other objects
- Gets upset by minor changes

Poor social skills:

- Avoids eye contact
- Doesn't respond to their name after 12 months
- Prefers to play alone

Risk factors that may increase a child's chance of developing autism are:

- Children that have a parent or sibling with autism
- Children that are born more than 26 weeks premature
- Children born to older fathers
- Having certain other genetic disorders

As a parent, being aware of the potential warning signs and taking immediate action to get your child tested can make a difference.

MillerChildrens.org/Stramski (562) 728-5034  
2801 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806



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in children's health care.

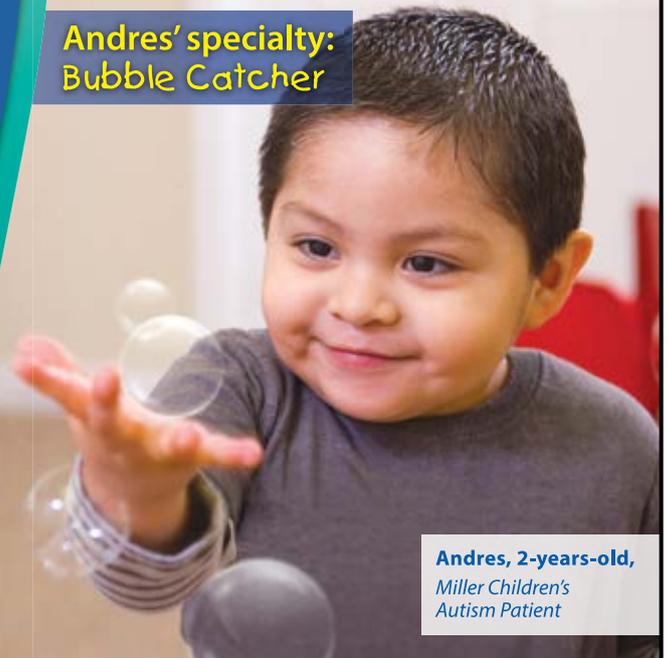
Andres was a premature baby and started to show signs of autism. Concerned, his mom took him to the Stramski Children's Developmental Center at Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach. There, experts specialize in the diagnosis, treatment and management of autism – and conduct research to identify and treat all disorders on the autism spectrum. Today, Andres is continuing to improve and now spends his days focused on catching bubbles. *From tip-top head to itty bitty toes, Miller Children's is the leader in getting kids better.*

Follow the leader to Miller Children's.

MillerChildrens.org/Stramski 800-MEMORIAL

Our specialty:  
Autism Spectrum  
Disorders

Andres' specialty:  
Bubble Catcher



Andres, 2-years-old,  
Miller Children's  
Autism Patient

# California State University Long Beach



**Jane Close Conoley**  
President

## Dream Success Center Opens

With the recent opening of the Dream Success Center at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB), undocumented and AB540 students now have a place to call their own. The center, located in newly dedicated Room 309 of the University Student Union (USU), will provide support and services that help meet some of their unique needs.

The grand opening and ribbon-cutting event was attended by approximately 200

individuals, including representatives from Rep. Alan Lowenthal's (D-47th District) and Sen. Ricardo Lara's (D-33rd District) offices, who presented officials with certificates of recognition in honor of the day.

"These students face unique challenges both in and out of higher education, and it is crucial for us to provide institutional support in their educational endeavors," said CSULB's Dream Success Center Coordinator Edgar Romo. "A center serves as not only a physical space dedicated to their needs as students, but as a commitment from the university to prioritize student success."

The CSULB center is the fourth such one to open within the California State University system's 23 campuses to go along with those at Cal State Northridge, Cal State Fullerton and Cal State L.A.



(l-r) center director Rafael Topete, President Jane Close Conoley, and students Elizabeth Zambrano and Joseph Phillips.

"We have to be always watchful of insuring that every group in our university get the support they need to be successful," said CSULB President Jane Close Conoley while

speaking at the event. "The task, of course, is ahead of us. We've opened the center and now it's for us to make it real, to make it a strong support for each student who takes advantage of having a place of their own and where they can connect with one another."

It is estimated that there are some 650 AB540 and/or undocumented students at CSULB. The Dream Success Center will offer them referrals to financial assistance, information on programs and services designed to improve retention and graduation rates and a place where students can connect with one another. The center also will provide computers, career development and other academic services.

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

## Aquarium of the Pacific

### Summer Day Camps

*By Aquarium of the Pacific Youth Volunteer & Internship Coordinator Raelene M. Bautista*

As the summer sun arrives, so do the summer camps at the Aquarium of the Pacific. The Aquarium offers a variety of summer day camps for various age groups with materials and activities perfect for each one.

Fish Fry Camp, a three-day morning program for three- to four-year-olds, offers the opportunity to participate in



hands-on exploration, crafts, and Aquarium tours with an accompanying adult with each child. Five- to six-year-olds can be on their own with Aquarium staff for three mornings during the Sea Squirt Camp, which encourages social interaction and independent exploration. For seven- to nine-year-olds, the fun continues with the five-day Ocean Adventure Camp, which includes opportunities to go behind the scenes and interact with some of the Aquarium's animals. Participants will meet animal care staff and help take care of the animals.

Junior Biologist Camp offers even more chances to dive deeper into marine science for children ages ten to twelve, with opportunities to interact with animals and special behind-the-scenes privileges. Lastly, Marine Science Sleepover Camp, which includes a whale watch and Aquarium sleepover, is open to students thirteen- to fifteen-years-old. This program includes marine biology experiments, unique animal interactions, and a journal for participants to log their discoveries. With programs offered all summer, the Aquarium has a camp for all young explorers.

For dates, times, pricing, and other details, please visit the Aquarium's Day Camp calendar at [http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/events/list/category/aquarium\\_camps](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org/events/list/category/aquarium_camps) or call (562) 590-3100.

100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802  
562/590-3100 • [www.aquariumofpacific.org](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org)

# Long Beach City College



## Annual State of the College Event

More than 320 community members, elected officials, Long Beach City College faculty and staff attended LBCC's annual State of the College event in February to learn about recent accomplishments and our goals for the upcoming year.

The event celebrated many recent achievements at LBCC, including:

- The hiring of 53 new full-time faculty members, the most of any single year in the college's history.
- Awarding 300 Associates Degree for Transfer, which is a guaranteed path for students to transfer to the California State University system. This puts LBCC second in Southern California and 12th statewide among community colleges who are awarding these degrees.
- The creation of hundreds of new jobs through LBCC's small business initiatives. LBCC is home to the Los Angeles Regional Small Business Development Center, which helps create and retain jobs in the region. The SBDC assisted nearly 13,000 clients in 2014 and created nearly 1,600 new jobs, and retained more than 1,000 jobs.

**Eloy Ortiz Oakley**  
Superintendent-  
President

While LBCC has much to be proud of, we have many challenges ahead. A key challenge, which I addressed at the event, is to help students move more quickly through LBCC so they can obtain jobs or transfer to universities. Right now, far too many students are taking 4, 5 or even 6 years to complete what used to be called a "2-year degree." That's just not acceptable.

So I've challenged LBCC administrators, faculty and staff to refocus our efforts toward improving these completion rates. We will be carefully tracking our progress and reporting back to the community on how we're doing.

The annual State of the College address is an important event for us to keep our community informed about what's happening on campus and how we plan to make LBCC even better in the future. It's free to attend, thanks to support from the LBCC Foundation, so please join us at next year's event.

Liberal Arts Campus 4901 E. Carson St., Long Beach, CA 90808  
Pacific Coast Campus 1305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, CA 90808  
562/938-4111 • www.lbcc.edu/



**President Oakley with  
Dr. Gilbert Estrada one of 53  
new faculty members at LBCC.**

[www.LBCC.edu](http://www.LBCC.edu)

**LB** LONG BEACH  
CITY COLLEGE

562.938.4111  
562.938.4353



**Summer Session**  
**June 15 - August 20**  
Online Registration  
May 4 - June 7

Summer Recreation for the Kids  
June 22 - July 30  
[LBCC.edu/SummerRec](http://LBCC.edu/SummerRec)

Liberal Arts Campus • 4901 East Carson Street • Long Beach, CA 90808  
Pacific Coast Campus • 1305 East Pacific Coast Highway • Long Beach, CA 90806



**Christopher J. Steinhauer**  
*Superintendent*

## Advanced Placement Tests

Students in the Long Beach Unified School District signed up for more than 10,000 Advanced Placement college-level exams in recent weeks, an increase of more than 41 percent over the last two years. This significant increase comes after concerted efforts to increase access to AP courses and tests.

More than 5,200 students signed up for at least one exam this year. That's about 28 percent more students than two years ago.

Individual students often take multiple exams, which are offered in various subject areas.

Our school district is providing students greater access to AP exams by covering much of the cost for families. AP exams cost \$89 each, but this school year students are paying only \$5 per exam for an unlimited number of exams. For each exam, students deposit \$15 and receive a \$10 rebate once the exam is taken. This means that a student who takes five AP exams pays \$25 instead of \$445.

Last year, we covered the cost of at least two AP exams for all high school seniors, while seniors at Jordan and Cabrillo high schools were offered an unlimited number of free AP exams. With the expansion of the program this year, we also provided convenient online registration for the tests.

Funding is made possible through the state's Local Control Funding Formula, or LCFF, proposed by California Gov. Jerry Brown and approved by the state Legislature in 2013. The LCFF provides us greater flexibility as to how we use state funding.

Parents especially appreciate AP courses because their children can earn college credit while still in high school, saving thousands of dollars in tuition. Many of our students earn an entire year of college credit before leaving high school.

Next year we will provide further support by paying for the PSAT exam for all eighth through tenth graders, and by paying for the SAT exam for all eleventh graders. Our high schools plan to add more than 50 sections of AP classes next school year.

Our school district has seen steady, significant gains in AP course enrollment and test registration over the past decade. Last year, the Washington Post listed seven LBUSD high schools among the nation's most challenging high schools. The 2014 rankings included schools that surpassed 91 percent of other high schools in America, in terms of their ability to offer rigorous college prep courses.

Learn more about AP courses and our school district at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).



**Diana Craighead**  
*President*

## Reading to Learn

When my children were young, we would make weekly summer visits to the public library. I would accompany them to the storytelling events before choosing our selections to bring home. There were guest readers and sometimes even an author reading his or her own stories. With this activity, my children learned that reading is not just a necessity; it can be a passion and something worth savoring. Reading was transported from the classroom to the community around them.

In the classroom, literacy is supported in many different ways. In addition to language arts studies, we have reading specialists, home reading and other literacy programs and library/media centers. The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) has made it possible to further support these efforts by enhancing our K-12 library education programs to the tune of \$1.1 million. In addition, \$3.8 million is put to good use in providing third-grade literacy classrooms at high-poverty schools. These specialized classrooms have a 20 to 1 student-to-teacher ratio to maximize student success for those with the highest need.

Being able to see properly is essential for reading and learning in general. If you can't see, you can't read; and if you can't read, you can't learn. Vision to Learn is a nonprofit organization addressing this issue. Edison, Hart, Lincoln and Whittier School students have been the lucky recipients of free eye exams and glasses at no cost. Vision to Learn provides a mobile clinic at the school site, free eye exams, and glasses, when required. Through one man's inspired vision, disadvantaged children are afforded the gift of clear sight.

Sometimes it's one person who initiates change, and other times it's a whole group of like-minded people. The Long Beach Rotary Club provides thousands of dollars for teacher-driven literacy projects, funding for school library books, and other generous book donations. Grants for innovative classroom programs are available to preschool through third-grade teachers. The Rotarian Reading by 9 program seeks to increase the percentage of students reading at grade level by age nine. Even the Cat in the Hat himself delivered books to preschool students!

Until third grade, a child learns to read; after that they read to learn. The collective impact of a community supporting literacy in and out of the classroom translates to success in education and life. Children are not just learning to read, but learning to enjoy reading.

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

## Our next issue is June 10

## Addams *Elementary*

**Armando Dueñas**-Principal

### Test Tech Prep

Addams E.S. has been preparing itself for the Smarter Balance Assessment Consortium (SBAC) test. This year's SBAC test will provide for us a baseline data. This date will allow us to determine English language arts and math goals for the upcoming school years. Our two computer labs will be used to accommodate all our third- fourth- and fifth-grade students. Addams teachers have been focusing on familiarizing students with the necessary computer skills that will allow them to navigate the SBAC testing site.

In addition, selected teacher in grades kindergarten through five hosted a Literacy and Math Night. During this event, selected grades taught parents how to integrate technology into daily homework. Parents were also introduced to websites that promote computer-skills practices. Parents were encouraged to visit education websites along with the children.

Addams teachers, parents and the community are all working extra-hard in making Addams a safe, fun and, most important, great learning environment.

5320 Pine Ave., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-0202  
www.lbschools.net/addams

## Beach *High School*

### Brain Research



**Matt Saldana**  
Principal

Beach High School students Carlos Funez and Arvon Nicholson recently competed in the Brain Bee Global Neuroscience Competition at UC Irvine. Principal Matt Saldana and RSP teacher Marcia Amezcu coordinated the trip.

The Brain Bee competition motivates students to learn about the brain. It is designed to capture their imaginations and inspire them to pursue neuroscience. The LA/Irvine Brain Bee is one of over 150 local chapters in 30 countries worldwide. Brain Bees are designed to test one's knowledge of the human brain in areas like intelligence, emotions, memory, sleep, vision, hearing, sensations, Alzheimer's disease, and many more.

The LA/Irvine competition was held in three parts: a written exam in question-and-answer format, a neuro-anatomy lab practicum with real human brains, and an oral quiz for the finalists.

Carlos and Arvon competed in the first two activities. They were also able to review graduate/doctoral program projects as presented by the college students. UCLA, USC and Stanford Universities also participated in the event.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Bradley Voytek, an assistant professor of computational cognitive science and neuroscience from UC San Diego.

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

## Bancroft *Middle School*

### Career Day



**Kimberly Dalton**  
Principal

*By Mike Temple, Counselor*

On March 13, Bancroft Middle School held its annual Career Day. Approximately 50 speakers presented information on a wide variety of careers to more than 1,000 middle school students. This was a great opportunity for students to learn about the diverse careers that await them after high school and college.

Students were encouraged by the speakers to pursue workplace experience and higher education to achieve the careers they desire in a competitive work place. The range of speakers included professionals from such fields as geology, nursing, law, public safety (officers from a variety of agencies), graphic design, music, marketing and sales, education, and much more.

Students were enthusiastic about the information they learned about various careers. They shared with their classmates about the construction of a fireman's jacket and what makes it so heavy, technology that allows robots to fly like dragonflies, and how the oil islands off the coast were constructed and how they are used to gather fossil fuels up to 9,000 feet below the surface. Students' eyes were opened to the variety of career opportunities available.

5301 Centralia St., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/425-7461  
www.lbschools.net/bancroft

## Barton *Elementary*

### Learning by Doing



**Richard Littlejohn**  
Principal

Barton Elementary School has moved learning forward, going beyond paper and pencil. With the Common Core State Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards on their way, our staff is addressing the need for more learning by doing. There are a variety of afterschool extension activities that encourage our students to learn more about themselves, each other, and the world.

Through our partnership with the U.S. Navy, the Barton Robotics Team is building multiple underwater rovers to prepare for the U.S. Navy/Sea Perch regional competition. Our chess team, led by our chess master teacher, recently finished in the final four of the district-wide chess competitions. Our Barton's Got Talent Show, facilitated by a team of teachers, displayed many of our students' great talents—and the show was completely run by our team of students. From lighting and set design to program development and emceeing, our students are learning by doing.

Our principal said, "Our afterschool extension activities encourage our students to grow, learn every day, and work with others to create opportunities for something extraordinary." And extraordinary we are! Go, Bears!

1100 E. Del Amo Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/428-0555  
www.lbschools.net/barton

## Bixby Elementary

### Winning Back Our Garden



**Rosana Madrid-Arroyo**  
Principal

Our garden is ready for planting seeds of knowledge – and for sprouting a love of learning!

Milder weather inspired our school's garden committee, Mrs. Joyce and Mrs. Myers, to set a new clean-up date. The goal was to weed unwanted plants, trim back overgrowth, and pull out the rambunctious vegetable plants that had gone to seed.

After months of drought, wouldn't you know it, but on January 11 (the morning of our clean-up) the heavens opened up with a cold,

hard, steady rain! But this did not deter our dedicated staff and families. A special thank-you goes to the Hoover family.

The first pass was successful, rain and all. District groundskeepers noted our valiant efforts and followed up with major pruning and hauling. This group effort has now resulted in a learning space in the garden where our students will be ready to learn about spring plants, healthy produce, and beneficial insects.

Thank you to all of the volunteers for winning back our garden from the growth. Now all we need is a bit of seasonal rain and little hands to get the next crop going – along with some regular upkeep!

5251 E. Stearns St., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-3794  
www.lbschools.net/bixby

## Buffum Total Learning Center

### Celebrating the Storyteller



**Miriam Garcia**  
Program Administrator

*By Sharon Barker, Teacher on Special Assignment*

As educators, we know the importance of reading aloud to children and how it stimulates language development. With this in mind, Buffum's Schoolwide Events Committee kicked off our Read Across America Week by inviting district personnel to bring their favorite books to read to our students.

School board president Diana Craighead brought two of her favorites: *The Little Mouse,*

*The Red Ripe Strawberry,* and *The Big Hungry Bear* by Don Wood and *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly* by Simms Taback. Ms. Craighead's storytelling was animated, interactive and engaging!

All preschoolers had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed her visit. Thanks to all of our guest readers for reading to our children!



2350 Ximeno Ave., Long Beach, CA 90815 • 562/498-2431  
www.lbschools.net/buffum

## Bryant Elementary

### A Rhyme About Reading



**Matt Hammond**  
Principal

While students are becoming better readers at Bryant Elementary School all year, Read Across America week was a great time to celebrate reading here.

The week kicked off with green eggs and ham for students, family, and friends; the Cat in the Hat also joined the fun, with singing, games, and laughter without end. Parents and families were again invited back the next day, this time at lunch time, for Books at Lunch, if they may. The playground was

filled with families eating and reading books together, and the Cat in the Hat came back for more reading fun with whomever. Oh, the great places we went and the reading adventures we had, during Read Across America Week, which made us so glad.



4101 E. Fountain St., Long Beach, CA 90804 • 562/498-3802  
www.lbschools.net/bryant

## Cabrillo High School

### National Engineering Week



**Dr. Elio Mendoza**  
Co-Principal



**Alejandro Vega**  
Co-Principal

*By Carlos Gershwin-Razo, College and Career Facilitator, and Ken Fisher, CED Lead Teacher*

During National Engineering Week in March, Cabrillo Engineering and Design hosted engineering competitions, guest speakers and a Women of STEM luncheon. Over 100 students competed in three main after-

school events: Foil Boats, in which students used a single piece of foil to design a boat to hold the most pennies; Straw Towers, in which the winning team built a tower 110 inches high; and Egg Drop, in which they designed a container to safely hold eggs from a 40-foot drop.

With guest speakers from notable technology, manufacturing and engineering firms, Cabrillo engineering students were able to hear and ask questions about what it means to be an engineer. The week was highlighted with the Women of STEM luncheon, themed "Rise Above," in which 18 women engineers and engineering majors from different colleges and universities had lunch with the girls of CED and answered questions about being women in engineering.

2001 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/951-7700  
www.lbschools.net/

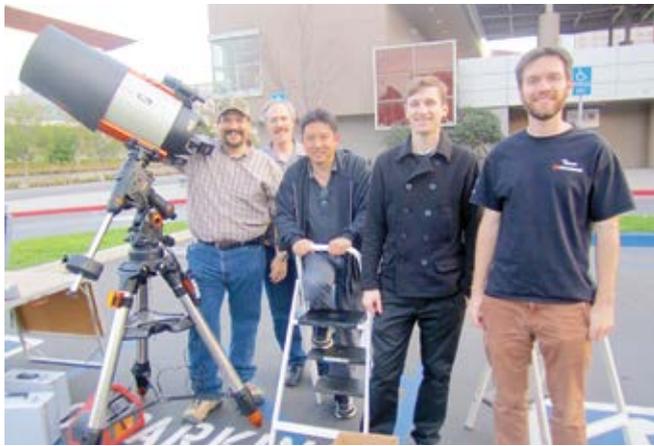
## Chavez *Elementary*

### Astronomy Night



**Hugo Figueroa**  
Principal

*By Sherri Gonser, Teacher – 4th Grade*  
Chavez Elementary School families experienced an exciting Astronomy Night! With the help and expertise of five wonderful astronomers, parents and students were able to observe the night sky on a February evening. We had an outstanding attendance of approximately 200 people! Everyone had an opportunity to look through six different telescopes at the moon, Venus, Orion's Nebula, and Jupiter! It was a stellar evening!



Thank you to Lance Lucero, Bryan Cogdell, Derek Devecchio, Kevin Kawai, and Kevin Legore, the astronomers who helped put on this amazing night; without them it would not have been possible. Also, a big thank you goes to Mr. Figueroa and the staff for supporting this event.

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

## Cleveland *Elementary*

### Generations of Commitment



**Ellen Ryan**  
Principal

Cleveland Elementary School honored Shannon Tubbs as our Volunteers In Public Schools (VIP) of the Year. She has been a VIP at Cleveland for 14 years and has served in numerous positions on the PTA. Words cannot describe her contributions to the Cleveland community. She gives 100 percent.

Cleveland means a lot to Shannon. She graduated from Cleveland in 1989, when Cleveland was a K-6 school. Later, she started out as a college aide while she attended college at California State University, Fullerton. She actually met her husband, Brent, when he was a college aide at Cleveland. Interestingly, Shannon is a second generation graduate from Cleveland. Her mom, Carey Flake, has been working at Cleveland as an interpreter for 31 years.



4760 Hackett St., Lakewood, CA 90713 • 562/420-7552  
[www.lbschools.net/cleveland](http://www.lbschools.net/cleveland)

## Cubberley *(K-8)*

### Our Superb Coach!



**Terri Jarels**  
Principal

*By Steve Avitable*

Coach Virginia Garza is one reason for our strong intermural program. She began her coaching career with boys' soccer when her two children, both soccer players, attended Cubberley several years ago. Five years later, she now coaches both girls' and boys' track as well.

"I've stayed at Cubberley because every day I feel motivated and inspired by the kids. I love to see them work hard and improve," she said.

Students love to go out for Coach Garza's teams. Seventh-grade-mile runner Ryan Smith said, "I like the way she believes in us, motivates us, and treats us like we are family." Seventh-grade sprinter Ry'Ann O'Bannon said,



**Student athletes hanging out with Coach Garza at lunch.**  
"She pushes us all to improve and do our best."

Cubberley is so lucky to have Coach Garza!

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

## Dragon Academy



**Nicole Howton-Chiles**  
Principal

By Nick Galanis,  
Teacher On  
Special Assignment

Our Dragon Academy meets once a week in order to provide mentorship for our boys. Each week, a speaker will come and either shares with the boys

an inspiring message to encourage them to pursue their goals and dreams, teach them a particular sport or hobby, or share pictures from places they have traveled. The boys have formed a strong bond with each other and with the men who have come to share with them. It also has provided a great sense of camaraderie and strengthened responsibility and commitment to themselves, to their school work, as well as greater respect towards others. We've seen a stronger acceptance and appreciation of each



other's differences as well as each other's gifts and talents.  
5075 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/428-7274  
[www.lbschools.net/dooley](http://www.lbschools.net/dooley)

## Emerson *Parkside Academy*

### Art is Alive and Well at Emerson



**Margaret Kerns**  
Principal

Emerson Parkside Academy is host to a dynamic new art program this year. FIBO is a company our PTA has contracted with to provide our school with assemblies and classroom projects based on a different artist each lesson. Our teachers love the expert staff they provide that facilitate the projects and our students love the step by step instructions they follow that help them create masterpieces of their own. This year we

have covered artists and genres new to our students such as Osamu Tezuka, a Japanese animator. We are anxiously awaiting our next lesson which will be on computer coding and graphic arts.



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

## Franklin *Classical Middle School*

### Black History Program



**Maria Pilar Perossio**  
Principal

Actor Morgan Freeman's adage that "Black History is American history" was dramatically brought to life in February by our Franklin students.

Our school's Black History Program celebrated the significant contributions of African-American inventors and inventions. Seventh-grader Kellie Jackson observed that, "Before we did this play, people were thinking Martin Luther King and Jackie Robinson were just ordinary people. But they're not."

Twenty-five student actors, artists, and musicians worked for a month outside of class to create stage backgrounds, acting roles, and singing and choral arrangements. The play, written and directed by Dr. Kimberlyn J. Jones, was also an opportunity to bridge the activities of our art and music students.

According to Assistant Principal Dr. Roshann Williams, who oversaw the event, "It was a lot of hard work, but I'm really glad we did it."

Eighth-grader Oscar Luna agreed. He remarked, "We showed the people how Black Americans helped many people in many simple everyday ways in their lives."

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

## Child Development Center



**Cynthia Young**  
Director

### Fun Times!

*By Samantha Morrison, Supervisor*

Fremont Kids' Club is again starting with a bang, providing K-5 students with before- and after-school care and supporting families and the school in a safe, nurturing environment. Children enjoy arts and crafts, homework club, organized games and science experiments. They also attend off-campus field trips and participate in special events.

Some of the club's arts-and-crafts themes include "Winter Wonderland," "A Nightmare Before Christmas" and "Around the World," focusing on different cultures. In January, the theme is "Space and Exploration," with lessons on space. Children will design their own space galaxy including planets, solar systems, alien faces, rocket ships and shooting stars. We'll read stories about space and conduct out-of-this world experiments.

Parents are also supported in the home-school transition. The club staff helps kindergarten students adjust to their new classrooms and avoid becoming overwhelmed. The staff also supports the teachers by assisting students with homework and relaying communication to parents.

Fremont Kids' Club provides support to parents and the school and an exciting, enriching experience for students. Stop by to see the fun we're having!

4310 Long Beach Blvd., Suite 200, Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/422-6868  
[www.lbschools.net/Main\\_Offices/Superintendent/Child\\_Development/](http://www.lbschools.net/Main_Offices/Superintendent/Child_Development/)

## Hill Classical Middle School

### Help for Hill Huskies

*By Alissa Gamboa*



**Sophia Griffith**  
Principal

Everyone can use a helping hand from time to time. At Hill Classical Middle School, we have many people and places to support our students and families.

Cornerstone Church volunteers provide weekly, one-on-one tutoring to students. We also have a counseling center, where California State University, Long Beach counselor interns are available before and after school and during lunch on a walk-in basis to help with everything from homework to social-emotional needs. Ms. Wall, our English learner support teacher, and works with English learners to ensure their success. Our resource specialist, Mrs. Bockman, provides just about any extra help that a student could need, from grade checks to helping with the organization of a student's notes. Our library is also open to students doing research or completing projects.

New in 2015, our Husky Academy is an intervention program to support targeted male students to improve attendance, behavior and achievement in school. Mr. Jackson, our campus security officer, provides mentoring support to this group.

At Hill Classical Middle School, we work as a team to help all students succeed!

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

## Fremont Elementary

### VIPS at Fremont



**Mark Curran**  
Principal

At the beginning of each school morning, Ms. Edie Weiss takes her place in our hallway and gets ready for the day ahead. Miss Edie, also known as Grandma Edie, has been a "VIP" mainstay at Fremont for 15 years.

On average, Miss Edie volunteers 20 hours per week at our school. She assists the teachers in many ways, and our students always look forward to spending quality learning time with her.

Fremont VIPS make a difference with the extra help they give our students. They assist in both the computer and science labs, and are always working with small groups of students in both reading and writing skills.

Our staff wants to thank the many volunteers who support our learning community.

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



## Garfield *Elementary*

### Oh the Places You'll Go



**Claire Alvarez**  
Principal

*By Anna Gines, Teacher – Kindergarten*

Garfield Elementary School is going places! We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with our "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" theme to inspire our young readers along their journey toward college readiness.

An assembly kicked off the celebration. Students made and wore Cat in the Hat hats to show their Read Across America spirit. We also took a school-wide pledge to be lifelong readers!

About 15 community guest readers, from district personnel to firefighters and athletes volunteered to share their favorite Dr. Seuss books with students in the classrooms. To end the day, each student received a free self-selected book to take home. It was a fun-filled day of reading! Oh the places that Garfield scholars will go!

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



## Holmes *Elementary*

### CAAP Contest Winners



**Luana Wesley**  
Principal

Concerned African American Parents (CAAP) recently sponsored a district oration contest, which focused on words written by Ida B. Wells, an early 20th-century investigative reporter, who said: "The way to right wrongs is to turn the light of truth upon them." Our fourth- and fifth-grade students wrote and memorized speeches to "turn the light of truth" on things happening in our community.

Eric Brannon won first place with his speech on the dangers of cyberbullying, Kalin Lindsey won second place for his comments on changing perspectives regarding young black people, and Antonio Eastland won third place with an oration about helping the homeless. Honorable mention went to Gregory Lewis and Devean Brown.

Congratulations! You rocked the house!

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



**(b) Gregory Lewis, Eric Brannon, (f) Devean Brown, Kalin Lindsey, Antonio Eastland.**

## Hughes *Middle School*

### Visionaries: It Pays to Be the Boss



**Dr. Sally Gregory**  
*Principal*

*By David Michaels, 7th Grade English Teacher*

On February 27, Hughes Middle School's Young, Gifted and Talented Black History Club performed their annual show. The theme of this year's theatrical performance was "Visionaries: It Pays to Be the Boss". This multi-act variety show featured talented students from all grade levels, who dedicated time after school for several months to make this show feel like a Broadway musical.

One memorable scene from this year's show featured students playing African Americans celebrities from past and present. Some prominent names that were mentioned include Ben Carson, Ronald Brown, Aliyah, Ne-Yo, Tina Turner, and Mary J. Blige. Another highlight were the girls steppers, and the boys steppers. The show was given added flare when several teachers danced to "Nae-Nae" and "Long Heels, Red Bottoms." Dr. McCloyn, once again, did an amazing job with this production.

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



**Girls steppers perform to "No Flex Zone."**

## International *Elementary*

### Riding an Attendance Wave!



**Mona Cook**  
*Principal*

To show our parents and students the importance of regular attendance, we partnered with Long Beach Firefighters Honorary Association and our PTO. The retired firefighters brought six new bicycles to school to raffle off to one student per grade level. To enter, students had to attend 97 percent or more of the first trimester.

The firefighters' generosity didn't stop there! They also provided helmets and locks for each bike and brought a 1950s vintage fire engine to show the students how fighting fires has changed over time. And Happy the sea otter, our brand-new school mascot, made an appearance! We've been waiting forever to be able to purchase this great character. Through business partnerships and our very own PTO, Happy has a wonderful home here!



700 Locust Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/436-4420  
[www.lbschools.net/international](http://www.lbschools.net/international)

## Kettering *Classical Elementary*

### Rockin' Fit-Fest



**Juan Gutierrez**  
*Principal*

Ready, set—go! Over 350 students and several parent and community volunteers took part in one of our biggest fund-raiser events of the

year. The message echoed throughout the month: Healthy bodies equal healthy minds!

In February, students proved that lots of fun exercise will definitely put you on the road to a healthy and active lifestyle. With classic hip-hop and rock tunes blaring, students, teachers and parents participated for 45 minutes of continuous aerobic activity. Stations consisted of local fitness studios, clinics and colleges, including martial arts, yoga, CrossFit, cardio, college volleyball, basketball and soccer.



Every student persevered and finished the day with a smile, knowing that they had given their best and accomplished something many had never done before—having a ton of fun exercising!

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

## Lakewood *High School*

### Academic Decathlon



**Cheryl Cornejo**  
*Co-Principal*



**Mario Jimenez**  
*Principal*

*By Kevin Neung, Student*

The competition, the prestige, the recognition—we almost lost it all this year. As the next iteration of the Academic Decathlon came up, we found ourselves disadvantaged, with only six of the nine team seats filled. I am forever grateful for the determination shown by our team.

Academic Decathlon taught these students an array of skills, from public speaking and improvisation to knowledge in seven diverse subjects. They learned to work as a cohesive unit, as colleagues and friends. The team earned nine medals this year, awards that we would never have dreamed would be bestowed upon us. This year's season was undoubtedly memorable. I hope others get to enjoy the same opportunity.

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



## Lee Elementary

### Business Is Booming!



**Caroline Nemeč**  
Principal

*By Rio George, Fourth/Fifth-Grade Teacher, and Robert Faris, Third/Fourth-Grade Teacher*

Our fourth-grade students collaborated in a grade-level business convention. Students were extremely excited as they created their own businesses to learn “Dollars and Sense.”

During the first phase of the convention, students marketed their business with slogans, commercials and catchy jingles. The



presentations in the auditorium created a buzz of anticipation for the upcoming day of sales.

For one week, each fourth-grade classroom hosted sales for their services and handmade products. Students were supplied with \$10 of Lee Business Convention cash each day.

This real-life experience as entrepreneurs was a fabulous way for students to engage in collaboration with one another and learn what it was like to be business owners.

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

## Lafayette Elementary

### Kindness Challenge



**Wendy Thompson**  
Principal

*By Laura Hernandez and Students*

Lafayette’s second-graders recently organized a schoolwide Kindness Challenge inspired by studying the subject during English language arts. Students wanted to incorporate more random acts of kindness that would spread throughout the classrooms.

A morning assembly encouraged the challenge with cheers and signs posted all over the campus, and messages that reflected kind behaviors were written with chalk on the playground asphalt as reminders. Each classroom diligently wrote their kind deeds on strips of construction paper that were looped into a chain longer than the campus morning lineup!



As a result of the challenge, our second-graders felt that the school was brought together with the unifying force of kindness. They hope that this change will make a better world for all of us.

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

## Lindbergh STEM Academy

### Meet the Experts!



**Connie Magee**  
Principal

Lindbergh STEM Academy hosted its first STEM: Meet the Experts Day on two days in February. Experts in the STEM fields came to present to our science, SDC and sixth-grade classes.

Students participated in hands-on activities from the Discover-E Program from an aerospace corporation. They created sturdy buildings from marshmallows, pasta, straws or index

cards. They watched videos and heard valuable engineering information: environmental, mechanical, petroleum and product marketing. Students learned about a medical device that lengthens limbs and how turbo engines are used with race cars.



Our Robotics and Project Lead the Way classes are helping to pave the path for our students’ futures. Our goal to promote excitement in STEM career opportunities was accomplished!

1022 E. Market St., Long Beach, CA 90805 • 562/422-2845  
[www.lbschools.net/lindbergh](http://www.lbschools.net/lindbergh)

## Lincoln *Elementary*

### Lincoln Has Gone Green



**Christi Granado**  
Principal

We are proud to announce that Lincoln Elementary has gone GREEN!

Lincoln students are doing their part to help the environment while raising money for their school. The Green Team, the engine behind Lincoln's green movement, is made up of Fourth and

Fifth graders whose job includes being the school's environmental cheerleaders to help get students excited about recycling. Their job also entails organizing each grade level's plastic bottle & aluminum can bins. Lincoln students' recycling efforts are amazing. Last year we made \$1,500 and are hoping to make more this year.

More importantly, their growing recycling consciousness



is making a great difference for both the environmental health of their planet and school.

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

## Longfellow *Elementary*

### Ready for the Future!



**Laurie Murrin**  
Principal

*By Christy Cleveland, Counselor*

Career Day was a roaring success for the Longfellow Elementary School Lions! Over 40 professionals, most of them parents of our students, joined us in the library for a reception in their honor and for a flag ceremony, where honored guests raised the flags as our entire student body looked on.

Each classroom welcomed two speakers, even our Transitional Kindergarten students! Our Longfellow Lions were inspired by chemical engineers, police officers, a veterinarian, an executive chef, lawyers, a photojournalist, a sports commentator, and a professional football player, just to name a few. Our students learned the importance of education to reach their fullest potential, and our special guests learned that Longfellow Lions have pride!



**Professional football player, Dennis Northcutt and Angel Sports Commentator, Dale Lopes.**

3800 Olive Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-0308  
[www.lbschools.net/longfellow](http://www.lbschools.net/longfellow)

## Los Cerritos *Elementary*

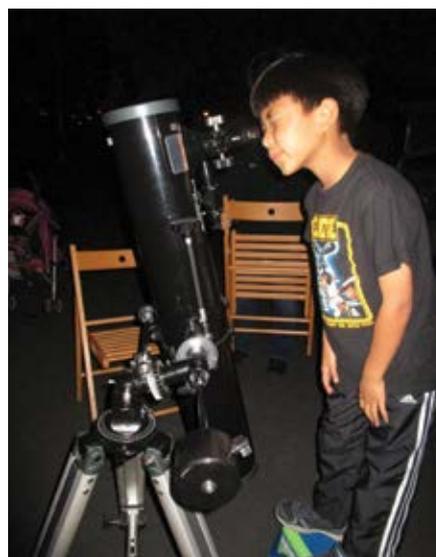
### Starry Night



**Marie Hatwan**  
Principal

*By Laura Scully, PALS 1st Grade Teacher*

Students and their families gazed up into the starry night, at a recent Los Cerritos Elementary School family enrichment night. At the second annual event, a group of Southern California astronomers shared their professional caliber telescopes and love of astronomy with the children. Students saw a stellar nursery in the Orion constellation,



moons of Jupiter, and a close up of the moon's largest canyon wall, among many other sights. Families picnicked together and enjoyed a program that featured poetry and a group sing-a-long by the students. Earlier in the month, students learned about space through interactive space dome assemblies at Los Cerritos.

515 W. San Antonio Dr., Long Beach, CA 90807 • 562/595-6337  
[www.lbschools.net/loscerritos](http://www.lbschools.net/loscerritos)

## Madison *Elementary*

### Great Kindness Challenge



**Kimberly Carpenter**  
*Principal*

Fifth graders in Miss Wood's class took on the The Great Kindness Challenge the week of January 26 -30 along with approximately 3969 other schools across the world. Each student was given a The Great Kindness Challenge Checklist to complete throughout the week. Some other ways they participated in showing kindness towards others included creating signs of appreciating the office staff, counselor, and principal.



Also, signs were made for the PTA, Cafeteria staff and our campus custodian. Furthermore, students also went to each classroom and office to read a kinds quote. Their last event was creating their hands of kindness that will be mailed in to help them break the World Guinness Book of World's Records.

2801 Bomberby Ave., Lakewood, CA 90712 • 562/420-7731  
[www.lbschools.net/madison](http://www.lbschools.net/madison)

## McBride *High School*

### McBride CJI Students Plea Their Cases



**Steve Rockenbach**  
*Principal*

McBride High School prides itself in offering its students applicable experiences related to their chosen pathways. Recently the freshmen in the Criminal Justice & Investigation pathway had an opportunity to learn about plea bargaining. As part of their culminating task for the unit, students were given a case to take to trial, prior to going to trial students were first required to plea bargain. Local attorneys were brought in the



**Local lawyer supporting CJI students writing Plea Bargains.**

coach the students through the entire process, given them real life, applicable experience on how our criminal justice system works. These experiences help McBride students understand the future skills needed to compete in the modern work place.

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

## Mann *Elementary*

### A Legacy of Reading



**Donna McKeehan-Marr**  
*Principal*

Like many schools across the nation, we recently celebrated the wonderful legacy of Theodore Geisel (or Dr. Seuss) during Read Across America Week.

During this event, families and staff members spent quality time reading with each other in our classrooms. The students were also able to dress as a famous person, such as Dr. Seuss. As part of the event, they needed to be able to cite evidence about who they were, as well as why and how they became famous.



Through the generous work of the Molina Foundation, our school was able to provide a free book for every student's home library. The Foundation supplied the books to not only Mann, but also for many other schools in the district.

257 Coronado Ave., Long Beach, CA 90803 • 562/439-6897  
[www.lbschools.net/mann](http://www.lbschools.net/mann)

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4223 East Anaheim Street  
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(562) 961-6300 • (562) 961-6336 FAX

### Let's Invade Catalina!



**Michael Navia**  
*Principal*

Over 170 students participated in activities organized by the Catalina Island Marine Institute at Toyon Bay, including three snorkel dives, a squid dissection, and laboratory activities on sea life. They also climbed the camp's 12-lane rock wall!

During these activities, the students encountered several species of rays and fish, including Catalina's resident garibaldi. During the night dive, students observed bioluminescence and used underwater flashlights to spot marine species. They stayed in dormitories at the camp and were occasionally visited by bison. Some students woke up early for a sunrise hike.

The Marshall Rams are already planning a return to the



island next school year. A special thank-you to all of the staff and parents who volunteered to chaperone!

5870 E. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach, CA 90808 • 562/429-7013  
[www.lbschools.net/marshall](http://www.lbschools.net/marshall)

### Riley *Elementary*

#### Riley Student Council



**LaShell Diggs**  
*Principal*

Each year Riley students elect representatives and officers to student council. These students serve the school by planning events and completing community service

on campus. They are a group of responsible, scholarly leaders who meet once a month to make decisions and discuss ideas for school improvement. This year's officers are Joseph Fausto (President), Kyo Leyraun (Vice Pres.), Jayson Pataray-Ching (Secretary), and Alan Castro (Treasurer).

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



## Millikan *High School*

### Student Leaders Showcased



**Dr. Jeffrey Cornejo**  
Principal



**Monica Daley**  
Principal of Instruction

*By Katie Hickox,  
Millikan High School*

Millikan Business Academy student leaders showcase their talents on a regular basis through the program's Virtual Enterprise class.

The course challenges student teams to design and execute virtual businesses.

From resumes to marketing strategies, the students must master all of the tasks that a business owner would face.

Last year the program's students placed in several different competitions, according to Gabriella Mercado, the MBA lead teacher.

"Virtual Enterprise gives the students the skills and confidence they need to present themselves in a positive way," Mercado noted. "What the students accomplish in the class is phenomenal."

The students recently participated in the Long Beach Trade Fair at the Convention Center, and look forward to participating in 2015 Youth Business Summit that will be held in New York over the spring break. Businesses designed by MBA students include "On the Field," which markets sports gear for all sports, "Bassed," which makes and sells headphones, and "Rush," a coffee products vendor.

"The MBA program puts the application piece, the finance piece, the marketing piece, and the "soft" or personal skills pieces together," Mercado added. "Virtual Enterprise does it all."

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

## Prisk *Elementary*

### Our Young Entrepreneurs



**Damon Jespersen**  
Principal

*By Linda Patton, First-Grade Teacher*

They may be little, but they mean big business! In February, the first-graders at Prisk Elementary ran and participated in a very successful Market Day. These young entrepreneurs worked collaboratively with their first-grade business partners to create a business from scratch.

While studying "Neighborhoods at Work," they learned about goods, services, consumers, producers and advertising. Then, it was time to put what they had learned into action. Working in groups, they brainstormed business ideas, created their goods or services, designed their advertisements and established their marketplace booths.

## Muir *Academy*

### Read Across America Week at Muir



**Lori Clark**  
Principal

*By Christina Maben, Teacher Librarian*

During the week of Read Across America, Muir hosted a local author and illustrator: Jennie Bragaw, author of *The Marble Harvest* and *Tiny Bigfoot's Big Choice*, along with Illustrator Nzuji De Magalhaes. Jennie and Nzuji spoke about their passion for reading, art, and education. They spoke about their experiences and answered student's questions.



Some middle school students were able to participate in a quick, creative story-telling session. Jennie even had a few students test out how they would ride a surfboard during the assembly. All students were able to attend the assembly including our CDC classes. After the assemblies, Jennie & Nzuji signed autographs and had a wonderful lunch in the library. It was a great day for everyone.

3038 Delta Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810 • 562/426-5571  
[www.lbschools.net/muir](http://www.lbschools.net/muir)

On Market Day, they were ready to open their shops and bring in those first-grade customers. A lot of fun was had, and many valuable real-world lessons were learned. Keep an eye out for these future business owners and innovators!

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

## Fostering Leaders



**Clarissa Tolentino**  
*Principal*

Our Student Leadership Council (SLC) comprises students who exemplify the Six Pillars of Character. Members are selected annually by their teachers and peers to be the school's student representatives. Mr. Eckert, the vice principal, and Amy Nissen, a fifth-grade teacher, serve as advisors. At every meeting, their focus is "What can we do to make Roosevelt an even better place to learn and grow?"

The SLC are involved in many activities and continue to provide input on ways to improve our playground and engage the students. Besides improving the school, they contribute to bettering the community. They assist with keeping our school clean and plan community-service projects to involve the entire school.

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



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

## Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader



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

At Robinson, any time is a good time to read. During Read Across America week, families arrived early in the morning to enjoy a Dr. Seuss breakfast of real green eggs and ham. In the evening at Family Literacy Night, students joined in performing a story with Carl Weintraub from the Segerstrom Performing Arts Center. Our K-5 teachers provided story listening centers, build-a-poem workshops, and character crafts.



Second grade teacher Ms. Usui, clad in authentic kimono, performed puppet storytelling and demonstrated origami crafts with the story Peach Boy. Later, every child who participated took home a new book, courtesy of a generous grant. At Robinson we agree: today a reader, tomorrow a leader!

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

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## Rogers *Middle School*

### Learning About Future Careers



**Kimberly Holland**  
*Principal*

Rogers' annual Career Day will be held on Friday, May 22. This great event brings together parents and community members from the Long Beach area to speak to our students about the many different career paths and opportunities that are available.

At the end of the event, our students move outside to the field for a culminating activity. The day begins in the library, where each of our presenters receives a big Rogers' welcome and refreshments. Our Student Council members then take our presenters to the individual classrooms to speak to two different groups of students.

Career Day is organized by Michelle Ascheri, a Rogers parent, and it is definitely one of our favorite events of the year! Michelle is seeking more presenters for this special event, and so if you are interested in spending a few hours with some middle school students, please contact her at [emtascheri@me.com](mailto:emtascheri@me.com), or at Rogers Middle School.

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

## Tincher *Preparatory School (K-8)*

### Teachers As Students



**Rosemary Sissons**  
*Principal*

Tincher's focus on professional development has become more crucial with the full implementation of the Common Core Standards. This year we chose to focus on developing strong communicators and supporting collaboration in the classroom. All elementary and middle school language arts teachers attended a professional development day with a focus on 'Grand Conversations'. This strategy deepens

student understanding of the text and teaches the skills required to conduct high level academic conversations. Momentum in Education provided in-depth training for teachers who then had the opportunity to see Tincher students participate in this exciting new educational strategy. Following this, teachers collaborated on implementing these conversations into their classrooms.



**Tincher Teachers develop plans for their "Grand Conversations."**

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

## Smith *Elementary*

### Celebrating Reading



**Monica Alas**  
*Principal*

*By Mary McCarthy, Smith Teacher Librarian*

Inspired by the books of Dr. Seuss and the wisdom of Mrs. Bobbie Smith, the Smith Bears and their families celebrated reading on Monday, March 2nd at the annual Read Across America event. The day started in true Seuss style with a Green Eggs and Ham breakfast prepared by Cristina Munoz and her incredible cafeteria crew. After enjoying

the whimsical meal, students applied their fluency skills by participating in Buddy Reading. Finally, a whole school assembly was held at which Mrs. Smith encouraged all students to strive to be their best, emphasizing that reading is the key to all learning. The Cat in the Hat himself sparked the crowd as all enjoyed singing, dancing and the recognition of top readers.



565 E. Hill St., Long Beach, CA 90806 • 562/595-9466  
[www.lbschools.net/burnett](http://www.lbschools.net/burnett)

## Stephens *Middle School*

### Celebrating Our Students



**Salvador Madrigal**  
*Principal*

*By Becky Robbins, School Librarian*

Every day, deserving students at Stephens can earn "Jackrabbit Bucks" by displaying a positive attitude and respectful behavior. Each Monday we hold a special drawing where the children can then win a variety of rewards, including free dress passes and gift certificates from local businesses.

Our school also emphasizes the importance of character. To date, we have focused on traits like trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, and fairness.

Each teacher selects two students a month who exemplify these desirable qualities. They also select students who show academic excellence or improvement. Parents are invited to regular Student of the Month celebrations to acknowledge these accomplished individuals. Refreshments are served, the children are rewarded with a special certificate, and pictures are taken for our Web site.

The Spring Fun Fair is another positive incentive that celebrates student achievement. Here students can participate in a variety of booths and activities, including arts and crafts, dancing, karaoke, soccer, a photo booth, and board games. Many students comment on how much they enjoy being able to select from a variety of activities.

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

**Cooking on the Front Burner**



**Megan Traver**  
*Principal*

Thirty students at Washington Middle School took an eight-week, afterschool, hands-on cooking class called Kids Cook with Heart. Ms. Chahal, seventh-grade health teacher, led the charge. Ms. Chahal and a team of teachers interviewed over 80 applicants for the program and chose the top 30 to participate in the first round.

Seventh-grade student Diana Chavez said, "I think cooking is a very important life skill that everyone should know." During the program, students learned how to cook a variety of healthy, nutritionally-balanced meals. Students also learned about kitchen sanitation and meal etiquette.

Ms. Chahal said, "Students learned how to cut veggies, make smoothies, and explore different foods they have never had before. I was surprised that students were so eager and brave to try new foods."

Students loved the classes! Student Laura Lorn said, "It is a great way to learn to cook new things and to learn what a balanced meal looks like."

Washington will be starting a second session of the cooking classes after the spring break.

1450 Cedar Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/591-2434  
www.lbschools.net/washington

**Read Across America**



**Maria Martinez**  
*Principal*

Beginning with green eggs and ham for breakfast and ending with a door decorating contest and wearing red and white shirts, Webster students celebrated Read Across America.

The week began with family members joining their children in the cafeteria for a breakfast of Green Eggs and Ham in honor of the 111th birthday of Dr. Seuss. Throughout the school, the beloved books of Dr. Seuss were enjoyed in read alouds.

Later in the week, families returned to school in their pajamas for Literacy Night and listened to stories read to them by staff members.



The week concluded with students coming to school in their red and white striped shirts and the judging of the best Dr. Seuss inspired door decorations.

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

# Contest!!

This library girl is hidden somewhere in this publication. When you find her, email the page number to:



Kay@schoolnewsrollcall.com  
Please put LBUSD in the subject line.

Your entry must be received by **May 10, 2015**. From the correct entries, we will draw a winner to receive a \$20 gift certificate redeemable at Barnes and Noble.

**Congratulations Ana Sandoval  
Winner of the February Contest.**

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## Whittier *Elementary*

### STEAM Night



**Lori Grady**  
Principal

by UTEACH student teachers

Whittier Elementary's Family Science Night was an evening to promote Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math in the surrounding community.

It was put on by Whittier's team of student teachers from CSULB's UTEACH program.

The team worked hard to put the event together and felt that the hard work was worth it once they saw families enjoying the experience and feeling the sense of community. People of all ages could join in on the "ocean themed" fun and participate in hands-on activities. Families were able to conduct experiments, contribute to the school's "I pledge to keep my ocean clean" mural, and even take pictures with a 10 foot great white shark replica named "Sherman". It was a splashin' good time!



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

## Willard *Elementary*

### Let the Games Begin!



**Dr. Cassandra Richards**  
Principal

By Victoria Joseph,  
5th grade teacher

This year is the first time a district-wide chess tournament was organized and implemented at Willard Elementary. This exciting event included participation

from: Willard Elementary, Lakewood High, Smith Elementary, Robinson K-8, Barton Elementary, Los Cerritos Elementary, MacArthur Elementary, and Hill Middle School.

Students had an amazing time playing and meeting other chess enthusiasts from other schools. Despite the differences in grade levels, there was a strong sense of camaraderie, respects and enthusiasm among all players. When asked how students felt about the tournament, the number one response was, "I love playing chess! It was wonderful to play against other schools!"



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

# Westerly School *of Long Beach (K—8)*



Westerly School proudly announces Patrick Brown as the new Head of School, officially starting July 1, 2015. Mr. Brown joins the Westerly community with over 25 years of experience in independent school education and administration, with 15 of those years as Head of School. Mr. Brown

has taught middle school and high school as well as coached basketball, baseball and softball on the varsity level.

With his varied teaching experience and his serving as Head of School for 12 years at the elementary school level, Mr. Brown brings a valuable perspective and understanding of the demands and talents that go into teaching various age groups. "In his role as Head at St. Michael's Parish Day School, Patrick guided curriculum design and implementation to ensure sequential and coordinated objectives to create an outstanding independent school curriculum. Under Patrick's leadership, the school thrived financially and grew enrollment. In addition, Patrick led 3 major fundraising campaigns and successfully managed \$6.4M in construction projects."

Mr. Brown received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Stanford University and a Masters in History from the University of Arizona. Throughout his career, he has executed and managed the key aspects of school leadership: school budget, admissions, implementing new programs, championing diversity and inclusivity,

communicating with parents and the larger school community, and facilitating teacher professional learning.

In his announcement to the school community, Mr. Neil Kinney, Westerly's President of the Board, writes, "From our own experience during the interview process with the board, the search committee, the faculty, and the past references with whom we spoke – Patrick makes a strong personal connection to the faculty and the students."

Working with outgoing Head of School, Chris Rodenhizer, over the next six months, Mr. Brown looks forward to getting to know the school community, which will ensure a smooth transition. Mr. Rodenhizer shares, "I could not be more excited to have Patrick guide Westerly to its next phase. His natural connection to students, insightful questions about our community, and excitement of his appointment, give me great assurance that this amazing little school is in the right hands."

The Board, the faculty, the students and their families are looking forward to a long and fruitful relationship with Mr. Patrick Brown, as we all continue to support and fulfill the mission of Westerly School.



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

## COMMUNITY VISIT DAYS

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Our 5-acre campus and engaging curriculum in action.

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About our safe and inclusive community and whole child philosophy.

### UNDERSTAND

The Westerly difference.

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Please contact the westerly office at 562.981.3153 or register online at [www.westerlyschool.org](http://www.westerlyschool.org)

### VISIT DATES

April 14, 2015

May 5, 2015



562.981.3151  
2950 E. 29th Street • Long Beach, CA 90805  
[www.westerlyschool.org](http://www.westerlyschool.org)





**Nancy Griffin**  
National President

**Avoid (dumb) Money Mistakes**

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

There is no better time than now to review your financial health and your goals for a secure financial future. Failing to Plan for Retirement: Our working days will end. Making use of today's tax deferred retirement plans such as 401(k) or others are so important. Ignoring Creeping Debt Loads: If you fail to control your debt, it will control you. Falling Prey to Loss Aversion: We are so reluctant to take a loss that we will postpone taking action beyond sensible time constraints. Falling Victim to Anchoring: Once we see a high price, it anchors our expectations, making the lower priced alternatives seem attractive. Getting Bitten by the Holiday Spending Bug: It's all too easy to reach for that credit card. The holiday spirit can be dampened by the realization that you have done some serious overspending.

These hints and many more are taken from the *Women in Business Magazine* of ABWA.

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

**Long Beach Public Library**

**April is National Library Month**

*By Pam Carlson, Children's Librarian*

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Pick up a National Library Month brochure at any of our twelve locations or visit the library's website at lbpl.org for specific event dates and times. For more information, please call 562-570-7500.

Main Library 101 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90822 • 562/570-7500  
www.lbpl.org

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**Valentina the Shire Horse.**

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**Jeffrey A. Napper**  
President & CEO

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- Check your credit report regularly. File a dispute to remove any credit report errors right away.



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**CathyLyn Brooks**

**\$15 Can Lower Your Mortgage Payment**

Recently I received in the mail an offer from Discover Bank to lower my mortgage loan payment. Though I was not interested in refinancing, the drop in payment caught my attention. So I rang them, and discussed the requirements of their offer. It was indeed worthwhile, but all of the paperwork required was, frankly, a turn-off. I joked to my husband that I should call the existing lender to see if they would offer the same program. They already had all of the paperwork.

So I did. And they were actually happy to hear from me. And, not kidding, for \$15 and a really, really minimal amount of paperwork, they refinanced 2 of my properties for \$15 each. I did this completely over the telephone. It took about 30 days. No tax returns needed. Just a current credit report and signing a lot of paperwork.

The loan agent and his processors were terrific and he shared with me a website to share with readers. Here you can look up your lender to contact them for the same program, or for different ones if you need assistance such as a loan modification that includes a principal reduction, if you have a second loan, are having trouble making your payments, or are in the military. Unfortunately and far too often, homeowners needing mortgage assistance can be victims of scam artists. Let this site guide you to true resources. Interest rates are at historic lows again. It is worth a look to see if you can improve your situation.

Here is the website address. <http://www.makinghomeaffordable.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Should your loan be with Bank of America, ring me for the direct line to the contact I have. He was great.

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](mailto:cathylyn@earthlink.net). Consumers should seek legal tax advice from professionals in each field.

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# Leadership Long Beach

## A Day at City Hall for Youth Leadership Long Beach



**Nonzenze  
Aldonza**

*Junior, Class 2016  
Millikan High School*

"Government day has finally arrived," I told myself that morning as I was dressing in professional attire. This day made me glad I was one of the 35 well-rounded students from all around Long Beach who were selected in the Youth Leadership Long Beach program. Leadership Long Beach's primary goal is to help high school students develop leadership skills, and then with those skills to incorporate them in their everyday lives.

Our full day schedule included meeting with Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia, City Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez, City Manager Pat West, touring the City Hall departments, and lastly hosting our own mock council session. They even gave us badges with our name and photograph; I pretended like my badge could unlock secret doors in the building.



**City Prosecutor Doug Haubert speaking with students.**

The highlight of my day was when we spilt off into groups based on our career interest. Knowing what my peers' future career goals were inspired me. I chose to meet with the city prosecutor, Doug Haubert. He taught us valuable lessons that would help us in a career setting or in everyday life.

At our meeting before Government Day, our class received a paper with our role on for our mock council debate session. We were to debate animal neutering within the city and we had a couple of weeks to prepare for this nerve racking trial. We were divided into three speaking roles; either as a resident for neutering, a resident against neutering or as city council members.

This experience was phenomenal. I was proud to see everyone nicely dressed with their speeches put together. Unfortunately, the bill did not pass, but I had a great time taking a stand in the session.

Youth Leadership Long Beach is an amazing program and I am glad that I have the opportunity to learn amongst some of Long Beach's greatest high school students. We have a great core of volunteers which includes our youth chairs and Leadership Long Beach Director Jeff Williams. They are working alongside us to ensure that every class meeting or volunteer event is operated smoothly.

About Leadership Long Beach: Leadership Long Beach was founded in 1989 by some of our community's most influential and visionary stakeholders. The Youth Leadership Long Beach program was started in 1996 to give those same opportunities to the emerging youth leaders in our community. For more information, check us out at [www.leadershiplb.org](http://www.leadershiplb.org) or [www.facebook.com/leadershiplongbeach](http://www.facebook.com/leadershiplongbeach) 743 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813 • 562/997-9194



**A group class day photo.**



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