



November 10, 2017

Deputy Supt. Baker Earns NAACP Honor

Long Beach Unified School District Deputy Superintendent of Schools Jill Baker earned the Secondary Education Award from the Long Beach Branch NAACP last week. She accepted the honor at the NAACP's 38th Founders' Gala Celebration Dinner at the Long Beach Hilton.

Baker was recognized for her work to support the NAACP's work on issues of social justice, equity and civil rights.



Baker

"It's truly touching and meaningful to be recognized by such a legendary organization," Baker said. "This honor also validates the hard work we've all been doing together on behalf of children for so many years. In the Long Beach Unified School District, collaboration is a way of life, both within our system and in partnership with community organizations like the NAACP."

Baker began her career in LBUSD as a teacher, then served as principal, Leadership Development Office administrator, assistant superintendent and chief academic officer. In 2005, she completed her tenure as a fellow in the Broad Urban Superintendents Academy. She earned her doctorate in educational

(Continued on next page)

College Board Touts SAT Prep Work Here

The College Board issued a case study last week offering school systems "Tips for Success from Fresno and Long Beach Unified School Districts" when it comes to helping more students access "free world-class test practice" and personalized study plans.

View the case study by finding this article at lbschools.net.

Long Beach Unified School District is a winner of the 2017 Official SAT Practice All In Challenge, the first-ever award from the College Board, the Council of the Great City Schools and Khan Academy. The award recognizes school districts for encouraging and supporting students as they practice for the SAT and college-level courses using the free online SAT practice platform, Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy.

LBUSD is one of only five school districts to win the inaugural award, receiving the "MVP" prize for the highest overall percentage of students linking their College Board and Khan Academy accounts to receive free, personalized SAT practice. Since the challenge began in December 2016, 93 percent of Long Beach Unified students who took either the SAT or a PSAT-related assessment linked their accounts.

Official SAT Practice features video lessons, thousands of interactive practice questions, nine full-length practice tests, and test-taking tips and strategies. By linking their College Board and Khan Academy accounts, students who've taken the SAT or a PSAT-related assessment in the past can unlock a custom practice plan and determine what areas to focus on.

Long Beach's "MVP" prize was announced in August, while last week's case study provides greater detail on Long Beach's reliance on its school leaders, its use of incentives and parent engagement, and its creation of structured opportunities for students to practice. These methods have helped thousands of students complete hundreds of thousands of practice problems. More than 36,000 students and 700 teachers are actively using Khan Academy here.

The Washington, D.C.-based Council of the Great City Schools was founded in 1956 and brings together 69 of the nation's largest urban public school systems, including Long Beach, in a coalition dedicated to the improvement of

(Continued on next page)

A Guide for Families: 'It Takes a Village'

The Long Beach Unified School District has produced a new eight-page resource guide, "It Takes a Village," for families. The guide highlights key academic programs, provides academic resources to help fortify students' skills, and lists community resources that support the school district's curriculum and assessments.

The guide is available in English and Spanish under Parent University at lbschools.net, and limited supplies of hard copies will be made available at local schools and other community locations.

RuMBa Foundation Gives \$121K for Arts

The RuMBa Foundation of Long Beach earned special recognition at a recent Board of Education meeting for providing more than \$121,000 in grants to enhance arts education over the past three years.

"On behalf of the students and teachers, we want to thank the RuMBa Foundation for their support of the arts in Long Beach and for students in LBUSD," Music Curriculum Leader James Petri said.

The private foundation's mission is to expand access to the arts for Long Beach Unified School District children in grades K-12. The foundation provides grants directly to schools. The goal is to help students access the rich and vibrant arts community in Long Beach.

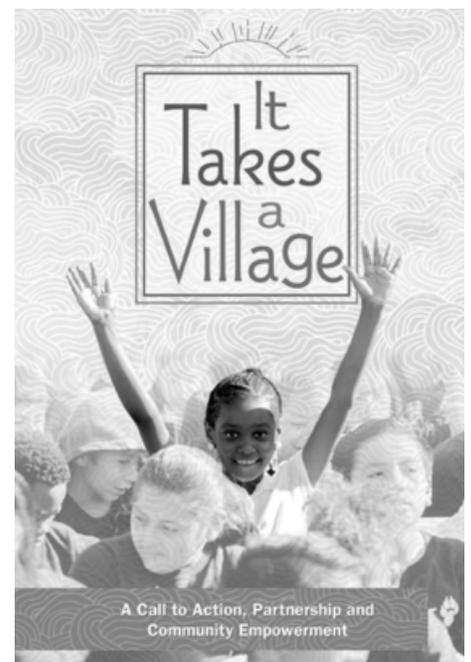
One of the foundation's unique offerings is to cover transportation and ticket fees to off-campus art experiences. This may range from a trip to a live performance, museum, clay studio, industrial arts or artist's studio to a visit to art departments of local colleges and universities, especially Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach. The local grants also bring artists and art supplies to schools, supporting

individual classrooms and grade-specific or school-wide assemblies.

The funding effort started three years ago when Josephine Molina and Heather Rudy inquired how they might support LBUSD's comprehensive arts program. The foundation's name is derived from the last names of the blended family members, Rudy, Molina and Battiste.

Over the past three years, the foundation has awarded 45 individual grants to 25 local schools, reaching more than 11,000 students. Funded activities so far have included field trips to the Long Beach Museum of Art, Museum of Latin American Art, Getty Museum, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Music Theater West, Carpenter Center, Improv workshop for drama students, guest dance troupe performances for dance students, folk and world drumming assemblies for elementary students, and dance, music and visual art collaborations with CSULB arts professors.

The foundation aims to increase its support to schools in the coming years. Learn more at therumbafoundation.org.



A Call to Action, Partnership and Community Empowerment

• NAACP Honor

(Continued from first page)
leadership at USC, master's degree in school administration at Cal State Long Beach and bachelor's degree in sociology at UC Irvine.

In 2010, the NAACP also honored Baker with an Outstanding Women Award.

Baker's daily work in the school district is focused on building an entire system of high performing schools, whose staff learn and improve through interaction with the district and engagement with one another. This work includes strategic leadership and partnership with the Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development on the district's K-12 implementation of the California Standards, and the development of organizational systems to support these efforts. Her departmental oversight includes working with the school district's Early Learning and Pre-school Division leaders, the Leadership Development Office and supervision and support of the district's schools.

Also honored at the NAACP event was Mike Murray, a long-time supporter of the school district and current president of the Long Beach Education Foundation. He earned a Lifetime Achievement Award.

• SAT Prep Praised

(Continued from first page)
education for children in big cities.

LBUSD's efforts to help more students prepare for the SAT also were recognized this month by The Education Trust-West in a publication called "The Majority Report," focusing on the educational success of Latino students in California. The report notes Long Beach's practice of covering the cost of SAT and PSAT exams and offering a free, 38-hour SAT prep course on high school campuses as part of the Long Beach College Promise, the partnership among the district, local colleges and city that aims to give every child the opportunity to go to college.

FSA Enrollment

Enrollment in a health care or dependent care Flexible Spending Account, or FSA, is available to employees from Nov. 1 to 30. This enrollment is for the short 2018 plan year, Jan. 1 to June 30, 2018. For employees who don't enroll now, the next opportunity will be in May for the July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 fiscal year.

By IRS rule, current enrollment does not carry over to the next year. Call 866-844-9744 (option 4), 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or visit benefitenroll.com.

Band Spectacular

The 33rd annual Long Beach Unified School District High School Band Spectacular takes place 7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15 at the Lakewood High School stadium. Marching bands from Cabrillo, Jordan, Lakewood, Millikan, Poly and Wilson high schools will present their half-time shows. Also performing throughout the evening will be the Long Beach City College Viking Jazz Band. Tickets are \$5 and available at the door.

TRIBUTE –
Friends and family of brothers Sean and Andy Harvell, including their mother, Jane Maher, left, gather to dedicate a bench in honor of the two Millikan High School alumni who served in the military and lost their lives. The memorial bench near Ocean Boulevard in Long Beach is located on a bluff overlooking the ocean.



A Poignant Salute to Two Fallen Brothers

Friends and family of brothers Sean and Andy Harvell, the Millikan alumni who served in the military and lost their lives, gathered on a bluff near Ocean Boulevard and Orizaba Avenue recently to dedicate a bench in their honor. View video by finding this article at lbschools.net.

Sean, then Andy entered the Air Force right after graduating from high school. They both distinguished themselves on the battlefield earning numerous commendations for valor. Sean eventually became the most decorated soldier in Afghanistan.

As members of the elite Combat Controllers

College, Career Night Attracts Thousands

The 46th annual Career and College Exploration Night at Cal State Long Beach's Walter Pyramid attracted nearly 3,000 local high school students, family members, teachers and others. The event was an opportunity to visit with representatives from more than 165 college, university, apprenticeship, military, "gap year," and non-profit programs.

"This is truly a terrific opportunity for our district's students," said Christopher Clifton, Long Beach Unified School District's career education support services manager. "We acknowledge the significant planning and event support that we receive from the CSULB Office of the President, and the University Outreach and School Relations Office."

SCHOOL BULLETIN

Official publication of the Long Beach Unified School District issued bi-weekly during the school year from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 1515 Hughes Way, Long Beach, California 90810. (562) 997-8000. www.lbschools.net

CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEGAN KERR, President
DIANA CRAIGHEAD, Vice President
JOHN MCGINNIS, Member
JON MEYER, Member
FELTON WILLIAMS, Member

Unit, the brothers heroically served their country and achieved a legendary reputation.

"It means a lot to me because I usually go to L.A. every Sunday to the cemetery to see the boys," said Jane Maher, mother of Andy and Sean. "So now I can see them every day."

Roosevelt Students 'Shop with a Cop'

Eighty students from Roosevelt Elementary School recently received \$110 in gift cards to Target on Bellflower Boulevard in Long Beach, where each child paired with a police officer who assisted them with some shopping.

Long Beach Transit helped with transportation for the Shop with a Cop program held in collaboration with the Long Beach Police Department, Long Beach Police Foundation, Long Beach Education Foundation, Long Beach Junior Chamber and the Cal State Long Beach men's volleyball team.

Harmony Project Gala on Dec. 13

The Long Beach Unified School District continues to partner with the nonprofit Harmony Project, which helps to provide classical music education for children from lower-income communities. The project's third annual gala – a reception and fundraiser hosted by the school district and the Long Beach Education Foundation – is 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13 at the Terrace Theater Foyer, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. RSVP at harmonyproject@lbschools.net, or call 997-8448. Special guests at the event include Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna.

In Memoriam

Ethelia Siemons
former teacher
Sept. 20, 2017