



school bulletin

ISSUED BI-WEEKLY SEPTEMBER THROUGH JUNE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

September 14, 2018



WORKPLACE LEARNING – McBride High School student and engineering intern Raquel Garcia was among the LBUSD summer interns honored during a recent event at Browning High School. View video of the event at lbschools.net.

LB CaLL Celebrates Employers, Interns

The nonprofit Long Beach Career-Linked Learning recognized local employers and summer interns during a recent event at Browning High School.

Long Beach CaLL is a partnership among the Long Beach Unified School District, Long Beach City College and Cal State Long Beach.

Nearly 150 employers and students gathered at the high school to celebrate the importance of real-world experiences for students and to honor the many talents CaLL interns brought to the workplace this summer.

“Our interns have been extremely amazing,” Nella Marov, director of customer care for FreeConferenceCall.com, told the event audience. “CaLL found the right fit for our culture, and also our fit into their lives.”

The goal of the program is to help young people develop personal and professional skills that contribute to their success in the workforce.

“Before Long Beach CaLL, I used to consider myself really college-oriented and really prepared in that aspect,” intern and McBride High School student Raquel Garcia said. “But I found out that there is so much more that I could be doing. With this internship, not only does it look good on college applications, but it’s really given me a focus of what I want to do in school and what I want to do in my career.”

CaLL provided 93 summer internships, more than double compared to the prior year.

View video of the event by finding this article at lbschools.net. More information for employers and students is available at longbeachcall.org.

\$1 Billion in Upgrades and a Million Thanks

By Christopher J. Steinhauser
Superintendent of Schools

The new school year began with \$1.1 billion in active projects as we modernize campuses using school bonds approved by local voters. These projects add to the excitement and challenges already inherent in the start of any school year. I want to thank everyone for their patience and help in making our students feel welcome. We are blessed to have so many caring staff members and supportive parents. Seeing modernization projects underway, and many projects completed, also deepens our appreciation for the bond funding that our community generously and overwhelmingly approved as Measure E back in 2016.

The magnitude of our facilities improvements is extraordinary. We now have 75 projects, 16 of which have started since June.

Nearly 9,000 students and 380 classrooms were relocated during the summer, and 3,900 students began the year with new air conditioning and heating systems in their classrooms.

Of course, most important is what happens inside those classrooms and schools. I’ve enjoyed a whirlwind tour of our schools in recent days, and I can attest that great things are under way.

At Bryant Elementary School, in the same classroom where I was a kindergartner 54 years ago, I told students that, like them, I sat on the classroom rug and played in the same playground. The students were eager and attentive, and I believe there could be a future superintendent in that class.

I saw Ms. Grimalt and her colleagues off to a great start developing our newest Spanish dual immersion program at Bixby Elementary
(Continued on next page)

CAMS Earns California Student Aid Award

The California Academy of Mathematics and Science is among 35 high schools statewide that will be honored in Sacramento on Oct. 4 for increasing the number of high school seniors who completed financial aid applications for college.

CAMS earned the honor as part of the California Student Aid Commission’s 2018 Race to Submit campaign, which aims to increase the number of students who complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

The commission received 169 such applications from CAMS for an overall submission rate of 100 percent and an overall completion rate of 99.39 percent.

“Your school exemplifies what we can do when working together on behalf of California high school seniors,” Lupita Cortez Alcalá,

executive director of the commission, stated in the award notification. “Teachers, counselors and administrators like you make it possible for young people in California to move one step closer in their journey toward achieving their dream of higher education.”

The commission is the principal state agency responsible for administering \$2.2 billion in state financial aid for college and career training.

Each winning school will receive a banner to commemorate their accomplishment.

CAMS is a high school run by the Long Beach Unified School District on the campus of Cal State Dominguez Hills. The school has earned numerous national honors and this year was ranked second by U.S. News and World Report among all high school magnet programs in California. Learn more about CAMS at lbschools.net/CAMS.

RENAISSANCE – Workers put the finishing touches on a new performing arts center at Renaissance High School for the Arts. The school just reopened after a two-year, \$40 million renovation. More than \$1 billion in LBUSD modernization projects are under way. Learn more at lbschools.net.



New Commissioner

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has approved the appointment of Sheryl Bender to serve on the Long Beach Unified School District Personnel Commission. LBUSD's Board of Education had nominated Bender to the post.

Bender works with the City of Long Beach as a superintendent for personnel and training with the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department. She also has worked for the Port of Long Beach and was a teacher for four years. In recent years she has been the Port's facilitator for an eight-week high school internship program. She holds two master's degrees: an MBA from Cal State Long Beach, and a master's in multicultural education from Cal State Dominguez Hills. Her undergraduate degree is from UCLA, and she holds multiple certifications in Human Resources.

The Personnel Commission consists of three LBUSD residents who meet biweekly regarding items affecting the employment and compensation of classified employees.

Bender replaces Stacey Lewis, who had served on the commission since 2013.



Bender

Low-cost Internet, Free Chromebooks

The Long Beach Unified School District is partnering with the nonprofit human-I-T organization to bring low-cost Internet service and free laptops to qualifying families.

By reusing instead of recycling electronics, human-I-T transforms e-waste into opportunities for under-served communities while promoting digital inclusion and online access. High-speed Internet access is available for as low as \$14.99 per month. Participants may qualify for a free Chromebook with their low-cost Internet sign-up.

Apply at human-i-t.org/lbusd.

School Messenger App Now Available

A free SchoolMessenger app is available to help parents stay updated on what's happening at school. The app brings together communications from the school district, the school and the teacher in one place. Parents also can set preferences regarding how they want to receive certain messages, including text, email and voice. Teachers and parents can use the app for secure two-way communication. To learn more, go to "School Messenger App" in the A-Z index at lbschools.net.

Weight Watchers

To help start the new school year, Weight Watchers is offering a free starter kit to employees who newly enroll from Sept. 4 to 18. Register within that timeframe to redeem the free starter kit by Oct. 5 while supplies last. Look for the promotional flyer at your site.

• Supt. Steinhauser

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School.

Staff at Franklin Middle School were busy analyzing state test data and setting goals for the new school year using tools from our Research Office – a scene I saw repeated at many of our schools.

At Roosevelt Elementary School, where I was fortunate to start my teaching career in 1982, I saw teachers and support staff who are incredibly dedicated to students and their parents.

At Cabrillo High School, I met some outstanding students who are ASB leaders and pathway ambassadors for new students.

I could feel the excitement at Renaissance High School for the Arts as students got their first look at the campus after a two-year, \$40 million renovation. Similarly, the energy level was high at Stephens Middle School, where students returned to see refurbished, newly air conditioned classrooms along with a new athletic field.

I enjoyed the tremendous school spirit at Millikan High School's football game, and I was honored by the great turnout at one of my ongoing series of meetings with Pacific Islander parents here at the school district office.

Each of these vignettes and many more have combined to make for one of the most memorable back-to-school seasons in my 40 years in education.

Thank you to all who contribute to the important work of teaching and learning. Keep up the great work, and have a safe and successful school year.

Weekly Twitter Chat: #ProudtobeLBUSD

Lafayette Elementary School teacher librarian Katherine Tacea and Wilson High School teacher Edward Steinhauser co-moderate the #ProudtobeLBUSD Twitter chat on Wednesdays from 7 to 7:30 p.m., connecting colleagues who share ideas, tips and resources.

Topics vary by week, and all Long Beach Unified School District teachers, staff and administration as well as like-minded colleagues from around the world are welcome to participate.

Previous topics have included classroom management, growth mindset, college and career readiness, student voice and more. Other LBUSD teachers and administrators also serve as guest moderators.

SCHOOL BULLETIN

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CHRISTOPHER J. STEINHAUSER

Superintendent of Schools

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HOMETOWN HERO – Gompers K-8 School music teacher Veronica Lucio, left, was honored as a Hometown Hero by the City of Lakewood. Joining her at the celebration is her friend Yurietta Luviano of LBUSD Textbook Services.

Names in the News

Veronica Lucio, a music teacher at Gompers K-8 School, was honored by the City of Lakewood as a Hometown Hero for her dedication as a teacher. She received a certificate from Lakewood Mayor Steve Croft noting her impact in the community and beyond. She accepted the award during the Lakewood Summer Fest at the Lakewood Mall, where she also was presented with a congratulatory certificate from the California State Legislature.

College and Career Counselor **Rachael Hamlet** of the California Academy of Mathematics and Science recently was notified by the Yale Office of Undergraduate Admissions that she is a recipient of the 2018 Yale Educator Award. The award recognizes outstanding educators from around the world who support and inspire their students to perform at high levels and to achieve excellence. Students entering the Yale Class of 2022 were asked to nominate outstanding educators who have deeply impacted their lives. Hamlet was nominated for the award by **Ikenna Maduno**, who also was among seven CAMS graduates this year to earn admission to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In Memoriam

Phyllis Goldhamer

former long term substitute teacher
June 25, 2018.

Christopher Hogan

former building maintenance worker
July 22, 2018

Byron White, Sr.

custodian, Cabrillo
Aug. 8, 2018

Ruth Prewett

former records manager
Aug. 9, 2018

Nancy Bissot

former teacher
Aug. 16, 2018