



# school bulletin

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

October 12, 2018

## Hundreds of Grads Earn Biliteracy Seals

The Class of 2018 in the Long Beach Unified School District earned 821 State Seals of Biliteracy. The seals recognize high school graduates who have attained a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading and writing one or more languages in addition to English.

LBUSD's high school graduates this year earned 578 seals for Spanish, 85 for Japanese, 75 for French, 28 for German, 22 for American Sign Language, 21 for Chinese, six for Italian, and six for Khmer.

A record 55,249 students statewide in the Class of 2018 earned the bilingual seal, the California Department of Education announced recently. The distinction is marked by a gold seal affixed to students' diplomas.

"I'm thrilled that so many of our students are learning a second language that will improve their cognitive abilities, better prepare

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## City, Schools Offer Voter Registration

Long Beach's Office of the City Clerk recently teamed up with local high schools on National Voter Registration Day to register or pre-register hundreds of students.

City Clerk Monique De La Garza praised schools for their participation.

"On behalf of our office, we want to thank you for your commitment in helping us work with your high schools on National Voter Registration Day," De La Garza said. "Our team had enormous success working with your faculty and student volunteers. I want to commend the efforts of your faculty and administrators for their cooperation and teamwork."

Nearly 600 local students registered or pre-registered to vote, and almost 1,400 students were contacted during the effort at six schools in Long Beach.

## Free Flu Vaccinations

The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services encourages everyone six months and older to receive a flu vaccine every year. The department will offer free flu vaccinations from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27 at Long Beach City College, Veterans Stadium, 5000 E. Lew Davis St. Drive-through and walk-up options will be available.

Parents and guardians seeking to vaccinate their children should bring immunization records. Adults with Medicare Part B are encouraged to bring their insurance card with them.

Learn more at [longbeach.gov/flu](http://longbeach.gov/flu).

## Prestigious AP Capstone Diplomas Awarded

New data show that 49 students in the Long Beach Unified School District earned the prestigious Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma, and 54 students earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate during the 2017-18 school year.

AP Capstone is a diploma program from the College Board based on two yearlong AP classes: AP Seminar and AP Research, courses that LBUSD began offering in 2016-17. Both courses prepare students for college and career success through the development of critical thinking, academic research, collaboration, presentation and time management skills. Only 4,800 students worldwide earned the AP Capstone Diploma, and 2,400 earned the AP

Seminar and Research Certificate last school year.

"We are proud to recognize the outstanding achievements of students who participated in the AP Capstone Diploma program, and we continue to look forward to providing students with opportunities to explore their passions while building college-level academic and collaboration skills," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser said.

Earning the AP Capstone Diploma is no easy feat. Students must earn scores of 3 (out of 5) or higher in AP Seminar, AP Research, and on four additional AP exams. To receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate,

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## Early Childhood Education Plan Launched

The City of Long Beach and the Mayor's Fund for Education unveiled an Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan last week that was developed in collaboration with the Long Beach Unified School District and other local agencies.

"We know from experience that the sooner we can bring children into a high-quality learning environment, the more likely they are to succeed in their later years of schooling and life," LBUSD Superintendent Christopher J. Steinhauser said. "This plan is a big step toward making full equity and access to early childhood programs a reality. I look forward to seeing significant and lasting results as the plan moves forward."

Speakers and panelists at the launch event included LBUSD Deputy Superintendent Jill Baker, who oversees the school district's early childhood education programs. Mayor Robert Garcia kicked off the event, held at Long Beach Day Nursery.

"As an educator, I believe there is no better investment in a child's future than an investment in early childhood education," Garcia said. "This plan will expand our educational and social commitments to our youngest residents, their families and the professionals who support them so that all children will enter school ready to learn and be positioned for life-long success."

The new plan was created to ensure all families and young children across the city have equitable access to the programs and resources they could benefit from. To view a full version of the plan, find this article at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).

The plan has seven overarching goals with objectives and activities organized under each.

"It is a blueprint for our collective action—one that compels each of us, individually and as organizations, to dedicate our best thinking, energy and commitment to making significant improvements for our children," said Kelly Colopy, director of Long Beach Health and Human Services.

### LAUNCH EVENT –

Children at Long Beach Day Nursery perform for guests during an event to launch a city-wide Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan. LBUSD is a partner in the plan's implementation. View a full version of the plan by finding this article at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).



## A \$10K Surprise at Holmes Elementary

Holmes Elementary School students and staff enjoyed a pleasant surprise at a recent school spirit assembly, where representatives of Burlington Stores, Inc. presented an oversized \$10,000 check to help teachers with additional classroom supplies. AdoptAClassroom.org helped Holmes to secure and coordinate the donation.

"The kids were very surprised, and this was really a celebration of our teachers," Holmes Principal Lori Grady said. "We're very happy to have participated in this event."

Burlington and AdoptAClassroom.org partner to make a donation to a local school in each grand opening market to celebrate a new store location. A new Burlington store opens this Friday at Lakewood Center.

AdoptAClassroom.org is a national non-profit organization dedicated to supporting teachers and their students. The organization is recognized as one of the original crowdfunding platforms and has supported more than 175,000 teachers and 4.4 million students nationwide.

## • AP Capstone

(Continued from first page) students must earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research. More than 1,100 schools participated in the AP Capstone program worldwide last school year.

The AP Capstone program provides student-centered learning while incorporating performance-based assessments. Throughout the program, AP Seminar and AP Research students study a variety of topics across multiple disciplines and have the flexibility to choose topics of personal interest to show mastery of critical thinking, research and presentation skills. Official AP Seminar and AP Research assessments also go beyond a single AP exam to include academic papers, multimedia presentations and defense of findings.

"Congratulations to the AP Capstone award winners, who conduct, present and defend academic research on topics they are passionate about," said Trevor Packer, College Board senior vice president. "Their ability to manage long-term projects, collaborate with teams and deliver effective presentations will accelerate not only their academic careers, but their professional careers as well."

LBUSD students took a record high of 14,786 AP exams last school year, passing a record 6,624 tests. Even as the number of attempted tests increased, so did the pass rate, improving by 4 percent over the prior year.

## • Biliteracy Seals

(Continued from first page) them for the global economy, and broaden their horizons and understanding of other cultures and nations," State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson said.

California began the biliteracy seal program in 2012. Since then, more than 20 other states have adopted similar programs. In 2016, California received an award from the U.S. Department of Education in recognition as a national leader in promoting multilingualism. The state seeks to more than triple the number of biliteracy seals earned by 2030.

**SURPRISE CHECK –** Staff at Holmes Elementary School accept a check for \$10,000 from Burlington Stores, Inc. during a spirit assembly for students. The funds will be used for additional school supplies selected by the teachers. A new Burlington store opens this Friday in Lakewood.



## LCAP Forum Set for Oct. 20 at Cabrillo High

The Long Beach Unified School District will co-host a Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Community Forum with community groups from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20 at Cabrillo High School, 2001 Santa Fe Avenue in Long Beach.

The event will help parents and community members learn about the school district's progress in preparing all students for college and careers, as well as its efforts to close the achievement gap. This forum will also help the district foster additional understanding and dialogue with students, parents and other stakeholders from the community. Participants will have an opportunity to review and study school district data, as well as to contribute feedback to the LCAP planning process.

The tentative schedule for the day is:

- 8:00-9:00, Registration and Continental

Breakfast

- 9:00-10:15, General Assembly
- 10:25-11:25, Breakout Study Sessions
- 11:35-12:00, Closing Assembly/Boxed Lunches Available
- 12:00-1:00, Boxed Lunches Available

The LCAP Community Forum is one more way the district is engaging stakeholders in the planning process. Learn more at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).

## Names in the News

**Kimberly Johnson**, head counselor with the Office of Equity, Access, and College & Career Readiness, recently was invited to serve as a member of the President's Advisory Committee on African American Presence at the University of California. The university is undertaking new efforts, as part of its comprehensive outreach strategy, to raise awareness of UC among members of African American communities.

A webinar hosted by the National Conference of State Legislatures will feature LBUSD Deputy Superintendent **Jill Baker** and colleague **Kelly An**, who is the school district's director of Leadership Development. The webinar on "The Principal Supervisor Initiative Implementation – On the Ground Work," is scheduled for noon Pacific Time on Tuesday, Oct. 16. LBUSD has worked with the Wallace Foundation and researchers on how to best support those in principal supervisor roles. Register for the webinar at [ncls.org](http://ncls.org) under Research > Education.

United Cambodian Community honored recently retired LBUSD Board of Education Member **John McGinnis** and his wife, **Dianne McGinnis** during UCC's 41st Anniversary Gala last week. Also recognized as a Gala Honoree for her contributions to the Cambodian community was **Judy Seal**, executive director of the Long Beach Education Foundation.

A meeting of the State Assembly Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Childhood Education, held recently at Long Beach City College, included presentations from two Long Beach educators. **Claudia Sosa-Valderrama**, LBUSD director of Head Start, was an agenda-dedicated presenter on the topic of serving 4-year-olds in the greater Los Angeles area. Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach teacher **Miriam Ramos Pinedo** addressed the topic of dual-language learners.

## In Memoriam

**Anne Struiksmas**  
teacher, Addams  
Sept. 17, 2018

**Howard Bricker**  
former long-term substitute teacher  
Sept. 28, 2018

**Jill Forehan**  
former teacher  
Sept. 30, 2018

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Superintendent of Schools

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