



# school bulletin

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

November 9, 2018

## Lions Club Provides Sight, Hearing Tests

About 80 Lions Club members – including some from as far away as Iceland, Korea, India and the United Kingdom – toured the Grant Child Development Center during a recent day of hearing and vision screenings offered to students by the international service club. More than 100 students received hearing and vision screenings.

“The Lions Club will be completing this process at all 28 Child Development Center preschool sites,” said Cindy Young, CDC director for the Long Beach Unified School District. “They are also committed to working with the parents of children who qualify for additional testing, including any who may need assistive devices, glasses, hearing aids, etc.”

The service club also is connecting with LBUSD’s Head Start early childhood program.

“Their goal is to service the entire greater Long Beach community,” Young said. “This is amazing.”

The Lions Club was one of the first service clubs established in Long Beach and recently celebrated its 95th anniversary. One of the club’s main programs is a partnership with LBUSD in which volunteers work with school nurses to provide screenings, eyeglasses and other assistance to local students. The club covers expenses for students if their family’s insurance does not.



**VISION, HEARING SCREENINGS –** LBUSD Child Development Centers Director Cindy Young, left, and Board of Education President Diana Craighead, right, joined preschoolers at the Grant CDC to observe Lions Club vision and hearing screenings. Behind them is the service club’s screening bus.

**ON THEIR WAY –** Preschoolers play at the new Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach early childhood education center, located on the campus of Barton Elementary School. Several agencies, funders and elected officials celebrated the school’s completion during a recent grand opening event.



## Educare Preschool Celebrates Grand Opening

Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach, an early childhood education center on the Barton Elementary School campus, celebrated its grand opening this month. The ribbon-cutting ceremony marked the fruition of a project that began with an anonymous donation of \$7 million followed by matching funds, all managed through a public-private partnership.

“I’ve been a part of a lot of public-private partnerships. I’ve never seen one this good,” said David Rattray, Executive Vice President of the Center for Education Excellence and Talent Development at the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

Rattray was among several representatives of partnering agencies to address the audience

at the event, which included a performance by Educare students. The new facility opened in July and is already serving nearly 160 students, but the ribbon-cutting made the school’s opening official. During the ceremony, other preschoolers frolicked as usual in their colorful and spacious outdoor play area, blowing bubbles and riding tricycles around a curved, kid-sized roadway.

The school serves as a regional hub for early learning professional development, demonstrating how programs can use evidence-based approaches to provide quality early childhood education for low-income families. A dual-language learning program serves as a

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## Harvard Report Notes Teacher Support Here

A report by Harvard University researchers on teacher evaluation systems in California describes innovative practices in the Long Beach Unified School District.

The report titled “Can Teacher Evaluation Programs Improve Teaching?” by Virginia Lovison and Eric. S. Taylor of Harvard University is part of the “Getting Down to Facts II” series of research projects focused on a wide array of California education issues.

Long Beach was highlighted in the latest report for connecting individual teacher evaluation results with resources and strategies for improvement using the school district’s online myPD system for professional development.

“First, teachers decide which teaching practice(s) will be the focus of their improvement work. Specifically, teachers select practices from the California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP). The software aids this decision by combining and analyzing information about the teachers’ current performance, including the teachers’ own self assessments,

student achievement data, evaluation results and other sources,” the report states. “Second, the software suggests specific resources to the teacher, including traditional face-to-face professional development courses, videos of other Long Beach teachers teaching, self-paced online courses, communities of teachers focused on the same practices, and other resources.”

One advantage of Long Beach’s approach is that it helps teachers make connections between their evaluation results and the available professional development resources.

“The extent to which myPD is successful in its goals for improving teaching effectiveness will be borne out over time,” the report continues, “but the thoughtful design is promising.”

In a related article on the EdSource website ([edsources.org](http://edsources.org)), which covers statewide education issues, writer Diana Lambert notes that Long Beach’s online support system for teachers complements the evaluation process but is

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## • Educare Serves Low-Income Families

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model for other early childhood programs and connects to related programs in K-12 schools in the Long Beach Unified School District. As an Educare network school, Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach also will help drive change in early childhood policy and practices statewide to increase access to high-quality early education for all children.

"We're opening the best early childhood education center in all of California," Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia said, crediting the school district's leadership. "For Long Beach, this is a very special moment, and we couldn't be more excited."

The North Long Beach school is the 22nd Educare school in the United States and serves children during their first five years to prepare them for success in school and life. The school includes parent and resource centers to educate family members on how to support their children before they enter kindergarten.

"The tremendous amount of detailed research by Educare has proven how we can all make a difference in our children's lives by ensuring they have access to high-quality education as early as possible," said Maria Harris, the school's principal. "Educare Los Angeles at Long Beach is an extremely valuable asset to our community, and I know our work here will have a positive impact for years to come."

The 32,000 square-foot campus includes 16 classrooms, age-appropriate outdoor play spaces and a two-story main building with a multi-purpose room, staff training room, parent resource room and conference room.

The new school was formed in partnership with the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and UNITE-LA, LBUSD, the Long Beach Education Foundation, LA Partnership for Early Childhood Investment, The Advancement Project, Buffett Early Childhood Fund and Ounce of Prevention Fund.

The school also was made possible by The Ahmanson Foundation, Andeavor, Annenberg Foundation, Marilyn Bohl, California Community Foundation, First 5 CA, First 5 LA, Roy & Patricia Disney Family Foundation, Rotary Club of Long Beach, Steve Nash Foundation, Kaiser Family Foundation, W.M. Keck Foundation, Matson, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Stein Family Fund,

## • Harvard Report

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not required.

"It's more like being assigned a personal trainer," LBUSD Program Administrator Nader Twal told EdSource. "You have goals. You set those goals. You have someone join you in the journey and coaching you along the way. It's moving from compliance to continual improvement." Twal works in LBUSD's Office of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development and has helped to implement myPD from the outset.

View the full Harvard study by finding this article at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).

The "Getting Down to Facts II" series encompasses 36 studies by California and national researchers. It examines governing, funding and staffing policies and practices in early education and California's public schools. Stanford University and Policy Analysis for California Education (PACE) coordinated the effort. Seven foundations funded the research.

Dr. Mike and Arline Walter, The Harry & Jeannette Weinberg Foundation, and The Home Depot.

Addressing the audience were several funders, elected officials and others, including Patrick O'Donnell, who represents Long Beach in the State Assembly; Megan Kerr, LBUSD Board of Education member; Al Austin, Long Beach City Council member; Cynthia Jackson, executive director of the Educare Learning Network and senior vice president of the Ounce of Prevention Fund; Arline Walter, sponsor; Wendy Garen, president and CEO of the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation; Kim Belshé, executive director of First 5 LA; Katrina Perry, Educare lead teacher; and Jacqueline Villegas, Educare parent.

View photos and video at [lbschools.net](http://lbschools.net).

## Harmony Project Gala on Dec. 12

The Long Beach Unified School District continues to partner with the nonprofit Harmony Project, which provides instrumental music education for children from lower income communities. The project's fourth 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. 12 at the Terrace Theater, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., Long Beach. RSVP at [harmonyproject@lbschools.net](mailto:harmonyproject@lbschools.net), or call 997-8448.

## Health Dept. Offers 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 noon at various Long Beach locations:

- Nov. 9 at El Dorado Park Teen Center, 2800 Studebaker Rd.
- Nov. 12 at Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave.
- Nov. 14 at Ramona Park, 3301 E. 65th St.

Appointments also will be accepted at the Health Department's Main Health Facility, 2525 Grand Ave., Long Beach. Call 570-4315 to make an appointment. Adults with Medicare Part B are encouraged to bring their insurance card with them.

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

### SCHOOL BULLETIN

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## Names in the News

The Long Beach Branch NAACP at its recent 39th Founder's Celebration Dinner honored **Judy Seal**, executive director of the Long Beach Education

Foundation, with the Zelma Lipscomb Award. Lipscomb was a civil rights pioneer who co-founded the Long Beach branch of the NAACP. At the organization's general membership meeting last month, the keynote speaker was **David Zaid**, director of Employee Relations and Community Engagement for the Long Beach Unified School District. Zaid spoke about educating children of color in the 21st Century.

**Erika Calaycay**, a seventh grader at Jackie Robinson Academy, was recognized recently for her submission to the annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest. More than half a million student entries were submitted, and Erika's entry will move on to the next step of competition. This year's contest theme is "kindness matters." Judging occurred last month at the Petroleum Club in Long Beach. Winners will be announced later this year.

The Long Beach Press-Telegram's annual Halloween-themed Scary Stories Contest included these categories and winning Long Beach Unified School District students: Elementary Stories – second place, "The Alive Doll" by **Ian Galindo** of Longfellow; third place, "Halloween Zombie Take Over" by **Jacob Amado** of Madison. Elementary Artwork – second place, "Head with Bloody Eye" by **Kieran Lundy** of Longfellow; third place, "Dancing Skeletons" by **Ava Harshaw** of Carver. Middle School Stories – first place, "Call to the Void" by **Lillian Weir** of Rogers; second place, "Butterscotch Wrappers" by **Siya Kothari** of Rogers; third place, "Carpet Cult" by **Andrew Koskela** of Rogers. Middle School Artwork – first place, "Skeleton Playing Bass Fiddle" by **Riley D'Souza** of Rogers; second place, "A Bloody Winnie the Pooh" by **Caleb Pierre** of Gompers; third place, "Stitched-up Sally" by **Nicole Goltra** of Gompers. High School Stories – first place, "Beautiful" by **Bennett Manalo** of CAMS; second place, "Parallelism" by **Zara Banaga** of McBride; third place, "Willing Participants" by **Isabella Talavera** of Millikan. High School Artwork – first place, **Helen Ho** of McBride; second place, **Melissa Suos** of Poly; third place, **Carlos Figueroa** of McBride. The Press-Telegram received more than 200 submissions, mostly from LBUSD students.



Seal



Zaid

## In Memoriam

Carla Miller  
former teacher  
Oct. 17, 2018