

It's a Wrap

May 2015

Celebrating Employee Excellence

“Classified employees are often unsung heroes. Yet, they are vital staff members who play key roles in creating a school environment that promotes student achievement, safety and health.”

Sherine Smith, Ed.D.
Superintendent



At the May 12 Board meeting on behalf of the District, Human Resources and Public Communications Director **Leisa Winston**, recognized the contributions and dedication of the honored employees, CSEA Member of the Year, **Margaret Warder**, Classified Employee of the Year **Diego Perez**, and Teacher of the Year, **Kristin Cowles**.

Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services **Darlene Messinger** announced El Morro Elementary School Principal **Chris Duddy** and Kindergarten teacher **Mary Blanton** were nominated by LBUSD to OCDE as outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions in promoting success for English Learner students. Superintendent **Sherine Smith** remarked, “We are proud of the opportunities and support we offer to our English Learners. Chris and Mary have worked together this year to ensure our students reach new levels of learning.”



6th Annual LBUSD Classified Employee Service Awards



Ms. Winston presented LBUSD Classified Service Awards to the following employees:



30 Years of Service
Claudia Redfern-TOW

25 Years of Service
Paula Bray-ELM

20 Years of Service
Tami Burns-ELM

15 Years of Service
Durinda Klein-LBHS
Kristine Landrum-TOW

10 Years of Service
Gwen Myers-TMS
Debby Nash-DO
Diego Perez-ELM

10 Years of Service
Mari Anderson-LBHS
Jan Hedden-TMS
Jill Irby-TMS
Eric LaPierre-ELM
Julie Olsen -DO
Chris Shea-DO
Mary Stinnett-ELM
Margaret Warder-TOW



LCAP



Ms. Messinger presented a progress update on the LCAP. Last year's goals were revised to combine into six annual goals with measurable objectives both qualitative and quantitative metrics on how implementation is progressing for the upcoming year. The LCAP Public Hearing is June 9 and on June 23 it will be submitted to the Board for approval.

ROP



South Coast ROP Interim Superintendent **Pati Romo** reported on the program's "Pathways to Success" opportunities which include helping students clarify or enrich their college and careers courses of action. Highlights of some of the unique ROP qualities and opportunities were included in her presentation.

Video Broadcasting of Board of Education Meetings



The Board approved authorization for staff to advertise for video systems which would provide video streaming and archive for future Board of Education meetings.

TMS Destination Imagination



At the May 26 Board of Education meeting, TMS teachers **Ina Wu** and **Bjorn Avila** presented Certificates of Appreciation to the nineteen Thurston students who participated in this year's Destination Imagination (DI) program. DI is an educational, cause-driven, volunteer-led, non-profit organization whose purpose is to inspire and equip K-12 students to become the next generation of leaders and innovators. DI offers seven new standards-based Challenges for students to choose from each year. The Challenges are open-ended and students have the opportunity to experience and learn the creative process from imagination to innovation.

While integrating science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) into the DI program, student teams are encouraged to take risks and enjoy their time solving challenges. This year TOW participated for the first time and Principal **Mike Conlon** thanked the dynamic contributions of the DI parent volunteers and teachers **Robbie Hoglebe** and **Brian Kull** who said, "Destination Imagination was a great opportunity for students to develop their problem solving and collaboration skills. They worked together to use objects and ideas in unique ways, and had to think quickly. These abilities will certainly translate to their future success academically and professionally."

JUNTOS Senior Mentors Recognized for Service



LBUSD Teacher on Special Assignment for English Language Development (TOSA-ELD) **Yadhira Rojas** introduced and recognized the seven *JUNTOS* volunteer mentors who are graduating from LBHS this year. Since its inception during the 2004-05 school year, the *JUNTOS* Peer Mentoring Program has continued to be an excellent opportunity for students in grades 4-12 to strengthen their English-speaking skills. Participating students also receive support in academic areas and school projects. This year, the program also focused on assisting students in developing skills that will help facilitate a smooth transition from middle to high school in addition to assisting students in advancing their studies as they continue to develop their college/career pathways in a productive, interactive environment. *JUNTOS* meets twice a week after school and more than twenty LBHS student volunteers were selected to be mentors this year based on their academic achievement, commitment, availability and positive attitude.



English Learners Services Update

Ms. Rojas and Community Liaison **Johnny Vasquez** presented an update on the Support for District English Learners. Ms. Rojas reported on the number of students who are English Learners and those who are now Reclassified as Fluent English Proficient (RFEP). The number of students who are English Learners has increased over the past three school years and includes students with more than twenty other languages as their first language. This year, Ms. Rojas coordinated monthly English Learner Lead committee meetings and participated in all EL IEP meetings. She and Mr. Vasquez worked closely with school counselors, teachers and parents while providing ELD support and conducted post monitoring of RFEP students. A graduate of LBHS, Mr. Vasquez expressed his appreciation to be a part of the District's EL team that provides him an opportunity to help students whose language journey he can identify with from his own experience as an EL student.



Students Honored

Principal **Christopher Herzfeld** and teacher **Steve Sogo** recognized the LBHS and TMS students who participated in the UCSD Honors Math Contest for the first time this year. During their SDL class period, students worked on very high level math problems and had fun as they solved these difficult equations.



LBHS teacher **Carrie Denton** reported on the ocMaker Challenge where students use a 3-D printer to create a new product or redesign an existing product which solves a problem or fulfills a need. The Challenge is a hands-on, STEM project with real-world application. Students began work on their projects last October with Ms. Denton and teacher **Cassie Brooker**. Two LBHS teams placed in the Challenge: Using kinetic energy to charge your cell phone and an added piece to keep your sunglasses afloat.

SchoolPower Presentation

SchoolPower President **Tom Motherway** presented the District a SchoolPower donation of \$316,117 which is a combination of the following:

- **\$212,000 Fund-a-Need**
 - Record amount raised through Fund-a-Need
 - Six TMS and six LBHS classroom 4CLE transformations in partnership with the LBUSD
- **\$150,000 Final installment of the \$300,000 Annual Gift**
- **\$14,117 Teacher designations from the Spring Community Campaign donations**



The Annual Gift* supports the following programs at all four District schools including:

- \$100,000 for K-3 Class Size Reduction
- \$ 25,000 for K-8 Music Program (in addition to the SchoolPower Endowment's Strings Program donation)
- \$ 40,000 for Thurston Zero Period
- \$ 47,000 for the Performing and Visual Arts at TMS/LBHS
- \$ 75,000 for an additional LBHS counselor
- \$ 10,000 for LBHS Athletics in addition to the many boosters SchoolPower designation donations and the generous donations from the **Hexberg** family
- \$ 3,000 Call out system

*The additional \$14,117 represents additional Spring Campaign donations designations to LBUSD teacher, school and sports programs. These donations were made possible by record number of 892 donors who contributed to SchoolPower's Community Campaign, for a total of more than \$528,000 which is another record number.

Mr. Motherway described the success of SchoolPower's record-breaking year as an "example of many different parts coming together to create an even more incredible whole." He expressed appreciation for the District's vision to create and develop classrooms that provide an innovative environment for teachers to teach and engage students through collaboration and participation. He thanked **Brent Martini** for his generous investment and his inspirational words at the SchoolPower Dinner Dance.



SchoolPower Endowment Presentation



SchoolPower Endowment President **Tom Addis** presented the District with an Endowment donation of \$184,684. The donation is a combination of the following:

- **\$84,684 for the 2015-16 Teacher Grants**
- **\$50,000 - Large Grant - Foreign Language, the eighth year of the ten-year \$500,000 total grant**
- **\$50,000 - Large Grant - Strings Initiative, the third year of the three-year \$150,000 total grant**

2015-16 SchoolPower Endowment Teacher Grants El Morro Elementary School

Heather Besecker and Grade 4 Team	Happiest Place on Earth	\$700.00
Heather Besecker and Grade 4 Team	Watch Out!	\$450.00
Kim Adams and Special Education team	Learn to Learn Education - SDC	\$787.00
Jamie Jameson and Grade 3 Team	FOSS Next Generation Forces and Matter	\$3,488.00
Shannon Velotta and Grade 3 Team	TFK- Time For Kids	\$601.00
Cheri David and Grades 1 Team/ Debbie Finnerty and Grade 2 Team	Arts in Schools	\$4,500.00
Marilyn Beauchemin and Grade 2 Team	Factwise	\$580.00
Heather Besecker and Grade 4 Team	Germs Make Me Sick	\$363.00

Top of the World Elementary School

Maryann Thomas and Grade 4 Team	STEM Stations	\$750.00
Susan Dick and Grade 5 Team	STEM Science Kits	\$1,963.00
Rosie Haynes and Grade 2 Team	Empowering Science and Literature	\$1,400.00
Mike Conlon	Reading Counts	\$5,000.00
Dustin Gowan	Socialization Curriculum	\$1,750.00
Kimberly Mattson	SMART Board Software	\$500.00



T h u r s t o n M i d d l e S c h o o l

Jeff Dippel	Project Talk Abroad	\$1,000.00
Michelle Martinez, Megan Matthias and Darci Anderson	Footprints through History	\$8,000.00
Kelly Skon and Michelle Martinez	Murder Mystery Trial	\$5,000.00
Paul Matheson	Smartboard	\$8,265.00
Ina Inouye Wu	Destination Imagination	\$1,000.00
Richard Selin and Grade 6 Science Team	NGSS implementation of Outdoor Science School (Catalina) curriculum	\$2,400.00
Penny Dressler	Reality Works Real Care Babies	\$2,596.00

L a g u n a B e a c h H i g h S c h o o l

James Brusky	Journalism training at Newspapers 2 Workshop	\$3,500.00
Estee Carrizosa and Samantha Hampton	Bringing Video Technology into the Dance Studio	\$2,822.00
Carrie Denton and Cassie Brooker	CSTEM Linkbots & Programing	\$9,297.00
Jennifer Merrrit and Science Team	Mobile Labs	\$11,040.00
Scott Wittkop	Rotary Labs	\$1,600.00
Cassie Brooker and Carrie Denton	SeaPerch Robotics	\$5,332.00



The Board approved Policies 6146.3 Reciprocity of Academic Credit and 6146.11 Alternative Means to Complete the Prescribed Course of Study and deleted Board Policy 6016. The Board approved the 2016-17 and 2017-18 School Year District Calendars.

The next Board of Education meeting is June 9, 2015.