



IN THE KNOW!

Lowell Joint School District

Board of Trustees: Janet B. Averill, Darin W. Barber, Eugene N. Dunford, Gayle K. Rogers, Fred W. Schambeck
Superintendent: Patricia A. Howell, Ed.D.

Highlights of the March 17, 2008, Board of Trustees Meeting

Timely Information from the Board and Superintendent

Dr. Howell thanked Mrs. Carol Shaw, El Portal teacher, and Mrs. Debbie Miyamoto, District parent, for the beautiful framed pictures of the events from the Lowell Joint Education Foundation's Academic Excellence Day on March 15, 2008. Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Miyamoto were co-chairs of Academic Excellence Day and they a great deal of time to ensure the day was a success.

Mr. Barber, Mr. Dunford, Mrs. Rogers, Mr. Schambeck, and Mrs. Averill each shared their excitement with the success of Academic Excellence Day, and requested a letter of appreciation be sent on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

Governor's Proposed 2008/09 Budget

It was moved, seconded, and carried by unanimous roll call vote, (5-0) to adopt Resolution 2007/08 #461 on the "Governor's Proposed 2008/09 Budget."

Special Education Program – A Year in Review

Dr. Herbst shared the special education program, a year after Board approved changes. Dr. Herbst reviewed that the Special Education Review Committee was organized last year and comprised of special education and general education teachers, classified staff members, parents of special education and general education students, support personnel, and administrators.

Of the 17 recommendations approved by the Board, 15 recommendations have been fully implemented. The following recommendations are still currently in the process of being implemented:

- The special education service model should be designed to assist students to feel very much a part of the general school population. The service delivery model should reflect a continuum of services in the least restrictive environment.
- Ongoing Professional development opportunities, as requested by the Committee, would be planned to support the recommendation.

The goals of the Special Education Program for the 2008/09 school year are:

1. Continue to provide a comprehensive pre-school through eighth-grade educational program for moderate special education students.
2. Implementation and ongoing evaluation of a three-year plan for special education services.
3. Development and implementation of a staff-training module for special education classified staff members.
4. Development of a handbook identifying instructional strategies supportive of the individual learning needs of students, and implementation of a professional development plan for special education certificated staff members to utilize these instructional strategies.
5. Collaborate with community and county organizations/agencies to identify and provide resources for staff members, students, and parents.

Mid-Year Testing Report

Mrs. Aguilar, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction, presented the Board with information regarding the Mid-Year Testing Report for all District schools. The results included comparisons from the California State Test (CST) and the Mid-Year Testing for English/language arts and math. The District percentage of students scoring at or above the 70 percentile in English/language arts was 72% compared to last year's percentage of 74%. In math, the students scoring at or above the 70 percentile was 66% for this year compared to 67% last year.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved notice of completion of agreement with Best Quality Painting for the Rancho-Starbuck Junior High School Fascia Removal and Beam Replacement Project.

Adopted Resolution 2007/08 BGT #10 – 13 for Transfer of Funds.

Ratified agreement with Quezada & Company for Audit Services for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008.

CONSENT CALENDAR Continued Approved contract with Inside the Outdoors, Orange County Department of Education, to provide a Gabrielino Walk field trip for the 3rd grade students of Macy Elementary School on April 2, 2008.

Board Member/ Superintendent Comments Mrs. Rogers shared the production of “Music Man” by La Habra High School was a great success with the event being sold-out each night.

Mrs. Averill commended Meadow Green Elementary School’s sixth-grade teacher, Mrs. Garcia, for forming an after-school activity of swing dance. Currently, there are about 50 students enrolled in this activity.

Mr. Dunford shared that the Lowell Joint Education Foundation’s Third-Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, March 24, 2008, at the Hacienda Golf Club in La Habra Heights, and it is not too late to participate in this huge event.

Next Meeting The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on April 21, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room of the District Office.

We’re Proud That...

- **El Portal Elementary School** is proud to announce its 2008 Honorary Service Award recipients. **Mrs. Sandy Jan** received the Honorary Service Award and **Mrs. Debbie Miyamoto** received the Golden Oak Service Award for her continuing service. We are proud that they have made it a priority to inspire, build confidence, and expand the opportunities for our children at El Portal School. We would also like to recognize **Miss Thune** and her 5th and 6th grade honor choir that performed such original selections during the evening. Lastly, the Making a Difference Award was passed from Mary Brimmage to **Diane Clark** for the month of March.
- **Jordan Elementary School** is proud of the **29 students** who received Citizen of the Month. We would like to thank all who participated in Academic Excellence Day. We would like to thank all certificated and classified employees at Jordan for supporting and helping with the Volunteer Tea especially, **Allison Fonti** and **Julie Roth**, teachers, for chairing the Volunteer Tea. We would also like to congratulate our PTA Service Award winners: **Ms. Elsa Cueto**, **Lilly Tosunian**, **Tammy Lopez**, and **Richard Obenberger**. We are very proud of **Krista Van Hoogmoed**, teacher, for organizing Jordan’s Beautification Committee and planting flowers on campus.
- **Macy Elementary School** is proud to recognize the tremendous achievements and service hours of the following individuals: **Veronica Rico**, recipient of the 2008 PTA Continuing Service Award; **Teresa Enriquez**, recipient of the 2008 PTA Honorary Service Award; **Mary Jo Evanoff**, recipient of the 2008 PTA Honorary Service Award; **Cindy Sandison**, recipient of the 2008 PTA Honorary Service Award; and **Shelly Pimper**, recipient of the 2008 PTA Very Special Person Award. Macy also honored “**PROJECT PLAYGROUND**” with the 2008 PTA Golden Oak Award.
- **Meadow Green Elementary School** is proud of the Honorary Service Award recipients **Danelle Seda** and **Shawn Brewer**. These parents have devoted many hours of service to the youth of this community, and their efforts are very much appreciated. **Mr. Louis Diaz**, crossing guard, received the Very Special Person award. Louis spends many hours a week volunteering at the school, in addition to keeping our students safe as they cross Grovedale and Golden Lantern. Congratulations to our dedicated volunteers.
- **Olita Elementary School** is proud of the 577 people who donated 1,079 hours of their time during the month of February! Many of these volunteers participated in our Senior Friends Day. Congratulations to the **98 students** who maintained perfect attendance the first semester! We are proud of the students who participated in the Academic Excellence Day. Congratulations to the students that received the B.U.G. (Bringing Up Grades) awards. Thank you to the **Kiwanis Club of La Habra** for sponsoring this special recognition.
- **Rancho-Starbuck Junior High School** is proud of the Academic Excellence Day winners: Spelling: Bronze, **Mohammed Jomaa**; Silver: **Marc Parra**; Gold, **Ashley Hoffman**. Dramatic Monologue: Silver: **Samantha Berwick**; Gold: **Reese Iversen**. Dramatic Presentation: Bronze, **Billy Funke**, **Brandi Murphy**; Silver: **Jessica Uyehara**, **Tiana McCrae**; Gold: **Jennifer Gomes**, **Reese Iversen**, **Grace Garcia**. Quiz Bowl: Bronze: **Jessica Dolbear**, **Amanda Bishop**, **Mohammed Jomaa**, **Curtis Young**; Silver: **Becca Long**, **Maya Montoya**, **Sara Morales**, **Chris Munguia**; Gold: **Jordan DiDonato**, **Ryan Hall**, **Jack Weir**, **Frankii Tang**. Also, thank you to teachers: **Lori Miller**, **Chris Berg**, **Melanie Artz**, and **Elaine Olmsted** for preparing our students for the day. Thank you also to **Earnestine Goldstein** and **Sheryl Carruth**, along with the **choir** and **band members**, for their performances at Academic Excellence Day. Congratulations to our **band** who won an excellent rating at a recent band festival. This is the second highest rating.