

UPDATE

Week of May 18, 2009

TOP TEN REASONS FOR CHAOS IN LAUSD

10. Line/staff communication to principals is not always timely nor does it often follow protocol.
9. Title I money sent to schools with no training for site councils and a very limited level of oversight/accountability.
8. Principals who no longer will have an assistant principal needing to spend up to three hours daily on playground supervision instead of leading the instructional program and supervising staff or responding to parents. This will also reflect a serious safety concern because no one will be available when the principal needs to be away from the campus.
7. Principals trying to schedule and attend up to an additional 100 IEP meetings many of which can take two or more hours.
6. Inability to respond in a timely manner to parent concerns due to the lack of administrative and office personnel.
5. Instability of staffing assignments due to the unnecessary wholesale movement of personnel caused by reductions in force that could be avoided if stimulus monies were used appropriately.
4. Potential staff and student unrest due to increased class size and decreased adult supervision.
3. Markedly reduce staff morale caused by anxiety, insecurity, and negativity.
2. Lack of inspiration from the Superintendent and the majority of the Board of Education Members.
1. **And the number one reason why there is chaos in the District: Allocated stimulus money not being fully used as authorized by President Obama to save jobs and prevent chaos.**

REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY MEETING REPORT

The fourth and final AALA Representative Assembly meeting of the 2008-2009 school year was held on May 14, 2009. The tentative 2009-2010 AALA budget was approved. President **Mike O'Sullivan** announced the AALA election results: Dr. **Judith Perez**, President; **Margaret Prietto**, Secondary Dept. Vice President; Dr. **Howard Saxe**, Adult Dept. Director; **Marsha Oh-Bilodeau**, Supervisory Dept. Director; and Dr. **Angel Barrett**, Elementary Dept. Vice President. The Elementary Department caucus elected **Ken Urbina** as Elementary Dept. Director to replace Dr. Perez. Supervisory Dept. elected Ms. Oh-Bilodeau as Supervisory Dept. Vice President to replace **Lynn Williams** who announced her retirement, and elected **Manuel Caldera** as Supervisory Director to replace **Barbara Huff** who also announced her retirement. In addition, the Supervisory Dept. elected **Doug Waybright** to replace Ms. Oh-Bilodeau as Director. Dr. **Fred Hermosillo**, Adult Dept. Vice President, announced his retirement, and the Adult Dept. will need to elect a new Vice President at the next Adult Dept. Caucus meeting.

AALA was pleased to welcome and introduce newly elected Board of Education Member **Steve Zimmer** to the Representative Assembly. Mr. Zimmer is replacing **Marlene Canter** on the Board. He stressed the need for collaboration among all interest groups in the District with the focus on what is best for our students. His comments were appreciated.

The re-opener for the second/third years of the AALA/LAUSD bargaining agreement MOU was ratified. In addition to some language changes, the main benefit was the stipulation that District mileage for AALA represented employees will now be based on the prevailing IRS rate.

A PAC report was also given.

Representative Assembly members expressed their appreciation to President Mike for his six years of outstanding service.

AALA extends thanks to the following members who served as Representative Assembly members at this meeting: Adult Department – **Fred Hermosillo, Richard Wormus** and **Don Kihara**; Elementary Department – **Angel Barrett, Joan Blair, Judith Perez, Janet Chapman, Judy Dichter, Jung Hae Kim, Sharon Kaiser, Marie Leyva, Jane Urbina, Ken Urbina, Emily Dixon, Diane Sanchez, David Santamaria, Richard Guillen, Cathy Margulies** and **John Graham**; Secondary Department – **Margaret Prietto, Scott Schmerelson, Ann Allocca, Gail Garrett, Mike Smith, Dan Schar, Erick Mata, Pamela Donesley, Jackie Purdy, John Ford, Consuelo Lopez, Frank Rodriguez, Robert Weinberg, Regina Awtry, Ken Easum, Cecil McLinn, Alex Placencio, Harold Starr, Joe Salvemini, and Fay Chu**; Supervisory Department – **Lynn Williams, Barbara Huff, Michael Guillemet, Zepore Kivork, Robert Meier, Martin Myers, Phil Naimo, Evon Smith, Maylin Ramirez, Bertha Reynaga** and **Guadalupe Perez**; AAPA – **Brian Sida**; ACSA – **Bob Kladifko** and **Jack Moscovitz**; CMAA – **Eva Garcia**; COBA – **J. Maxie Hemmans**.

Office Staff Present included: **Dan Basalone, Lorraine Bush, Dan Isaacs, David Tokofsky, Gema Pivaral, Gloria Souquette, Jack Silas** and **Cathy Vacca**. Guests present were: **Steve Zimmer** and **Steve Weingarten**.

WHEN CHANGES OVERWHELM YOU

Whether it's a health scare, a change in working conditions or the end of a relationship, change is an inevitable part of life. But that doesn't mean it's easy. If changes in your life leave you reeling, cope by using these stress management tips.

- **Expect change.** Things change. When you recognize this, changes will be less shocking and easier to accept.
- **Put changes in perspective.** Ask yourself, "How important will this be in six months? One year? Is it worth damaging my health?"
- **Educate yourself.** Learn all you can about your new situation in order to understand it better.
- **Be positive.** Expect good results from the changes in your life.
- **Keep a sense of humor.** If you can't find humor in your situation, find other ways to get a laugh – such as from a funny book or movie.
- **Lean on others.** Call on family, friends, and co-workers for support.
- **Take care of yourself.** Make time to eat well, get enough sleep, and exercise.
- **Practice relaxation techniques.** Cope with change-related stress by writing a journal, practicing deep breathing, listening to music, or doing yoga.
- **Be flexible.** Instead of putting your energy into fighting change, focus on how you can make things easier on yourself.

Source: Mayo Clinic - Boeing Wellness Health Letter, March 2009

IN MEMORIAM

DOROTHY TILLINGHAST – Former Principal of Lemay Street and Stag Street schools. She retired on June 30, 1981, and passed away on April 15, 2009.

JESSICA WHITE – Former Principal of Downtown Business Magnets; former Assistant Principal of Sun Valley Middle School, Downtown Business Magnets, and Dorsey High School. She retired on June 30, 2007, and passed away on May 19, 2009.

Some thoughts to help carry us through the day -

BOOK, MIND, & SOUL

"A life spent making mistakes
is not only more honorable, but more useful than a
life spent doing nothing at all."

- **George Bernard Shaw**

"Confidence is preparation.
Everything else is
Beyond your control."

- **Richard Kline**

"A friend is someone who knows
the song in your heart, and can
sing it back to you when you have
forgotten the words."

- **Donna Roberts**

"The universe is full of magical
things, patiently waiting for our
wits to grow sharper."

- **Eden Phillpotts**

"Laughter is
the shortest distance
between two people."

- **Victor Borge**

Michael O'Sullivan Retirement Celebration



Saturday, June 6, 2009

The Center At Cathedral Plaza

555 West Temple Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Reception

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Dinner and Program

\$ 65.00 per person (includes gift)

Parking: Complimentary with Validation

Any questions, call (213) 484-2226

-----tear-off-----

MICHAEL O' SULLIVAN RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Make check payable to O'Sullivan Retirement

NAME _____ -No. in Party_____

Check Enclosed for \$ _____ Return form with check by
Wednesday, May 27, 2009 to: AALA, 1910 Sunset
Boulevard, Suite 510, Los Angeles, CA 90026

___ I am unable to attend, but I would like to donate \$ _____ toward the gift.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATIONS

Name	Date, Time	Location	Contact
Linda Parth	Saturday, June 20, 2009 6:30 p.m.	Mulholland Tennis Club 2555 Crest View Drive Los Angeles	Leony Keshishian 818.761.4363
Rosalinda Ofalla	Friday, August 21, 2009 6:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m.	The Castaway 1250 Harvard Road Burbank	Cressie Jones 323.664.1024
Nancy Feigelson	Monday, June 22, 2009 5:30 p.m.	Chandler Elementary 14030 Weddington Street Van Nuys	Elvine Aydjian 818.789.6173
Jeff Kaufman	Celebrate by donating to Children's Hospital, MS 29, 4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90027 or 323.361.3850 or www.childrenshospitala.org		Pam Jack 310.475.5893
Joan Pylman	Tuesday, June 9, 2009 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Teresitas Mexican Restaurant 3826 East 1 st Street Los Angeles	Linda Hernandez llb8117@lausd.net
Diane Agliam	Friday, June 5, 2009 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.	Louise's Trattoria 4500 Los Feliz Blvd. Los Angeles	Carol Albright 818.761.2051
Vergine Jarakian	Saturday, June 27, 2009 11:30 a.m.	Phoenicia Restaurant 343 N. Central Avenue Glendale	Dawn Cerese 323.665.6245

FIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR THOSE FEDERAL STIMULUS FUNDS

The Coalition for Student Achievement, convened in response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, is comprised of 50 national organizations. In early May it issued five recommendations for governors, state school officers, superintendents, and other education leaders on how to invest federal stimulus dollars to leverage significant increases in student performance. **The group recommends:** developing national standards for testing; producing data that educators, policymakers, and parents can use; evaluating teachers in a meaningful way; turning around low-performing schools; and helping struggling students. If these recommendations are undertaken, the group says, by 2012 Americans will see at least 40 states adopting evidence-based, college- and career-ready testing standards; students, parents, teachers, principals, district, and state leaders will have comprehensive data that show what's working for students; clear, differentiated teacher evaluation systems will be in every state and school district; neighborhoods served by the lowest-performing five percent of schools will have new, quality education options; and students at least two years behind in reading, writing, and mathematics will get targeted interventions. "Transformation will happen only if state and district leaders are willing to take advantage of this investment opportunity," the recommendations say. "The forces of inertia are powerful... The time for bold action is now."

Read more: http://www.coalitionforstudentachievement.org/economic_rec.asp

LAUSD ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Los Angeles Unified School District can arguably say it has graduated more national and international class athletes than any other school district in the world. These athletes have competed in sports as diverse as football, gymnastics, track and field, swimming, boxing, golf, wrestling and automobile racing, and sports-related fields such as coaching, officiating, and media. Athletes like **Bob Waterfield, Gail Goodrich, Oscar De La Hoya, Mal Whitfield, Sammy Lee, and Cynthia Cooper** have put the LAUSD stamp on the history of world athletics.

To recognize this, the Interscholastic Athletic Committee (IAC) has begun the process of establishing the Los Angeles Unified School District Athletics Hall of Fame. Nominations are now being accepted. Nomination forms and information can be found at the IAC website <http://www.cif-la.org>. Look for the "**Hall of Fame**" link.

For questions, you may contact **Sayne Maza**, Assistant Principal, Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies, at 818.758.5613 or rmaza@lausd.net.

A SHIFT IN VOUCHER SUPPORT?

Most Democrats have historically rejected taxpayer-supported private-school vouchers, saying they drain resources from public schools, but a number of black lawmakers, mayors, and school officials have split with party orthodoxy on the issue, according to USA TODAY. The group includes Sacramento, Calif., Mayor **Kevin Johnson**; Newark, N.J., Mayor **Cory Booker**; and former Washington, D.C., Mayor **Anthony Williams**. **Jeanne Allen** of the Center on Education Reform, a Washington think tank, says the issue can no longer be dismissed by liberals as Catholic or right wing. "I actually think it has to do with more-principled people who understand and have seen how badly the existing system has hurt minority kids," she said. First proposed in 1955 by University of Chicago economist Milton Friedman -- a conservative -- private school vouchers have never fully taken root in U.S. public schools. The federal government often underwrites college tuition to attend private colleges and universities, but K-12 vouchers are presently limited to programs in a few cities that include Cleveland, Milwaukee, and New Orleans. Special Education students in some states also attend private schools with public money, but voters in nearly a dozen states have rejected voucher proposals over the past few decades.

Read more: http://www.usatoday.com/news/education/2009-05-12-school-vouchers_N.htm

SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009 – CCAE/CAROP, L. A. Metro Section, Angeleno Chapter, will hold its Annual Spring Awards Scholarship Dinner at 5:30 p.m. at the Empress Pavilion, 988 North Hill Street, Los Angeles. For additional information and questions, contact **Darlene Neilsen** at 213.241.3156 or e-mail darlene.neilsen@lausd.net or **Victor Gomez** at 213.765.2400 or e-mail vgomez@lausd.net.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2009 - Council of Black Administrators' (COBA) Thirty-third Annual Black Child Conference/Scholarship Luncheon will be held at the **Los Angeles Airport Radisson Hotel**, 6225 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles (corner of Century and Sepulveda) from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For additional information contact the COBA office at 323.296.2040 or coba5356@sbcglobal.net or www.lausd.k12.ca.us/orgs/coba.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009 – Gay and Lesbian Administrators & Allies (GALAA) will hold its 3rd Annual GALAA Scholarship Awards Ceremony, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m., at Miguel Contreras Learning Center, 322 South Lucas Avenue, Los Angeles. For additional information go to www.galaaonline.org.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Minimum Qualifications: Candidates are responsible for making sure all the District requirements have been met. Do not contact AALA for information regarding positions. Use the listed contact phone number.

ELEMENTARY DIRECTOR, SCHOOL SUPPORT SERVICES (Temp. Adv., MST 45, A Basis)

Local District 1, 6621 Balboa Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91406 818.654.3611
 Responsibilities include assisting in the administration and supervision of elementary schools. Requires 8 years of full-time public school certificated experience, with 3 years as a successful principal. For information and application procedures contact **Jean Brown**, Superintendent. **Filing deadline is Friday, June 5, 2009.**

PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY

Fremont High School (7) MST 47, 7676 South San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90003
 Fremont is an A Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Adriana McNally**, Director, at 323.242.1300. **Filing deadline is Friday, June 5, 2009.**

Muir Middle School (7) MST 45, 5929 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90044
 Muir is an E Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Michael Smith**, Director, School Services, at 323.242.1314. **Filing deadline is Friday, June 5, 2009.**

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Local District Superintendent	Local District 7	05/29/09	213.241.6131
Principal, Secondary	Crenshaw High School	05/29/09	323.290.7800
Principal, Small School	Mendez Learning Center	05/29/09	Lovette.Brooks@lacity.org