



ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Digest

November/December 2018 - Volume VIII - No 2

A Message from the Superintendent - Dr. Mary Sieu

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Measure BB - The Next Steps

First, I'd like to thank the entire ABC school community for the unified effort in improving our school facilities through Measure BB. Although the election results will be certified on December 7th regarding our passage (58%), I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the many months of work leading up to the election. This includes the staff and community members who served on the Ad Hoc Facilities Board Advisory Committee for over 18 months as well as those who contributed at the school sites and District Office. The development of the Facilities Master Plan will be the basis of our upcoming work beginning in 2019. I know that the school improvement needs from the Facilities Master Plan will advance issues of importance to our community. A huge thank you to the ABC school community who supported this effort. We have much to look forward to.

An important feature that will be required of the District will be the development of a Citizens' Oversight Committee to ensure that all bond funds are expended in accordance with the legal requirements set by Education Code and the California Constitution. The Citizens' Oversight Committee shall consist of at least seven members and may be larger to serve a term of two years, without compensation, and for no more than three consecutive terms. The Committee shall not include any employee or official of the school district or any vendor, contractor, or consultant of the school district.

The Committee must include all of the following: a) One member who is active in a business organization representing the business community located within the school district; b) One member active in a senior citizens organization; c) One member active in a bona fide taxpayer association; d) One member shall be the parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district; and e) One member shall be both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district and active in a parent teacher organization such as the PTA.



Board of Education Honors Nixon ES Academy on Winning a Golden Bell Award for their Watch D.O.G.S. Program



Board of Education Honors Yellow Bus Tech Tours for Winning a Golden Bell Award from CSBA

The purpose of the Committee shall be to inform the public at least annually concerning the expenditure of the bond proceeds. In addition, as required by State law, there will be two separate audits by an independent auditor. There will be a Financial Audit that will be on the proceeds from the sale of the bonds as well as a Performance Audit that will be to ensure that the bond funds have been expended only on the specific projects listed in the bond measure.

We have an exciting year ahead of us and remain confident that our pursuits will help to improve our District! Our schools will be closed December 24, 2018-January 4, 2019. Have a joyous and memorable winter break! ▶

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News From Our Schools and Around The District

Successful 'Pull Over Protocol (POP)' Program Press Conference

On September 27, our District held a major Press Conference in Artesia HS's Gym to present the "Pull Over Protocol (POP)" Program. The Pull Over Protocol is the strategic collaboration between proactive civilians and local, regional, and national law enforcement agencies. The purpose of POP is to educate the general public through a dramatic course of practical pull over procedures intended to equip law abiding citizens with detailed police department expectations. The result is designed to produce more successful law enforcement/civilian interactions to ensure the safety of all parties.

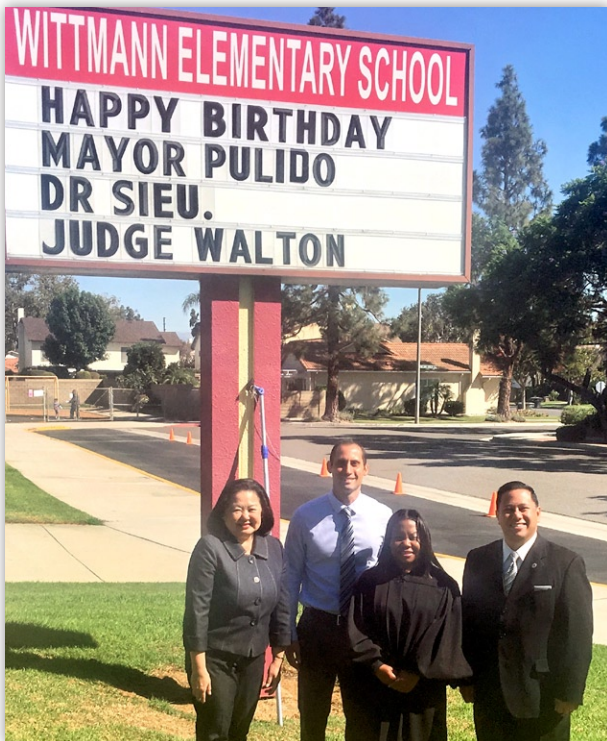


POP Press Conference at Artesia HS

Last year, we had over 200 Artesia High School students participate in POP. The response to POP was very favorable. Our Cabinet Members participated in a presentation on POP and felt it was important for all students to be aware of police department expectations whenever they are approached by them. The Press Conference included police department officials, led by L.A. County Sheriff Jim McDonnell, major media representatives, and other district representatives. ▀

Wittmann ES Celebrates Constitution Day

On Monday, Sept. 17, Cerritos Mayor Mark Pulido, Judge Laura Walton, and ABCUSD Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu were part of Wittmann ES's celebration of the Birthday of our U.S. American Government – Constitution Day. On Sept. 17, 1787, the delegates to the Constitutional Convention met to sign the document they had created. During the two assemblies at Wittmann ES, students asked us outstanding questions about the importance of our Constitution and how it relates to our work. It was a wonderful event that Wittmann ES hosts each year in commemoration of Constitution Day. ▀



Wittmann ES Constitution Day

Tracy HS - A Model Continuation HS

Tracy HS has been selected as a Finalist for the 2019 Model Continuation High School Recognition Program. This Recognition Program is sponsored by the California Department of Education, Educational Options Division in cooperation with the California Continuation Education Association. The Model Continuation Education Recognition Program identifies and recognizes outstanding programs and creates a resource bank of quality programs for school visitations. These schools provide exemplary programs to at-risk youth through the use of innovative instructional strategies, flexible scheduling, guidance, and counseling services. ▶



The Offices of CTE and School & Community Partnerships Facilitated Two Great Fieldtrips for Our HS Students



The Office of Career Technical Education and School & Community Partnerships took our high school students on the road in October. Allowing our students to connect the classroom to career is imperative to their success and journey to college and career readiness. Because of this, our office arranged two exciting opportunities that allowed our students to explore and network with professionals in the career fields of their interest. The first stop took place on Friday October 12th, at the YouTube Space LA in Playa Vista (Silicon Beach), where 30 young women attended the 2018 Latinas in Hollywood - Our Stories, presented by YouTube. This event was specifically for young women who are interested in pursuing careers in the Film/

Media, Arts, Animation, AV/VR, & Entertainment Industries. The event was moderated by Elizabeth Espinosa of KTLA5. Students and ABCUSD CTE Teachers enjoyed lunch while listening to professionals from: YouTube Space L.A., SAG/AFTRA, HBO Latino, Warner Bros, Hulu, BuzzFeed, Mitu, Women Wonder Writers, Universal, Panavision New Filmmaker's Programs, Extraordinary Pictures, Sony Pictures Entertainment, AT&T, Netflix, and more!

The following week, on Thursday, October 18th, students considering careers as physicians, pharmacists, dentists, or physical therapists attended the Health Professions Career Exposure Summit hosted by Long Beach City College. Guest speakers from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, the KGI Claremont College School of Pharmacy, Western University of Health Sciences, and the LBCC School of Health, Kinesiology, Science and Mathematics were in attendance to network and support our students! Our district provided bus transportation for students and CTE teachers to and from the evening event. ▶



News From Our Schools and Around The District

Head Start Awareness Month Celebration

In October, it was “Head Start Awareness Month.” Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu visited the two Carver ES’s Head Start classes with Lora Ballard, Coordinator of our Head Start Programs, on Wednesday, October 10. Our service in the Head Start Program for our youngest students (3-5 year olds) is to be commended. ►



Partnership with Administration & Labor (PAL 2)

ABCUSD held its 7th Annual PAL 2 Workshop with CSEA on October 9, 2018, at the Holiday Inn in Buena Park. This year, the focus of the PAL 2 Workshop was provided by Generation Ready with sessions led by Dr. Daniel R. Moirao. The focus was “Bridging the Diversity Gap: A Cultural Proficiency Workshop” and how we see students, families, and those we work with each day in our schools and departments. ►



Visit our website for ABCUSD schools' addresses, contact info, enrollment boundaries and more!
www.abcusd.k12.ca.us

News from the School Services Department

The School Services Department has a team of 34 School Social Workers & Mental Health Professionals and 12 MSW/PPSC Interns to serve all 29 K-12 school sites in ABCUSD this year. These individuals support students' academic achievement, socio-emotional well-being, and whole-child development. The first department meeting was a "field trip" to Casa Youth Shelter, which provides shelter, resources, and services for youth in crisis. We are looking forward to another great year serving students, families, and schools! A special thank you to the ABCUSD Education Foundation whose mini-grant provided the MSW interns with supplies, games, and resources. ▶



Community Involvement

Artesia International Street Fair and Diversity Festival

The Artesia International Street Fair and Diversity Festival on October 6 was festive and included performances from our schools including the Ross MS Choir, Whitney HS's Kokoro Kara Taiko Drummers, and Burbank ES's Spirit Squad and Dawg Squad. It was great to see these fine performances, eat local cuisine, and speak with members of the community at the Fair and Festival. ▶



Burbank ES Spirit Squad and Dawg Squad



Gahr HS Nepalese Students



Whitney HS Kokoro Kara Taiko Drummers

Annual District-Wide College Fair

The Annual District-Wide College Fair was held on Saturday, October 20, 2018, at Whitney HS. Representatives from over 80 Ivy Leagues, UCs, CSUs, and community colleges were in attendance to answer questions to over 1,000 participants. All students and families of our ABC high schools were welcome to attend. ▶



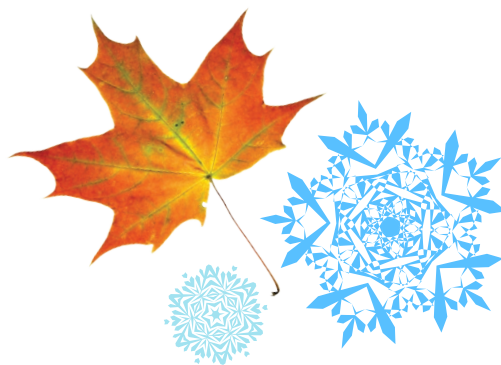


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Dr. Mary Sieu



ABC Unified School District's **District Digest** is published
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