

UPDATE

Week of September 8, 2008

UTLA RESORTS TO PORT-A-POTTY TACTICS INSTEAD OF COLLABORATION

In a story written in the *Los Angeles Times* by **Jason Song**, it was reported that teacher demonstrators at Dolores Street School camped outside the school in July to protest against the principal and seek her removal from the school. The protesters went so far as to rent a Port-A-Potty. **Mike Gipson**, Carson City Councilperson, who works as a field representative for UTLA, has orchestrated this tactic of demonstrating by teachers. (AALA has addressed this potential conflict of interest with the Carson City Council.)

AALA finds it interesting that UTLA leadership would permit this tactic when they are continually touting the need for collaboration in our schools. Disagreements and differences of opinion will always occur among professionals engaged in problem solving discussions. From the days of School Based Management, Shared Decision-making School Leadership Councils and LEARN, UTLA has been in the forefront of advocating collaborative problem solving. However, Mr. Gipson would rather demonstrate than mediate. It is easy to collaborate when you agree with someone; but it is even more important to engage in collaborative discussions when disagreements occur. Evidently, Mr. Gipson did not get the UTLA message regarding the need to collaborate.

AALA hopes that the leadership of UTLA will assess the continued harm being done by Mr. Gipson when he resorts to name-calling, innuendo, and demonstrations against school officials. It has been stated on numerous occasions that disagreements will sometimes occur at schools among caring professionals. If the disagreements are contractual in nature, all employee contracts have due process safeguards including the grievance procedure. Grievances are confidential personnel actions that are handled appropriately by the District and its unions. Non-contractual items or contractual items with shared decision-making authority need to be solved by collaborative discussions or mediation. In fact the heart and soul of collaboration has always been decision-making by consensus. Mr. Gipson, a non-educator himself, evidently does not know how to collaborate or does not wish to solve problems. Some professional development for Mr. Gipson may be in order.

It is also interesting to note that teachers at Dolores St. School for instance are demonstrating because they accuse the principal of not being collaborative. Mr. Gipson stopped mediation from occurring ostensibly because the teachers at Dolores did not want to continue the discussions with the principal. Again we state, either UTLA is for collaboration or it isn't. AALA hopes that UTLA will come out of the Port-A-Potty and into the light. AALA members are always ready and willing to discuss school problems anywhere at any time as long as it is done with mutual respect and in a professional manner.

REDUCE, REUSE, AND RECYCLE WITH L.A. SHARES

Founded in 1991, L.A. SHARES is a nonprofit material reuse program that accepts donations from the local business community and redistributes them to nonprofit organizations and schools throughout Los Angeles County for free. The organization has not only become the largest single donor of goods and materials to the Los Angeles Unified School District, but has also helped over 2,500 nonprofit organizations in addition to significantly reducing the amount of materials deposited into our overloaded landfills. It is simple to become a donor/recipient online in ten minutes or less at www.lashares.com.

By following four easy steps, any licensed elementary through high school in Los Angeles County or non-profit organization can become eligible to receive FREE donations of over four hundred different items within the following categories: office furniture, office equipment, office supplies, arts/crafts materials, and personal care products. If you would like your school to benefit from the L.A. SHARES organization, visit www.lashares.com and do the following:

1. Fill out an Organizational Profile, which consists of your school’s name, contact information, annual budget, number of people served annually, and staff size.
2. Review the available items and create a Wish List for your school by entering the desired quantity you wish.
3. Create a list of your school’s “Top 20” most needed items in priority order.
4. Mail in proof of school affiliation to an address that will be provided after completing the first three steps.

Regardless of whether you are a donor or recipient, please take advantage of this worthy cause and seize the opportunity to participate in the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle process while helping Los Angeles, the environment, and LAUSD’s schools!

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

Name	Date/Time	Location	Contact
Ronni Ephraim	Sunday, September 28, 2008 11:00 a.m.	Westin Bonaventure Hotel 404 S. Figueroa Street Los Angeles	Cheryl Maliniak 213.241.6444
Fonna Bishop	Friday, September 26, 2008 6:00 p.m.	Marina del Rey Hotel 13534 Bali Way Marina del Rey	Keri Lew klew@lausd.net

Retiree's Corner:

2008-2009 ACSA-R REGION 16 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Benita Chaum	benita@chaum.com
VP Membership	Sid Brickman	babsid@sbcglobal.net
Secretary	Charlotte Lerchenmuller	clerch1@dslextreme.com
Treasurer	Harriette Williams	hfw9594@aol.com
Past President	Beverly Neu	bneu@earthlink.net
ACSA Region 16	Jack Moscowitz	jmoscowi@lausd.k12.ca.us
CRTA	Eva Hain	evahain@verizon.net
ALA	Michael O'Sullivan	michael.osullivan@lausd.net
ALA	Dan Basalone	dbasalone@aala.us
Board Member	Chuck Mortenson	chrlmrtnsn8@aol.com
Board Member	Sid Thompson	sthompson@gseis.ucla.edu
Board Member	Bill Johnston	
Board Member	Gordon Trigg	

REMINDER...

ANNUAL AALA RECEPTION

**Honoring AALA Members, Board Members,
and the Superintendent**

**ALL ACTIVE and RETIRED MEMBERS, and FRIENDS
ARE INVITED**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2008
4:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

THE CENTER AT CATHEDRAL CENTER

**PLEASE RSVP TO: AALA, 1910 Sunset Blvd., Suite 510, Los Angeles, CA 90026
Phone: 213.484.2226 - Fax: 213.484.0201 - E-mail: rsvp@aala.us**

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 17-18, 2008 (Friday and Saturday) – **the Association of Mexican American Educators (AMAE)** will hold their **Annual Conference** at the USC Radisson Hotel, 3540 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles. For registration information contact **Antonio José Camacho**, AMAE State President, at 310.251.6306 or e-mail losangeles-amae@sbcglobal.net.

"ANCESTRY-BASED" CURRICULUM

In the wake of his highly acclaimed PBS series "African American Lives," which traced the ancestry of 19 famous African Americans using genealogical research and DNA science, Harvard professor **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.**, is working with other educators to create what he calls an "ancestry-based" curriculum to teach history and science to African-American students in grades K-12. In a conversation with Learning First Alliance's Public School Insights blog, Gates notes that half the African-American students in the United States are failing to graduate from high school. To help them become more engaged, he has been working on a six-week history unit in which kids will interview parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, and great-great-grandparents -- collecting family stories along with census information, tax records, and estate records. Gates says that if you "went into an inner-city school and said, 'We're going to drag you into historical archives about the Civil War,' or the Great Depression, or the Great Migration, kids would say, 'Get out of town.' But if we said, 'We're going to trace your family through those periods and to those periods,' my goodness, who wouldn't be interested in that?" When students reach the Civil War period, adds Gates, they can be taught DNA analysis in a science class so they can continue to trace genealogy after the paper trail ends.

Read more at <http://www.publicschoolinsights.org/?storyId=22061>

IN MEMORIAM

GINGER (BURMEISTER) DALE – Former Assistant Principal of Peary and Berendo middle schools, and Assistant Principal, SCS, of Cochran, Irving, and Nightingale middle schools. She retired on July 1, 2004, and passed away on September 6, 2008. Services will be held on Saturday, September 13, 2008, at Glendale Seventh Day Adventist Church, 610 East California Street, Glendale, at 3:00 p.m.

SUPERINTENDENT COMMENDS SCHOOLS WITH TEST GAINS

At the Superintendent’s annual administrators meeting held on August 28, 2008, at the Convention Center, Superintendent **David L. Brewer III** acknowledged the significant test score gains accomplished during the past year. It was refreshing to hear support and praise even though the meeting started with plans for yet another school report card with no mention of WASC accreditation. AALA always appreciates when members are acknowledged publicly. The following schools were recognized for their outstanding rate of success in English and Math on the California Standards Test:

<u>School</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Assistant Principals</u>
Birmingham HS	Marsha Coates	Blanca Castillo Alves Richard Christy Michael Jones
El Camino Real HS	David Fehte	Dean Bennett Yvonne Halski-Siegel Bette Marcoux David Lee Hussey Suki Dhillon LeAndrea Fields-Robinson
Middle College HS	Wanda Moats	
New Tech SH at Jefferson	Michael Taft	
Harbor Teacher Prep	Mattie Adams	April McNeel
Downtown Business Magnet	Annick Draghi	David Holmes Conrad Tui
Le Conte MS	Donald Foote	Alicia Moran Ismael Rosario Sharon Tomback Kevork Keushkerian
Nimitz MS	Francisco Vasquez	David Brame Gina Russell Mary Mills Salvador Torres Fay Chu
Portola MS	Adrienne Shaha	Mary Allwright Robert Clarke Rosanne Bates Steve Bussy
Palms MS	Bonnie Murrow	Mary Powers Rhonda Sparks Arturo Enriquez
Nightingale MS	Manuel Diaz	Vardan Malkhasyan Martha Gurrola Barry Fox

COMMENDATIONS (Continued)

Woodland Hills Academy	Allan Weiner	Debra Burris Christine Meier
Frost MS	Elias De La Torre	Gerardo Barrios Paul Siegel Cecilia Rando Carrie Schwartz
South Gate MS	German Cerda	Susana Marquez Janet Mack Ayako Motoyasu Barbara Ledbetter Leticia Galvan
Virgil MS	Ada Snethen-Stevens	Mary Goade William Gurr Michelle Windmueller Georgia Lazo Marty Barrias Arturo Valdez Danny Lo Alusine Conteh Andres Chait
Bassett ES	Linda Barr	Claudia Ruiz Patricia Jacobs Georgina Munoz
Newcastle ES	Luis Rojas	
Reseda ES	Rosemarie Kubena	
Burton ES	Roger Wilcox	
Kingsley ES	Renee Fuentes Campa	
Monte Vista ES	Jose Posada	Olivia Tamayo Minjares
Esperanza ES	Felicia Mitchell	Paula Kurelich Maria Butler
Sierra Vista ES	Heidi Acosta Morteo	
Harmony ES	Robert Cordova	Jerrilyn Miles
Lillian ES	Susan Ahern	Joe Goodwin Magda Alfonzo Elizabeth Valjalo Loreta Tate David Catanzarite
32 nd /USC Performing Arts	Laverne Brunt	Deborah Plat Maria Vallone Lenore Fusano Osbaldo Jimenez Genetha Hicks-Cleveland Ricardo Ruiz
Gledhill ES	Marc Dyer	
Plummer ES	Angel Barrett	
92 nd Street ES	Nanetta Arceneaux	
153 rd Street ES	Albert Lozano	Karol McQueary
7 th Street ES	Constantine Colazas	Serena Pritt
Kittridge ES	Joan Blair	Regina Ales
Harrison ES	Isaias Martinez	Brigette Allard

COMMENDATIONS (Continued)

Heliotrope ES	Luis Camarena	Lorena Avalos
52 nd Street ES	Beverly Crosby	Pablo Cabrera
Vermont ES	Major Duberry	Joseph Casas
Van Deene ES	Ellen Hodnett	Chrystal Battey-Brown
Danube ES	Sharon Geier	Lisa Guerrero
First Street ES	Hobart Cress	Danika Free
Maywood ES	Lupe Hernandez	Sylvia Salazar
Park Avenue ES	Ofelia Valdez	Irma Cobian
		Jane Alpert
		Kimberly Valdez
122 nd Street ES	Robin Benton	Madeleine Gygli
112 th Street ES	Brenda Manuel	Maribel Guerra-Figueroa
		Gwendolyn Morris-Miller
Harvard ES	Marilyn Estrada	Linda Kaye
Vernon City ES	Martin Sandoval	
Tulsa ES	Shari Moelter	Lorie Thompson

ALA congratulates these schools and all District schools for continuing the upward trend in achievement by all students.

ALA CONGRATULATES COEUR D'ALENE PRINCIPAL, REX PATTON, STUDENTS AND STAFF...

For the excellent article on September 4, 2008, that appeared in "*The Argonaut*" which covers the communities of Marina del Rey, Playa del Rey, Venice, Santa Monica, Westchester, Playa Vista, and Mar Vista. The school has received numerous awards, including the 2008 California Distinguished School award (the application received a score of 8.0 out of a possible score of 8.0!) honoring the state's most exemplary and inspiring public schools, and the 2007 Los Angeles Music Center's Bravo Award for the school's excellence in art education plus many accolades over the years.

It all started in 1995 when, under the leadership of then principal **Beth Ojena**, Coeur d'Alene was selected by *Redbook*, a national women's magazine, as one of "America's Best Schools." The school was acknowledged for developing outstanding programs that met the specific needs of students with physical, emotional, or behavioral disabilities.

Click on the link below to retrieve the full article.

http://www.argonautnewspaper.com/articles/2008/09/04/columns/betsy_goldman/bg.txt

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Minimum Qualifications: Candidates are responsible for making sure all the District requirements for administrative positions have been met. AALA is not responsible for errors in publication.

NOTE: Please do not contact AALA for information regarding administrative positions. Use the listed contact phone number, or contact LAUSD Human Resources Division at 213.241.6886 or via e-mail at http://certificated.lausd.k12.ca.us/admin_vacancies.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY COUNSELING SERVICES (SCS)

Bravo Medical Magnet High School (5) MST 39, 1200 N. Cornwell Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033
Bravo is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Myra Fullerton**, Director, Secondary Support Services, at 323.224.3173. **Filing deadline is Friday, September 19, 2008.**

Gardena High School (8) MST 40, 1301 West 182nd Street, Gardena, CA 90248
Gardena is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Susan Price**, Director, High School Services, at 310.354.3400. **Filing deadline is Friday, September 26, 2008.**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY

Narbonne High School (8) MST 40, 24300 South Western Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710
Narbonne is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Susan Price**, Director, High School Services, at 310.354.3400. **Filing deadline is Friday, September 26, 2008.**

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, CERTIFICATED PLACEMENT & ASSIGNMENTS (MST 40, A Basis)

Cert. Placement & Assignments, 333 S. Beaudry Ave., 15th Fl., Los Angeles, CA 90017 213.241.6158
Responsibilities include advising support services employees, administrators, teachers, and other District Units regarding staffing matters and personnel policies and procedures. Requires 8 years of full-time public school experience in a K-12 program, with 2 years in a management position. For information and application procedures contact **Marjorie Josaphat**. **Filing deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 19, 2008.**

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Principal, Secondary	Westchester High School	09/16/08	213.241.0782
Asst. Prin., SCS	Audubon Middle School	09/19/08	310.253.7156
Specialist, Educational Equity Compliance	Educational Equity Compliance Office	09/17/08	213.241.7682