

UPDATE

Week of August 18, 2008

ALL AALA ADMINISTRATORS NOW BACK ON THE JOB

By Mike O'Sullivan, AALA President

As B Basis assignments begin, we welcome back those members who have been enjoying a well-deserved break from the rigors of the job, and wish them well for the coming school year. This promises to be a very different school year for all of us. Once again, we (LAUSD) are beginning without a clearly defined budgetary plan in place, and that can never be conducive to a smooth, efficient operation. But, we will deal with it as best we can.

What We Do Know:

- Tens of thousands of wide-eyed young people will be entering our schools for the first time. Their parents are proudly delivering to us a wonderful raw product, and it is our job to manage schools that will help them reach their ultimate potential. More importantly, they will arrive unburdened with apprehensions or fears of the future just as we did many years ago. To paraphrase our good friend, the late **John Liechty**, "No kindergartner ever tossed or turned at night worrying about accountability, Partnership Schools, I-Design, furloughs or any of the other myriad of adult agendas that threaten to consume our time and energy." He was so right.
- This budget situation, when settled, as it must surely be soon, will remain very grim with little prospect for immediate improvement in the near future. School-site administrators and support personnel must be more careful than ever to marshal these resources, focusing on the most critical student needs. In this era of "shared-decision making" that is not always easy, but it must be at the core of decision making.
- The public will be watching. So, too, will all the proponents of radical change in public education, including charters, privatization, and voucher advocates. We cannot hope to deflect any further "Balkanization" of our District by attacking them or their philosophies. It's a market economy. We simply have to deliver a better product, and once again that starts at the school level.

What We Wish We Knew:

- The results of the November elections will be significant if there is any relief in sight from the constraints and negative aspects of *No Child Left Behind*. It is not a question of lowering standards or shirking responsibility, it is more an issue of demanding realistic goals that are appropriately funded at both the State and Federal levels.¹

ALL BACK ON THE JOB (Continued)

- How to help mitigate some of the suffering that many of our families will face during this economic malaise. For many students, their main source of nutrition and sustenance will be that which they receive at school. We have never really faced that kind of need, and we must find ways to deal with it or our efforts to teach will be futile.

- How health care policies and practices may change after the election is a major concern for the Association. We fully realize the importance of these benefits to you and your families, and we will continue to stand side by side with our union allies to maintain current levels even in these difficult times.

As this New Year fully rolls out it is not all doom and gloom. The Association remains in good shape financially, and the number of members who have chosen to "Go Green" and receive their *Update* electronically gratifies us. That is saving us several thousands of dollars every month that can be put to far better use in service to members.

The AALA staff wishes you all the best for 2008-2009, and please keep us informed of your needs or concerns as we move ahead.

RETIREMENT CELEBRATIONS

Name	Date/Time	Location	Contact
Charlene Warwick	Sunday, September 14, 2008 12:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Café Bizou 91 N. Raymond Pasadena	Sharon Kaiser 818.344.7556
Fonna Bishop	Friday, September 26, 2008 7:15 p.m.	Marina del Rey Hotel 13534 Bali Way Marina Del Rey	Keri Lew klew@lausd.net
Esther Wong	Thursday, September 18, 2008 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	The Stadium Club Dodgers Stadium 1000 Elysian Park Ave. Los Angeles	Eva Garcia 213.241.2450

WEALTH CONCEPTS SEMINAR

NOTE: THE SEMINAR SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2008, at Wealth Concepts headquarters in El Segundo has been CANCELED. The seminar on **September 10, 2008**, in the 3rd floor conference room at AALA will go on as scheduled.

ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATORS OF LOS ANGELES

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FAX (213) 484-0201
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August 13, 2008

AAALA
Dr. Mike O'Sullivan
President
Senior Deputy Superintendent
ADULT DEPARTMENT
Dr. Fred W. Hermosillo
Vice President
Ben Avila
Director
Dr. Howard B. Saxe
Director

Mr. Ramon Cortines

Los Angeles Unified School District
333 S. Beaudry Avenue, 11th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Dear Mr. Cortines

ELEMENTARY DEPARTMENT
Angel J. Barrett
Vice President
Dr. Judith Perez
Director
Steve Siry
Director

We have met several times with representatives of the Boston Consulting Group, and also met early on with Dr. Julie Slayton regarding the development and proposed implementation of the new Accountability Report Card. In addition, Dr. Slayton has reported to both the general meeting of Elementary Principals Organization (last semester) and more recently to the Executive Board of EPO.

SECONDARY DEPARTMENT
Margaret A. Prietto
Vice President
Alan M. Scher
Director

We note that the good efforts of both of these offices seem to be heading in the same direction, but there remain a large number of differences that need resolving. Also, our ad hoc principals group has developed a very comprehensive list of concerns that we feel merit close scrutiny before any final decisions are reached regarding this Districtwide reporting process.

Mark Simmons
Director
SUPERVISORY DEPARTMENT
Lynn Williams
Vice President

To that end, we would like to request that you call a meeting at Beaudry including both the Boston Consulting Group, and Dr. Slayton. We will attend along with a few field-based principals, and perhaps a lot of these questions can be answered to everyone's satisfaction.

Madeline Latham-Wilson
Director

We fully recognize the need for accountability and transparent reporting, but no one needs additional confusion and uncertainty as we enter this new school year.

Marsha Oh-Bilodeau
Director
STAFF

Please consider this request and let us know your availability for such a meeting.

Dan Basalone
Administrator
Dan M. Isaacs
Administrator
Lorraine Bush
Office Manager

We look forward to a timely response.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mike O'Sullivan
President
AAALA

CONSULTANTS
Jane Pollock
Jack H. Silas

FIELD REPRESENTATIVES
Al Fasani
Hugh Gottfried
Sylvia Perea
Dr. Joseph Scollo

C: Judy Elliott

Retired Associates Corner

INCREASE IN EARNING CAP

Retirees who return to work during the first twelve months following their retirement are restricted to earn no more than a specified amount lest it affect their basic STRS retirement allocation. That cap amount is based roughly on 50% of the average full-time salary of CalSTRS Defined Benefit members, which includes teachers and administrators.

For the 2008-2009 school year, the cap amount will be increased by **\$1,760** to a total of **\$29,700** for the entire school year. Remember it's not the type of work being done that is significant. Rather, it's that the funding to pay for that work comes out of public education dollars.

Retirees need to be very careful not to exceed that amount or it might affect your regular STRS allocation for the next year. You are encouraged to call STRS proper at 1-800-228-5453 if you have any questions regarding this earnings cap.

Should a retiree opt not to take work of any kind (paid from public education dollars) for the twelve-month period in question, there is no issue of an earnings cap.

L.A. TEENS DISCUSS "RACIAL ACHIEVEMENT GAP"

At the request of the *Los Angeles Times*, eight Latino and Asian students from the city's diverse Lincoln High School gathered recently to talk about what California State Superintendent **Jack O'Connell** has called a "racial achievement gap" that separates Asian and non-Latino white students on one hand from Latinos and blacks on the other. The students agreed that Asian parents were more likely to pressure their children to excel academically, the *Times* reports, while Mexican-American parents were more likely to place work and education on a par -- and, in some cases, to place more value on work and the ability to earn money. With about 2,500 students, Lincoln High draws from neighborhoods that are 15 percent Asian, with the rest of the populations being predominantly working-class Mexican-Americans. Yet Asians make up 50 percent of the school's Advanced Placement classes. Although Latino and Asian families in surrounding neighborhoods are essentially in the same socioeconomic boat, Asian immigrants are more likely to have been comparatively affluent and to have had better educational opportunities in their native countries.

Read more at <http://www.latimes.com/news/education/la-me-lincoln16-2008jul16,0,3130880.story>

2009 UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

The 2009 United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP), coordinated by the California Department of Education and sponsored by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, invites all public and private high schools in the state to nominate up to two of their outstanding seniors or juniors to participate in the competition.

Four finalists, consisting of two delegates and one first and one second alternate, will be selected from the statewide applicants to be California's USSYP representatives. The delegates will participate in a week of intensive study of the federal government as guests of the U. S. Senate from March 7-14, 2009, in Washington, D.C. The Foundation will pay all expenses for the delegates, including transportation, hotel, and meals. In addition, each of the delegates will receive a \$5,000 college scholarship from the Foundation. The alternates attend the week in Washington only if the delegates are unable to participate.

A student must be nominated by his/her high school principal to be considered for the USSYP competition. Each school may nominate up to two student applicants. High school seniors or juniors are eligible to apply, provided they are currently serving in an elected or selected capacity in student government, a civic, or an educational organization. Additionally, the students chosen must be permanent residents of the United States and be currently enrolled in California public or private secondary schools. The California Instructions, California Student Application, California Qualifying Examination, California Frequently Asked Questions, and USSYP Washington Week 2009 brochure are available on the USSYP Web page.

The original and one copy of the completed California Student Application, California Qualifying Examination, and student's unofficial transcript must be submitted for each candidate to the CDE by the postmark deadline of Wednesday, October 1, 2008.

More information and application can be found at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/in/us/> or contact: **Carol Smith**, USSYP Coordinator, Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction 916-319-0577 csmith@cde.ca.gov.

FROM THE FAMILY OF SAMIRA JONES

It is with sorrow-filled hearts that we share with you the news of the passing of our dearly loved mother, grandmother, and sister, **Samira Sohaili Jones**. Samira passed away on August 17, 2008. Samira had served as Assistant Principal at Hillcrest Drive, Marvin Avenue, and Miles Avenue schools before taking an illness leave.

The celebration of her life and service will be held on Monday, August 25, at 2 p.m. at the Inglewood Cemetery Mortuary, Manchester Chapel, 3801 West Manchester Boulevard, Inglewood, CA 90305, followed by refreshments at Samira's home at 4168 Baldwin Avenue in Culver City.

WEIGHING IN ON HOW TO IMPROVE TEACHER QUALITY

Improving a school's faculty should be easy -- hire good teachers, get rid of bad ones, and provide new training to those who remain, **Ray Fisman**, professor and research director of the Social Enterprise Program at the Columbia Business School, writes in *Slate*. But it's not easy: Once teachers become entrenched, it's hard to remove them from union-protected jobs, and it's hard to predict who will be a good teacher in the first place. According to researchers, nothing on a prospective teacher's resume indicates how he or she will do in the classroom. The only predictor of whether a teacher will boost students' test scores in a given year is "the amount he raised test scores in previous years." Most faculty hiring is done before applicants have a teaching record, however, and few schools have the ability to run complicated regression analyses on whether an experienced teacher has had positive effects in the past. "While it's not fair to park the problem of global inequities at the doorstep of teachers unions," Fisman says, "the continued floundering of public education in America is at least partly to blame: Education is an awfully good predictor of future earnings, and keeping bad teachers in classrooms filled with kids from poor families certainly helps to reinforce the cycle of poverty."

Read more at <http://www.slate.com/id/2195147/?GT1=38001>

PROMOTING HIGH ACHIEVEMENT FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS

After reading "Young, Gifted, and Black: Promoting High Achievement Among African-American Students" (2003), three essays by leading thinkers in African-American education, **Mary Tedrow** writes in *Teacher Magazine*, she realized that "the ideas and potential solutions embedded in this book have gone on largely unacknowledged." Tedrow, a white high school teacher in Virginia, acknowledges that her "own experience with arguments for an inherent bias in the system of schooling have been filtered through the popular media, where issues like Ebonics, test and IQ bias, the stigmatization of stereotyping, 'acting white,' and urban schooling are treated superficially." She says the book by **Theresa Perry**, **Claude Steele**, and the late **Asa Hilliard III** brought her to considerations like the fact that, historically, education for black Americans has had no predictable tie to economic advancement, no matter what level of schooling a student achieves. "In order to succeed," she maintains, "black Americans must answer for themselves: Why sacrifice yourself to the pursuit of an education when the color of your skin is likely to close as many doors as your studies promise to open?" She recommends that "Young, Gifted, and Black" be included in the professional libraries of teachers and schools, and in the pre-service education of all teaching professionals.

Read more at http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/07/16/41tln_tedrow.h19.html

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.

PRINCIPAL, ELEMENARY

Annalee Avenue School (8) MST 40, 19410 S. Annalee Avenue, Carson, CA 90746
Annalee is an E Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Valerie Moses**, Director, School Services, at 310.354.3400. **Filing deadline is Friday, August 29, 2008.**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, ELEMENTARY

Rowan Avenue School (5) MST 37, 600 South Rowan Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90023
Rowan is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Maria Martinez**, Director, School Services, at 323.224.3100. **Filing deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 5, 2008.**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST (EIS)

Stoner Avenue School (3) MST 37, 11735 Braddock Drive, Culver City, CA 90230
Stoner is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Pamela Sasada**, Director, School Support Services, at 310.253.7100. **Filing deadline is Wednesday, September 3, 2008.**

Third Street School (3) MST 37, 201 South June Street, Los Angeles, CA 90004
Third Street is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Estelle Lockett**, Director, Elementary Support Services, at 310.253.7123. **Filing deadline is Friday, September 5, 2008.**

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY

Frost Middle School (1) MST 39, 12314 Bradford Place, Granada Hills, CA 91344
Frost is a B Basis school. For information and application procedures contact **Lynda Schwarz**, Director, School Services, at 818.654.3643. **Filing deadline is Tuesday, September 2, 2008.**

POSITIONS AVAILABLE (Continued)

DIRECTOR, EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (Temp Adv., MST 40, A Basis)

Local District 6, 5800 Eastern Avenue, Commerce, CA 90040 323.278.3900

Responsibilities include supervising and supporting all Early Childhood Education Division (ECED) programs at all early education and infant centers. Requires 8 years of full-time certificated service in a licensed early education setting, with 2 years in a LAUSD elementary school or ECED administrative position. For information and application procedures contact **Martin Galindo**, Local District Superintendent. **Filing deadline is 4:00 p.m., Friday, August 29, 2008.**

SPECIALIST, LEAST RESTRICTIVE ENVIRONMENT (Temp. Adv., MST 38, A Basis)

Support Unit Central-West, 3741 S. La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90016 323.421.2863

Responsibilities include providing support and professional development to integrate differential instruction into current instructional practices at both elementary and secondary levels. Requires 5 years of full-time teaching experience in a classroom, 2 of which must have been at the secondary level, with 3 years as a teacher of students with disabilities, and ability to travel. For information and application procedures contact **Bette Medina**, Secondary Administrator/**Dianne Kloosterman**, Elementary Administrator. **Filing deadline is 4:00 p.m., Friday, August 29, 2008.**

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS STILL AVAILABLE

Position	Location	Deadline	Contact
Principal, Elementary	El Dorado School	08/27/08	818.755.5427
Asst. Prin., Elementary	Fernangeles School	08/29/08	818.755.5427
Asst. Prin., EIS	Clover/Mariposa Primary Center	08/29/08	310.253.7123
Asst. Prin., EIS	153 rd Street School	08/29/08	310.354.3400
Asst. Prin., Secondary	Adams Middle School	08/26/08	323.224.3124
Asst. Prin., Secondary	Grant High School	08/29/08	818.755.5361
Specialist, Student Information Systems Branch	Planning and Assessment Division	08/27/08	213.241.2450
Academic Intervention Administrator	Beyond the Bell Branch	08/29/08	213.241.7900
Middle School Director, School Support Services	Local District 1	08/27/08	818.654.3600
Director, Organizational Change Management/Communications Integrated Student Information System (ISIS)	Information Technology Division EXTENDED TO -	08/29/08	213.241.1256