

UPDATE

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Week of August 12, 2013

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPROVES WAIVER FOR LAUSD AND SEVEN OTHER CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS

On Tuesday, August 6, 2013, eight of the districts which comprise CORE (California Office to Reform Education) were informed that the U.S. Department of Education had approved their waiver from certain provisions of the NCLB Act. The granting of the one-year waiver means that the CORE districts, LAUSD, Long Beach, Santa Ana, San Francisco, Oakland, Fresno, Sacramento City and Sanger, will have more flexibility in their spending of more than \$150 million in Title I funds and no longer have to meet the NCLB requirement that all students meet proficiency in reading and math by 2014. Below is an excerpt from a letter sent to **Dr. Judith Perez** by **Dr. John Deasy** regarding the waiver:

I am writing to alert you of some remarkably positive news. The Secretary of Education has approved the NCLB Waiver for the CORE Districts, and as you know, Los Angeles is one of them. This provides a remarkable opportunity to immediately implement an alternative accountability system from NCLB that is more robust, more thoughtful and far less reliant on a single test score as we have today. As you know, the current system is 100% based on a single test measure. Our system is based 60% on measures of student achievement over time, and the remainder on social emotional and other culture and climate measures like graduation rates, discipline and suspension rates, special education identification rates, reclassification rates, parent survey feedback rates, etc. Among the immediate results, there will be a very different way of identifying schools that are underperforming... I know that there are a number of organizations that have not been in support of this for various reasons. As a group, and as an individual district, we look forward to reaching out to each and every one of them to invite them to participate in overseeing our work, and holding us accountable to this new process.

That accountability system mentioned in Dr. Deasy's letter is called the School Quality Improvement System and is based on research conducted by **Dr. Michael Fullan**, a noted education researcher who has been credited with transforming the school system in the Canadian province of Ontario into a highly effective one. It also includes recommendations from **Tom Torlakson's** Task Force on Educator Excellence. Districts participating in the School Quality Improvement System will fully implement the Common Core State Standards this year and transition to Common Core-aligned assessments by the 2014-15 school year. Although AALA was not part of the discussion to apply for the waiver, nor part of the development of the actual proposal, we are knowledgeable of and impressed with Dr. Fullan's work and **fully expect to be involved in the implementation of the new accountability system**. As noted in previous *Updates*, the teachers' unions in the nine districts (one has since dropped out) jointly sent a letter to CORE stating that they were not supportive of the waiver because they had no input in the writing of it.

Each district will be responsible for developing an educator evaluation system that incorporates student growth as a significant factor that must be fully implemented in the 2014-15 school year. Districts have two options for the evaluation system. The following is taken directly from CORE's waiver application:

WAIVER (Cont.)

Option 1 - Student growth integrated through a "trigger" system: With this option, an evaluation will be conducted using multiple measures, not including student achievement. The results will be compared to student achievement results. Any misalignment between teacher/administrator professional practice and student performance will initiate a dialogue to identify why a discrepancy between scores exists, followed by district action in the interest of professional development of the teacher.

Option 2 - Student growth as a defined percentage: Student growth will represent a minimum of 20% of teacher and principal evaluation calculations. Student growth will be calculated using a growth model which will be developed by the CORE Board of Directors in the 2014-2015 school year. However, if a district currently uses or seeks to use another high quality student growth model, the district will have the opportunity to apply to the CORE Board for the option to use an alternative method, provided the district provides a strong research-based rationale.

Although the wording is somewhat convoluted, what is crystal clear is teacher and administrator evaluations are negotiated items. Therefore, AALA and UTLA must agree on the criteria this school year in order for it to be implemented in 2014-15. State Superintendent **Tom Torlakson** weighed in, saying, "I will encourage the districts involved to collaborate closely with teachers and other stakeholders in devising a workable system of accountability and oversight." U.S. Secretary of Education **Arne Duncan** has said the waiver can be renewed next year only if the districts fully implement their school-rating system and teacher-evaluation plans.

For districts, the most important flexibility this waiver brings is financial. **Dr. Deasy** said that the waiver will enable districts to not hire vendors to provide supplemental educational/tutoring services and it will redirect \$60 - \$80 million back to LAUSD school sites. Another important component of the waiver is that the minimum number of students necessary to be recognized as a subgroup has been reduced from 100 to 20. However, with the Local Control Funding Formula, the Legislature had already lowered the statewide subgroup number to 30 students. With this change, more than 150,000 additional students will be included in the subgroup rankings.

The districts did create a new, separate oversight board, which will include a cross-section of stakeholders that will meet biannually to receive the districts' self-evaluation reports and serve as an unbiased external compliance review of each district's progress. Board members will include representatives from ACSA, CSBA (California School Boards Association), CCSESA (California County Superintendents Educational Services Association), CTA, PTA, the Education Trust, CA Department of Education, CA State Board of Education and English learner, disabled students and civil rights communities.

ATTN: AALA ALUMNI MEMBERS

You should have received a letter from AALA about the renewal of your Associate Membership. We encourage you to renew immediately so you have no interruption of your member benefits, such as receipt of the *Update*, invitations to AALA events, updated health benefits information, insurance at group rates and other discounts. Send your check for \$45 to AALA, 1910 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite 850, Los Angeles, CA 90026.

HEALTH BENEFITS FAQ

TOPIC: *HEALTH AND WELFARE PLANS FOR 2014 – SOME CHANGES, BUT NO MAJOR SURPRISES*

Will I have the same choices for medical plans for 2014 that I had last year?

Yes. For 2014, employees and retirees under 65 years of age will be able to select Kaiser HMO, Health Net HMO, Anthem Blue Cross Select HMO and Anthem Blue Cross EPO. Retirees 65 years old and older may select Anthem Blue Cross EPO or one of the three Medicare Advantage plans—Kaiser Senior Advantage, Health Net Seniority Plus or UnitedHealthCare® Group Medicare Advantage HMO.

Why don't we have new choices?

This year, medical HMO, EPO, Medicare Advantage, one vision contract, life insurance, flexible spending account and dental DMO plans went out for competitive bids. The dental PPO plan and one of the vision plans are still under contract. Kaiser is the only medical plan that did not go out for bid, primarily because it is in a category of its own, being a single network that includes medical facilities, physicians, pharmacies and hospitals. There are no other single network plans that match the size and scope of Kaiser. Negotiations are still ongoing for the Kaiser contract.

Competitive proposals from a variety of insurers were reviewed by two Source Selection Committees consisting of HBC union representatives and District HBC members. Other medical plan insurers submitted proposals, but the incumbent insurers were the ones recommended for Board of Education approval.

What about vision and dental plans?

Employees and retirees will continue to have the same vision and dental plans. One vision contract went out to bid and VSP was again ranked highest and recommended for approval.

What will change for 2014?

There will be two changes for 2014—the life insurance carrier and Flexible Spending Account administration. The new life insurance carrier for District-paid life insurance for employees and optional supplemental coverage will be ING; the FSA carrier for 2014 will be ADP.

ING is no newcomer to the District, having provided life insurance coverage for the District for over 30 years. Transition from the current provider, MetLife, to ING should be seamless. Since the transition will include MetLife transferring beneficiary information to ING, employees and retirees should make sure to update their beneficiary information, if needed. Employees with supplemental coverage and automatic salary deductions will roll over to the new carrier. Retirees with supplemental coverage will receive a bill.

ADP, formerly known as Automatic Data Processing, was founded in 1949 in New Jersey and has since grown to a global presence in 14 countries and four continents. ADP is the same company that administers the annual Open Enrollment process.

**THE POWERSAVE SCHOOLS PROGRAM:
AN LAUSD/LADWP PARTNERSHIP**

AALA thanks Joe McLaughlin, retired assistant principal, for sharing this information.

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has entered into a partnership with the Alliance to Save Energy to sponsor the PowerSave Schools Program in 15 LAUSD schools in its service area for the 2013-2014 school year. The LADWP has dedicated resources to pilot the PowerSave Schools Program as part of its commitment to expand energy efficiency programs and reduce energy use in LAUSD schools. The PowerSave Schools Program aims to educate students about energy and energy efficiency through hands-on lessons that promote STEM learning and align with the Common Core Standards and California Education Standards. Participating school principals need to identify a three-member PowerSave team of two teachers and one custodian, each of whom will receive small annual stipends. Team members attend a full-day fall training (the substitute fees are the only cost not covered by the program) and after-school, midyear and end-of-year meetings, along with monthly in-person visits from a PowerSave Local Project Leader. PowerSave Schools Program provides a guide that includes instructional materials correlated with the Common Core Standards and California Standards of Learning, as well as diagnostic tool kits that support inquiry and project-based learning, a system for tracking energy use data and support from the program's Local Project Leaders.

Schools participating in the PowerSave Schools Program that have a student-centered program in place may earn up to \$1,000 in the District's Power Challenge and can compete for the \$10,000, \$15,000 and \$25,000 prizes for the best energy saving record in each Educational Service Center. For more information and to schedule a meeting with a PowerSave Schools representative, contact **Joe McLaughlin** at 323.660.3629 or jojomclaughlin@yahoo.com.

CALPERS/CALSTRS REMINDER

Are you aware that your retirement system, CalSTRS or CalPERS, may provide benefits to your beneficiaries at the time of your death, whether you are active or retired? Have you completed the necessary beneficiary forms? Unfortunately, many of us think that the beneficiary information provided to the District automatically applies to the retirement systems; however, that is not the case. Your retirement system is a completely separate entity from LAUSD; certificated employees in every public school in California are members of STRS and classified employees are members of PERS. Therefore, check your STRS or PERS account online or review your Annual Statement/Progress Report to see if you have listed a beneficiary. If you have not, do so immediately. You can avoid unintended consequences for your beneficiaries at your death. The necessary forms can be accessed at the websites, www.calstrs.com or www.calpers.ca.gov or by calling 1.800.228.5453 (STRS) or 1.888.225.7377 (PERS).

FYI . . .

Individuals, businesses or organizations that wish to communicate with AALA members may do so by placing an ad/announcement in the *Update*. All ads/announcements must receive the approval of **Dr. Judith Perez**, AALA President, and be deemed appropriate for members. The price to run an ad is \$80 for one week; \$140 for two weeks; and \$180 for three weeks. Fees for ads are payable to Friends of AALA, a 501(3)(c) nonprofit, and help support our scholarship and awards programs.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

Congratulations to **Emilio Garza**, assistant principal at Foshay Learning Center, who is a contributing author to a recently released report, *EdTech Revolution in Education 2013: The State of Digital and Distance Learning*. The report documents the impact of technology on K-12 and postsecondary learning throughout the world and is published by the Alliance for Science and Technology Research in America. Emilio was one of only 57 contributors to this massive body of work and wrote a chapter titled “Leading Transformation: An Administrator’s Perspective.” We are so proud of you!

SAVE THE DATE

- A celebration in honor of the retirement of **Mrs. Maylin Ramirez**, Principal, Castelar Early Education Center, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 14, 2013, at the Castaway Restaurant, 1250 E. Harvard Road, Burbank 91501. The cost is \$50 per person, and checks payable to **Marco Ramirez** should be mailed to **Scarlett Holguin** at 5947 Hayes Avenue, Los Angeles 90042, 323.997.0888.
- **Dr. Diane Ravitch**, noted professor, education policy analyst and former U.S. Assistant Secretary of Education, will be speaking at Occidental College on October 1, 2013. This free event is cosponsored by AALA. Details will be forthcoming.

CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	CONTACT
Beyond the Bell at Dodger Stadium (Discounted tickets for Devil Rays game)	August 9, 2013 7:10 p.m.	Jose Di Raimondo , 213.241.3547 or jose.diraimondo@lausd.net
Retirement Celebration for Lupe Paramo at Almansor Court	August 10, 2013 6:00 p.m. – Midnight	Maria Luz Marquez , 213.241.3121 or maria.marquez@lausd.net
Pupil Free Day	August 12, 2013	
First Day of Instruction	August 13, 2013	
ASPO Meeting	August 21, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Donna Brashear , 323.224.5970 or donna.brashear@lausd.net
CalPERS Webcast: Benefits Basics	August 23, 2013 9:00 a.m.	Registration Required - Click here
CalPERS Webcast: Service Credit	August 23, 2013 12:30 p.m.	Registration Required - Click here
CalPERS Webcast: Deferred Compensation	August 23, 2013 2:00 p.m.	Registration Required - Click here
Retirement Celebration for Dr. Rosa Maria Hernandez at Almansor Court	August 24, 2013 6:00 p.m. – Midnight	Michael Katzman , 818.512.2783 or katzthetdaguy@gmail.com
SHSOPO Meeting at Bernstein HS	August 29, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Jason Garrison , 818.345.0203 or jason.garrison@lausd.net

Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

EVENT	DATE	CONTACT
Admissions Day Observed	August 30, 2013	
AALA Alumni Membership Renewal Due	August 30, 2013	Gloria Souquette , 213.484.2226 or gsouquette@aala.us
Labor Day Observed	September 2, 2013	
SEPO Meeting at Beaudry, 17 th Floor, Room 105	September 4, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Christina Cisneros , 213.749.8310 or cmc0506@lausd.net
Unassigned Day/School Holiday B, C, D, E Basis Single Track	September 5, 2013	
TeamHEAL's Afternoon of Jazz at the Wilshire Country Club	September 7, 2013 2:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Nicole Levitt , 424.500.2849 or nicole@ewamllc.com
ASPO Meeting	September 11, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Donna Brashear , 323.224.5970 or donna.brashear@lausd.net
EPO Meeting at Pickwick Gardens	September 12, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Ron Tanimura , 310.547.2471 or rht0055@lausd.net
CalPERS Retirement Planning Fair at Westin Long Beach Hotel	September 13-14, 2013 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	www.calpers.ca.gov
Retirement Celebration for Maylin Ramirez at the Castaway Restaurant	September 14, 2013 11:00 a.m.	Scarlett Holguin , 323.997.0888
AALA Fall Reception at The Center at Cathedral Plaza	September 18, 2013 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Gema Pivaral , 213.484.2226 or gpivaral@aala.us
OMA Meeting at Beaudry, Board Room	September 25, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Ted Johnson , 213.241.2690 or ted.johnson@lausd.net
EAPO Meeting at Grace Simons Lodge	September 25, 2013 1:00 p.m.	Sylvester Harris , 323.264.6953 or sylvester.harris@lausd.net

IN MEMORIAM

DR. ARLENE GRAUCH—Former assistant principal, secondary counseling services, at San Pedro High School. Arlene retired from the District on April 30, 2003, and passed away on July 31, 2013. No services were held. Donations may be made to Friends of AALA for a scholarship in her memory or to Habitat for Humanity. Condolences may be sent to the family at 6555 Sattes Drive, Rancho Palos Verdes 90275, or by e-mail to sgrauch@verizon.net.

Explore AALA's website at www.aala.us

*If you haven't experienced the powerful impact of blogs, just check out the AALA website. We have posted a number of blog sites under the menu tab **Educational News**. Just click on Educational Blogs and then 4LAKIDS to catch up on all the news and buzz about what's happening in LAUSD. Blogs are fast flowing and timely, with information and news posted as quickly as written. You'll see straight news, opinions, the latest rumors and reactions and responses from the public. We've created links to the most popular blogs, including the Los Angeles Times, **Diane Ravitch**, the Washington Post, the Economic Policy Institute, the U.S. Department of Education and others.*

ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATORS OF LOS ANGELES

"Celebrating 32 years of Exemplary Leadership"

ANNUAL FALL RECEPTION
Honoring AALA Members

INVITED GUESTS INCLUDE: ALL ACTIVE *and* ALUMNI AALA MEMBERS,
BOARD MEMBERS, SUPERINTENDENT JOHN DEASY *and* FRIENDS

DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

TIME: 4:30 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

LOCATION: THE CENTER AT CATHEDRAL PLAZA
555 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(For directions please see other side. Complimentary parking provided.)

ENJOY COMPLIMENTARY HORS D'OEUVRES & BEVERAGES
while
RECONNECTING WITH FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

PLEASE RSVP TO: AALA, 1910 Sunset Blvd., Suite 850, Los Angeles, CA 90026

Phone: 213-484-2226 - Fax: 213-484-0201 - E-mail: gpivaral@aala.us

Name _____ Phone () _____

Location _____ E-mail _____

Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

From the West:

Take 10 Santa Monica Freeway east to downtown, to 110 Harbor Freeway North. Stay on right lanes and exit on 4th Street. Turn left at Hill Street and turn left at Temple Street.

or on surface street:

Take Beverly Blvd. east to 1st Street. Turn left on Grand Avenue and turn right at Temple Street.

From the South:

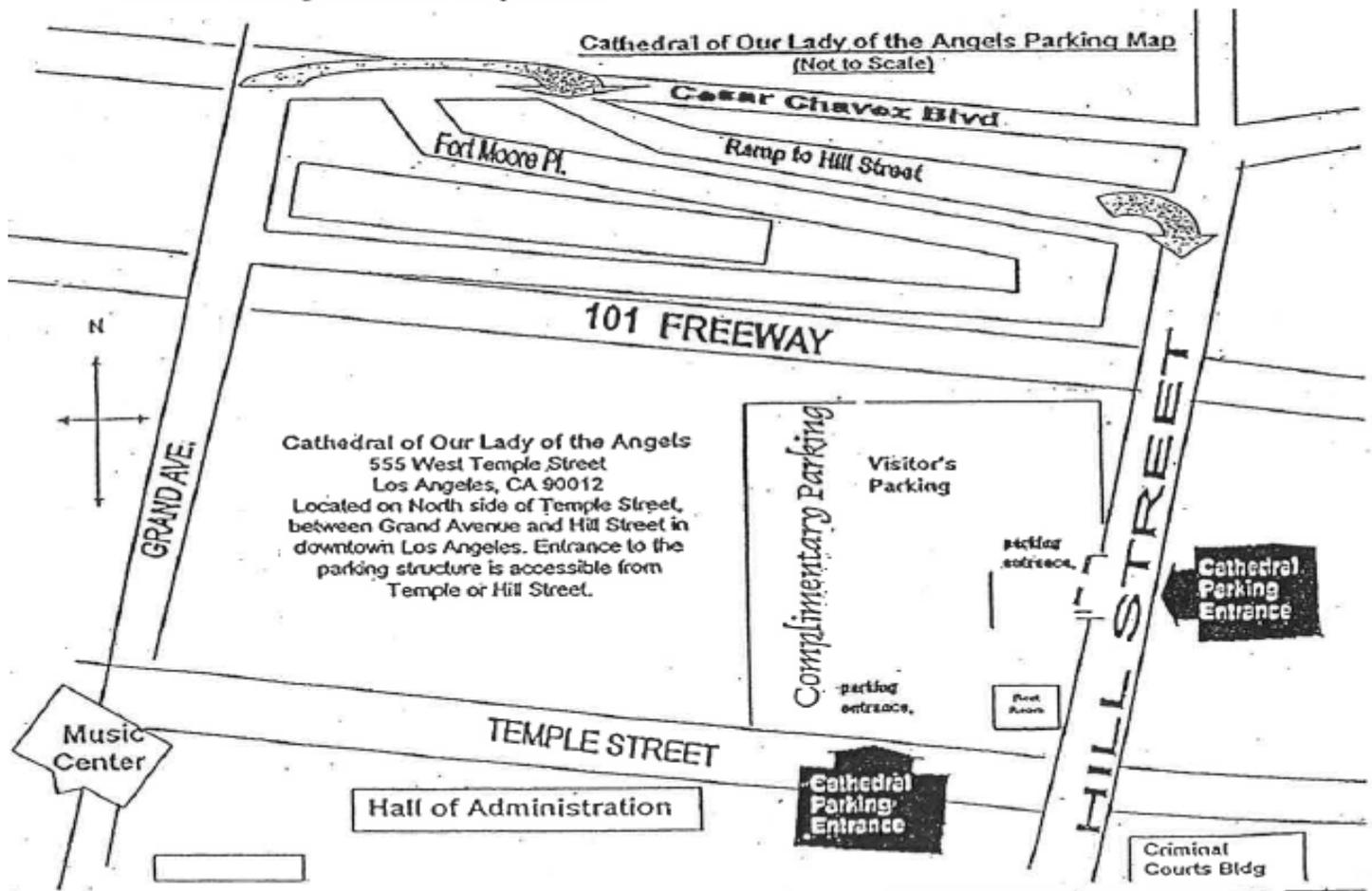
If you are taking the Harbor Freeway 110 North: Stay on the 110 north to downtown and exit at 4th Street. Proceed as above.

If you are taking the 101 South:

Take the 101 Hollywood Freeway South to downtown. Exit on Broadway, turn right and right on Temple.

From the East (or North on 5)

If you are taking the Pomona 60 west or traveling north on the Santa Ana 5: Take the Hollywood 101 Freeway north to downtown. You will pass through the tunnel; proceed approximately one mile and exit at Grand. Turn right and left at Temple Street.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Minimum Qualifications: Candidates are responsible for making sure all the District requirements have been met. Please do not contact AALA for information regarding positions; use the contact phone number provided in the announcement or visit http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/ (certificated) and <http://www.lausdjobs.org> (classified) for detailed requirements for positions and employment updates.

CERTIFICATED

INSTRUCTIONAL DIRECTOR

Educational Service Center North, MST 45G, Temporary Adviser, E Basis. For information and application procedures please visit http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/. Application deadline is Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

DIRECTOR

Adult and Career Education, MST 45G, Temporary Adviser, A Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Alma Pena-Sanchez**, Interim Executive Director, at 213.241.3150. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 21, 2013.

PRINCIPAL, OPPORTUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Richard Alonzo Community Day School, Division of Educational Options, MST 42G, E Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Salvador Valdovinos** at 213.241.3759 or salvador.valdovinos@lausd.net. Application deadline is Thursday, August 22, 2013.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY COUNSELING SERVICES

Alexander Hamilton High School, ESC West, MST 41G, B Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Jaime Morales**, Instructional Director, at jaime.morales@lausd.net or 310.914.2100. Application deadline is 4:00 p.m., Monday, August 19, 2013.

SPECIALIST, EDUCATIONALLY RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (ERMHS)

Psychological Services, Division of Special Education, MST 38G, Temporary Adviser, E Basis, 2 positions. For information and application procedures please contact **Beth Kauffman**, Director, at beth.kauffman@lausd.net or 213.241.8303. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 16, 2013.

CLASSIFIED

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Intensive Support and Education Division, \$130,650 - \$156,580, A Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Deborah Jansen** at deborah.jansen@lausd.net or 213.241.5449. Application deadline is 4:00 p.m., Thursday, August 15, 2013.

SAP ENTERPRISE PORTAL SPECIALIST

Information Technology Division, \$82,000 - \$101,700, A Basis. For information and application procedures please click [HERE](#). Position is open until filled.

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY MST 45G+stipend, E Basis</i>	John Muir MS, L.A.'s Promise	Liliana Vasquez , Director of Operations, 213.745.4928 or careers@laspromise.org	Friday August 9, 2013
<i>COORDINATOR, OPERATIONS SUPPORT SERVICES MST 43G, E Basis</i>	School Operations Division	Zsuzsanna Vincze , Director of School Operations, zsuzsanna.vincze@lausd.net	4:00 p.m. Friday August 9, 2013
<i>SPECIALIST, SPECIAL EDUCATION COMPLIANCE SUPPORT AND MONITORING MST 38G, B Basis</i>	Division of Special Education	Lisa Kendrick , Director, 213.241.6701	EXTENDED 4:00 p.m. Friday August 9, 2013
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST MST 40G, B Basis</i>	Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies, ESC North	Dr. Margaret Kim , Instructional Director, 818.654.3697	EXTENDED 5:00 p.m. Monday August 12, 2013
<i>PRINCIPAL, ELEMENTARY MST 43G, E Basis</i>	68 th Street ES, ESC South	Robin Benton , Instructional Director, 310.354.3400	Friday August 16, 2013
<i>PRINCIPAL, CONTINUATION MST 38G, E Basis</i>	Burke HS, Educational Options	Salvador Valdovinos , 213.241.3759	Friday August 16, 2013
<i>SPECIALIST, SPEECH & LANGUAGE PROGRAM MST 38G, E Basis</i>	Division of Special Education	Elaine Shackelford , Coordinator, 213.241.6200	12:00 p.m. Friday August 16, 2013
<i>PRINCIPAL, ELEMENTARY MST 41G, E Basis</i>	Carthay Center ES, ESC West	Autri Streeck , Instructional Director, 310.914.2100	Monday August 19, 2013
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST MST 40G, B Basis</i>	Nimitz MS, ISIC	Mark Sims , Instructional Director, 213.241.0100	Monday August 19, 2013
CLASSIFIED POSITION	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>SENIOR TECHNICAL PROJECT MANAGER \$92,200 - \$114,300, A Basis</i>	Information Technology Division	Zach Jernberg at 213.241.5453 or zachary.jernberg@lausd.net	5:00 p.m. Monday August 12, 2013