

UPDATE

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Week of December 16, 2013

MARGUERITE POINDEXTER LAMOTTE

The death of Board Member Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte was a devastating loss to the students, staff and parents of LAUSD as well as the entire world of public education. Ms. LaMotte spent over 50 years committed to students and striving constantly for equality and to level the playing field. She rose rapidly through the ranks of the District and became a noted principal who touched the hearts of thousands of students and fellow educators. Those of us who were fortunate enough to have worked with her remember how outspoken she was and how she constantly challenged the status quo.

Much has been written about her many accomplishments and the profound effect she had on LAUSD, but she was first and foremost a fiercely loyal friend and colleague. She remained a constant supporter of teachers and administrators, never forgetting those in the field or sacrificing her principles for expediency. While serving on the Board of Education for over 20 years, she never wavered from viewing her actions through the lenses of civil rights and equity for the black and brown families she represented.

As tributes roll in from local, state and federal educators, politicians, the public at large, as well as, friends, colleagues and relatives, we realize that her loss at this time is critical. Marguerite was not afraid to take a difficult or unpopular position. She stuck to her beliefs and was the social conscience of the District, the voice of the disenfranchised and more often than not, the one person who could be counted on to seek the input of teachers, administrators and classified personnel.

The members of the Board of Education must decide whether to appoint her replacement or fund a special election. Either choice has grave implications, both political and social. The entire school community needs to be a part of the dialogue that leads to the decision. It cannot be a backroom, political deal that is based on compromises to benefit those individuals with aspirations to higher office and to the detriment of students and families. The unions that represent the employees, parent groups and the public have a right to provide their input.

Marguerite Poindexter LaMotte was an educator for all times, a loyal colleague and friend, a devoted mother and grandmother, deeply faithful to her church and committed to improving the lives of others. She lived a good life and loved to have fun, frequently seen leading the "second line" at the annual Playboy Jazz Festival at the Hollywood Bowl. We will miss you, Marguerite, and know that while someone will ultimately take your space, no one can really take your place. Rest in peace.

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IN MEMORY OF MY PRINCIPAL AND MENTOR, MS. MARGUERITE LAMOTTE

AAALA thanks Marilyn Fuller, Manager, Personnel Research and Analysis, for submitting this article.

I have had the unique pleasure of being blessed with strong women role models throughout my life who have helped focus me on my academic and professional paths. **Marguerite LaMotte** was one of my mentors. I met Ms. LaMotte when I was a student at Washington Preparatory High School. Despite her presence as the Principal, which commanded respect and admiration, she was always approachable and available. My senior year, I was awarded a college scholarship which provided an opportunity for my relationship with Ms. LaMotte to truly blossom. I was honored to have her at my wedding and to share with her the birth of my daughter and my progression within LAUSD. Even when I began my tenure with the District and became a part of the HR family, I would always be, and she wasn't shy about letting anyone know, "hers".

My last conversation with Ms. LaMotte was just a few months ago. I recall the pride in her voice to hear about my recent promotion. Within days of that conversation, there was a personnel issue at one of her schools and she had a staff member call me for assistance. When I called the staff member back with the resolution, the lady responded excitedly that Ms. LaMotte told her that I was "her girl" and that I would take care of it. It's that type of trust and confidence that she had in her students that always served as a source of motivation.

Her support was endless and a true extension of her pride in her students and belief in their ability to accomplish anything. While Ms. LaMotte will be missed, she will forever have a place in my work and especially in my heart.

SELECT OR ELECT BOARD MEMBER MARGUERITE P. LAMOTTE'S SUCCESSOR?

As we head into the second week after the passing of Board Member **Marguerite LaMotte**, a burning question is looming: How shall her seat on the Board be filled? The Board of Education has to make the decision whether her successor should be elected by a vote of those residing in District 1 or appointed by her fellow Board Members. This will not be an easy decision as there are strong arguments for each choice. In either case, the chosen person will sit on the Board until June 30, 2015, making key decisions regarding the Common Core Curriculum, Local Control Funding Formula, iPads and the District's 2014-2015 budget.

Board Member **Bennett Kayser** has already released his opinion—advocating strongly for the Board to immediately appoint someone to represent District 1 in the interim before the next general election in 2015. He argues that the constituents of District 1 (641,236 residents, 303,966 voters and approximately 100,000 students at over 150 schools) need to have a voice at the table immediately, saying, "By the time an election process is complete and someone sworn-in, the constituents will have been without representation for far too long." This is a very valid concern, particularly since without the seventh vote, the Board could easily become deadlocked with 3-3 votes.

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SELECT OR ELECT (Cont.)

Another point in favor of appointment is that the cost of special elections (a general and perhaps a run-off) will run into the millions of dollars, a burden the LAUSD would have to bear as it is trying to recover from the recession. Mr. Kayser also feels that a special election would lend itself to undue influences from well-funded outside sources. This is, in fact, another very salient point, because we well remember how former New York Mayor **Michael Bloomberg, Eli Broad**, the Walton Foundation and others tried to buy the last election for members of the Board of Education.

However, appointment is fraught with problems. It immediately lends itself to behind the scenes maneuvering, as pointed out in a *Los Angeles Times* editorial. Ms. LaMotte strongly supported the employee unions and often was at odds with the Superintendent and his reform agenda. Would the current members of the Board of Education appoint someone who shared her views, someone who generally would join the opposing side or someone who claims to be independent? Those doing the appointing were not elected by the constituents in District 1 and are unfamiliar to them, so the natural inclination would be to be suspicious of the appointee unless the person is established and respected in the community and has knowledge of the issues facing LAUSD. However, Board Members notably represent the whole district and are responsible for approving budget, policy and programs.

If the Board Members decide on an interim appointment, it would certainly show sensitivity to the needs of the community and respect to Ms. LaMotte to select a veteran educator. Yet, opponents to an appointment say that it gives that person an advantage when the general election takes place in 2015, placing him/her in a more favorable position.

An appointment process can obtain from elected officials past and present the criteria to be used in selecting the best person for the position.

This issue will probably arise at the meeting of the Board of Education on December 17, 2013. We hope that the discussion will provide time for input by the various stakeholders in LAUSD and that the Board Members will make a deliberate, wise and well-informed decision.

SERVICES FOR MARGUERITE LAMOTTE

The visitation for Ms. LaMotte will be held on Thursday, December 19, 2013, from noon to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday, December 20, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., at Angelus Funeral Home, 3875 S. Crenshaw Blvd., L.A. 90008. Due to space limitations, only family and close friends will be able to attend the funeral services which will be held at St. Brigid Catholic Church on Saturday, December 21, 2013. A public memorial will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2014; time and location TBD.

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HEALTH BENEFITS FAQ

TOPIC: MEDICARE PART B – ALL RETIREES 65+ MUST PAY PREMIUMS

As a District employee, I've never paid premiums for medical coverage. Doesn't the District continue covering me even as a Medicare retiree? Yes, the District provides eligible retirees with lifetime health benefits. However, in order to retain their District medical benefits, retirees at age 65 must enroll in and pay Medicare B premiums. Part A is required also and will be addressed in a future *Update* issue.

What does Medicare Part B cover? Medicare Part B covers outpatient services from doctors and other outpatient health care providers, ambulance services, home health care, durable medical equipment, some preventive care and many more medical services.

What is the Medicare Part B premium for 2014? The standard Medicare Part B monthly premium is \$104.90 in 2014, the same as for 2013; however, the amount you pay is based on your 2012 tax return. Medicare retirees with incomes higher than the standard threshold will pay an additional income-related monthly adjustment amount (IRMAA), as shown below:

<i>Individuals with modified adjusted gross income (MAGI)</i>	<i>Married, filing jointly</i>	<i>Part B IRMAA</i>	<i>Total monthly Part B premium</i>
\$ 85,000 or less	\$170,000 or less	\$ 0.00	\$104.90
\$ 85,001 - \$107,000	\$170,001 - \$214,000	\$ 42.00	\$146.90
\$107,001 - \$160,000	\$214,001 - \$320,000	\$104.90	\$209.80
\$160,001 - \$214,000	\$320,001 - \$428,000	\$167.80	\$272.70
More than \$214,000	More than \$428,000	\$230.80	\$335.70

What are the 2014 rates for the income-related monthly adjustment amount (IRMAA) for Part D--prescription coverage? If you are enrolled a Medicare Advantage plan—Kaiser Senior Advantage, Health Net Seniority Plus, or UnitedHealthCare Group—the amounts are shown on the chart below. Remember that this payment is required despite the fact that LAUSD Medicare retirees must not enroll in Medicare Part D. **Anthem Blue Cross EPO Medicare retirees do not pay any Part D IRMAA amounts.**

<i>Filing Individually MAGI</i>	<i>Married, filing jointly MAGI</i>	<i>Part D IRMAA</i>
\$ 85,000 or less	\$170,000 or less	\$ 0.00
\$ 85,001 - \$107,000	\$170,001 - \$214,000	\$12.10
\$107,001 - \$160,000	\$214,001 - \$320,000	\$31.10
\$160,001 - \$214,000	\$320,001 - \$428,000	\$50.20
Greater than \$214,000	Greater than \$428,000	\$69.30

I'm married, but file a separate return. What is my Part D IRMAA for 2014? Medicare retirees who are married and lived with their spouse at any time during the taxable year, but filed separate returns, must pay Part D IRMAA as shown below:

<i>Married, filing separately</i>	<i>Part B IRMAA</i>	<i>Part D IRMAA</i>
\$85,000 or less	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
\$85,001 - \$129,000	\$167.80	\$50.20
Greater than \$129,000	\$219.80	\$69.30

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FAREWELL, JACK MOSCOWITZ

AALA President Dr. Judith Perez made the following comments at Jack Moscovitz' funeral on December 12, 2013

Jack Moscovitz was our dear friend and colleague. He had a long and successful career in LAUSD, serving our students for nearly 35 years as a teacher, coordinator, assistant principal and principal, beginning in 1959. He began as a teacher at University High School and retired as Uni's principal in 1993. In the 20 years since his retirement, he has worked continuously, supporting, mentoring and defending hard-working administrators. He represented AALA members on District committees, including the multicultural committee, was a leader of the Association of Jewish Educators and Executive Director of ACSA Region XVI.

In 2007, Jack received AALA's highest honor, the President's Award for service.

When I was elected President of AALA nearly five years ago, Jack called me and said two things: "Congratulations!" and "How can I help?"

Jack worked with AALA for many years, first as a consultant and then as a field representative. While he was always an outgoing, funny and charming person, he ensured due process for and fiercely defended AALA members whose contractual rights were violated. His colleagues didn't know much about this aspect of his work because the cases were confidential. Most importantly, to those whose professional lives he defended, he was a great listener and patient adviser. He provided honest, stern counsel and a shoulder when needed.

When our office informed AALA members of Jack's passing, we received an outpouring of e-mails and phone calls expressing shock and deep sadness. I'd like to quote four of them:

"Jack was my mentor as a new principal. He talked me through a lot of the craziness in the District. I'll miss him deeply."

"Jack was one of LAUSD's finest gentlemen. I loved working with him and will miss his excellent judgment and unfailing moral compass."

"Jack was always most concerned for the well-being of the leaders of our schools, those we supervise, those we serve. He was a genuine soul."

"Oh, no! Where will we get our restaurant and movie reviews now?!"

At AALA's alumni luncheons, held twice each year, Jack was our go-to guy to deliver the "In Memoriam" section of the program. He unfailingly spoke eloquently about those colleagues who have left us, quoting ancient sages, poets and current stand-up comedians. For Jack I'll quote the well-known Hebrew proverb: "Say not in grief he is no more but live in thankfulness that he was." Jack will be missed by all.

Condolences may be sent to his wife, Freda, and family at 2890 Woodwardia Drive, Los Angeles 90077. The family asks that donations in Jack's memory be made to Friends of AALA or Association of Jewish Educators.

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AALA SCHOLARSHIP AND COMMUNITY AWARDS CALENDAR

During the week of January 13, 2014, the AALA Scholarship application will be e-mailed to school administrators (principals and assistant principals, SCS and ACS) and college counselors at comprehensive, options and adult schools. We urge administrators to provide copies of the application to all interested graduating students. There is no limit to the number of applicants from a school. All applications with supporting documents are due on **Friday, February 21, 2014**. Scholarship recipients will be selected and notified in March. Awards will be presented at the banquet on Wednesday, April 30 2014, at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel.

The Community Volunteer Award nomination form will be available online the week of January 13, 2014. School administrators are encouraged to nominate outstanding volunteers at their sites. The nomination deadline is Friday, **February 21, 2014**. Don't miss out on this opportunity to recognize your outstanding community supporters. The selected honorees will be introduced and presented commemorative plaques at the banquet.

Should you have any questions regarding the scholarship and/or community awards programs, please contact **Gema Pivaral** in the AALA office at 213.484.2226 or via e-mail at gpivaral@aala.us.

ACADEMIC DECATHLON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The 33rd annual LAUSD Academic Decathlon competition will be held on Saturday, January 25, 2014, and Saturday, February 1, 2014, at Roybal Learning Center, 1200 West Colton Street, Los Angeles 90026. This year's curricular theme is *World War I*, which was selected by the United States Academic Decathlon in recognition of 2014 being the centennial of the start of the war. The students' studies in art, economics, language & literature, music, science and social science have focused on this period of time. They are just about ready for the academic challenge, and now volunteers are needed to help present the competition.

Past support received from administrators and teachers (elementary, middle, high school), supervisory personnel and classified staff for this competition has been outstanding and that support is needed again this year. On January 25, Speech and Interview Judges are especially needed, and on February 1, proctors are needed for the Super Quiz Relay from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the Roybal Gymnasium. Volunteer applications are available online at www.acadecala.net. Please contact **Cliff Ker**, Academic Events Coordinator, at 213.241.3503 or at cliff.ker@lausd.net if you have any questions.

Special Request for Retired Administrators—Your help is needed on both days of the Decathlon, January 25 and February 1, and you are encouraged to volunteer for this exceptional student activity. Also, there is a special need for readers to score student essays on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Beaudry Building, 2nd Floor, Conference Room 202. If available, please contact Cliff Ker at the number above. Validated parking will be provided in the Beaudry II structure on the corner of Beaudry Avenue and Miramar Street.

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CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Donald Wilson**, principal at Wonderland Avenue Elementary School, who has been selected as the California Music Educators Association 2014 Outstanding Administrator of the Year. The CMEA is a statewide organization for music educators. Each year, CMEA selects key individuals in the state to honor and recognize for their steadfast commitment and prevailing contribution to the musical arts. As the 2013 awardee, Don will be honored at the 2013 California All-State Music Educators Conference in Fresno in February 2014.



CALENDAR

APACS Meeting at Friedman Occupational Center	December 13, 2013 8:00 a.m.	Lisa Baskin , 310.664.5888 or lbaski1@lausd.net
EAPO Meeting Wilshire Methodist	December 13, 2013 1:00 p.m.	Sylvester Harris , 323.264.6953 or sylvester.harris@lausd.net
CalPERS Webinar on Early Career Basics	December 17, 2013 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Register at www.calpers.ca.gov
Gifted and Talented Education Conference at Pasadena Convention Center	December 21, 2013 7:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.	Dr. Debbie Dillard , 213.241.6500 or www.giftedchildrenla.org
AALA Offices Closed	December 23, 2013 – January 3, 2014	
Winter Recess	December 23, 2013 – January 10, 2014	
CHRISTMAS DAY	December 25, 2013	
NEW YEAR'S DAY	January 1, 2014	

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TALENT MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP



School Leaders Network provides the opportunity for principals to come together to problem-solve in a safe network of peers to improve learning outcomes for their students. These collaborative networks meet monthly to share common challenges and critical problems of practice such as leading instructional shifts to the Common Core, creating rigorous ELD instructional systems and leveraging TGDC to improve both teaching and learning. Participating principals report that investing this time each month actually eases their sense of stress and isolation.

The Administrator Development Branch is offering a \$2,000 scholarship to support principal participation. The school will be responsible for committing the balance of the tuition for the program (\$500). Please contact the Administrator Development Branch of the Talent Management Division for an application admindevelopment@lausd.net. Applications are due Thursday, January 16, 2014. Please note that a new member orientation will take place on January 22, 23 or 30, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. For more information contact ursula.rosin@lausd.net or call Talent Management Division at 213.241.6608.

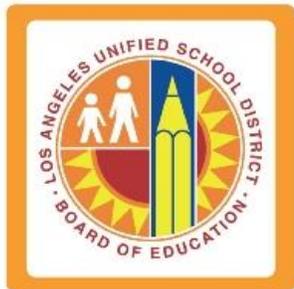
IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD CORD—Former Principal of Portola Middle School, Assistant Principal of Fleming Middle School and Birmingham, Monroe, Venice and Granada Hills Charter high schools and ad adviser in the Risk Management and Insurance Section. Richard retired from the District on July 1, 1996, and passed away on November 1, 2013.

HELEN NELSON—Former assistant principal of Van Nuys, Mulholland, Mark Twain middle schools and Foshay Span Learning Center. Helen retired on June 26, 1986, and passed away on December 10, 2013. Graveside services will be held at Holy Cross Cemetery on Tuesday, December 17, 2013, 12:00 Noon. The Cemetery is located at 5835 West Slauson Avenue, Culver City 90230. (310.836.5500)

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POSITIONS AVAILABLE



Note to Applicants: Please be advised that you are responsible for making sure all the District requirements have been met. Do not contact AALA for information regarding positions; for detailed requirements for positions and employment updates use the contact phone number provided in the announcement or visit the District website at http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/ (certificated) or <http://www.lausdjobs.org> (classified). Employees who change basis during the school year may not earn a full year of service credit and annualized employees who change their basis during the year may sustain an annualized settlement.

CERTIFICATED

ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Apperson Elementary School, ESC North, MST 41G, E Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Yolanda Guerra**, Instructional Director, at 818.654.3600. Application deadline is Monday, December 23, 2013.

Gridley Elementary School, ESC North, MST 43G, E Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Eva Garcia**, Instructional Director, at 818.654.3672. Application deadline is Monday, December 23, 2013.

PRINCIPAL, EARLY EDUCATION CENTER

Miles Avenue/South Region #2, MST 38G, A Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Maureen S. Diekmann**, Executive Director, at 213.241.0415. Application deadline is 2:00 p.m., Friday, January 3, 2014.

INSTRUCTIONAL THEME SPECIALIST

Sun Valley Magnet School, ISIC, MST 40G, Temporary Adviser, B Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Chieko Rupp**, Instructional Director, at 213.241.0100. Application deadline is Friday, January 17, 2014.

INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST

Southeast Middle School, ESC South, MST 40G, Temporary Adviser, B Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Ruben Valles**, Instructional Director, at 310.354.3400. Application deadline is Monday, December 23, 2013.

INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST

Mervyn M. Dymally High School, ISIC, MST 38G, Temporary Adviser, B Basis. For information and application procedures please contact **Dr. Shelley Holt**, Instructional Director, at 213.241.0100. Application deadline is Thursday, January 2, 2014.

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PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
INSTRUCTIONAL AREA SUPERINTENDENT \$155,261 - \$171,239	Educational Service Center	Please visit http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/	Friday January 31, 2014
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY COUNSELING SERVICES MST 38G, B Basis	Elementary/Secondary Community Day School (CDS)	Dr. Christopher Ortiz , Director of School Operations, cortiz@lausd.net	Friday December 13, 2013
COORDINATOR, CHARTER SCHOOLS MST 42G, A Basis	Division of Special Education	Sydney Quon , Director, 213.241.6701	Friday January 10, 2014
SPECIALIST, ARTS INTEGRATION MST 38G, E Basis, (Temp. Adv.)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support (OCISS)	Christine Vega christine.vega@lausd.net	EXTENDED Monday December 23, 2013 Noon
SPECIALIST, ELEMENTARY K-5/6 HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE MST 38G, E Basis, (Temp. Adv.)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support (OCISS)	Christine Vega christine.vega@lausd.net	EXTENDED Monday December 23, 2013 Noon
SPECIALIST, ELEMENTARY SCIENCE MST 38G, E Basis, (Temp. Adv.)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction, and School Support (OCISS)	Christine Vega christine.vega@lausd.net	EXTENDED Monday December 23, 2013 Noon
SPECIALIST, ENGLISH LEARNER INSTRUCTION, SECONDARY MST 38G, E Basis (2 positions)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction and School Support	Please visit http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/	Friday January 31, 2014
SPECIALIST, SECONDARY HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE MST 38G, E Basis, (Temp. Adv.)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction and School Support	Christine Vega christine.vega@lausd.net	EXTENDED Monday December 23, 2013 Noon
SPECIALIST, SECONDARY SCIENCE MST 38G, E Basis (Temp. Adv.)	Office of Curriculum, Instruction and School Support	Christine Vega christine.vega@lausd.net	EXTENDED Monday December 23, 2013 Noon
SPECIALIST EDUCATIONALLY-RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (ERMHS) MST 38G, E Basis (2 positions)	Division of Special Education	Arlene Banelos , Arlene.baelos@lausd.net , or Araceli May , araceli.may@lausd.net	Tuesday December 17, 2013

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INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST MST 40G, B Basis	John Muir Middle School	Liliana Vasquez, careers@laspromise.org 213.745.4928	EXTENDED Wednesday December 18, 2013
CLASSIFIED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
PROJECT LABOR ADMINISTRATOR \$95,800 - \$118,600, A, B or C Basis	Project Stabilization Unit, Facilities Services Division	For information and application procedures please click HERE .	Until Filled
PROJECT DIRECTOR \$93,411 – 116,492	Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP)	Leticia Gallegos leticia.gallegos@lausd.net	EXTENDED 5:00 p.m. Tuesday December 24, 2013
DIRECTOR OF IT, SECURITY \$104,100 - \$128,980, A Basis	Information Technology Division	Claudia Barragan, claudia.barragan@lausd.net	Until Filled
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MATERIEL MANAGEMENT & PURCHASING \$99,800 - \$124,570, A Basis	Procurement Services Division	Deborah Jansen, 213.241.5449	Until Filled