

# UPDATE

[www.aala.us](http://www.aala.us)

Week of December 22, 2014

## SUPERINTENDENT CORTINES— LEADING BY EXAMPLE

Since his arrival in October, Superintendent **Ramón Cortines** has been supportive of AALA members. He has communicated frequently with AALA leadership, has been responsive to concerns and sought our input on myriad issues. He is working diligently to make MiSiS functional and efficient and is bringing a feeling of collegiality back to the District. We are extremely appreciative of his efforts to ease the burden on those in the field and to be supportive of administrators, teachers and all staff members. On December 15 he sent the email below to senior staff members and the leadership of the ESCs. It is indicative of how sensitive the Superintendent is to the workload of principals and school-site personnel:

**Subject:** *Requests to Schools/Principals*

*I'm increasingly concerned that we make many unnecessary requests of schools and principals. I would like you to limit your requests to only those that are essential. Much of the information that you request is available. I would suggest that's your job to get it. Many of you making the requests have never been a principal or may have forgotten what a principal is responsible for each day. We need to make their job easier, not harder. Being a principal is not sitting in front of a computer responding to us. Being a principal is visiting classrooms, walking the halls and the playground, etc.*

*Please consider the next time you make a non-essential, unnecessary request.*

**Ramón C. Cortines**  
*Superintendent*

Thank you, Superintendent Cortines!

## SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT TESTING IN SPRING 2015

Another example of Superintendent Cortines' support of schools is the letter that he recently sent to State Superintendent of Public Instruction **Tom Torlakson** in which he requested that the spring 2015 Smarter Balanced Assessment testing results not be used for accountability purposes nor have a negative impact on state and/or federal funding for schools. He cites that neither District students nor teachers have had

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adequate time to practice on the testing devices and to improve their technological skills. AALA is in full support of the Superintendent's request, especially in this transitional period for the District. AALA President **Dr. Judith Perez** sent the following letter to **Mr. Torlakson**:



**ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATORS OF LOS ANGELES**

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**Doris Dillard**  
**Dr. Mike O'Sullivan**  
**Sylvia Perea**  
**Steve Quon**

**STRATEGIST**

**David Tokofsky**

December 15, 2014

Tom Torlakson  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction  
California Department of Education  
1430 "N" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Tom:

AALA is in full support of Superintendent Ramón Cortines' request to not use the spring 2015 SBAC testing results for high stakes accountability measures. We have been informed that the computers that the District ordered for testing have been delayed and may not arrive until late February. Our concerns are that the late arrival will not allow for appropriate training for administrators, teachers or students. As you know, LAUSD is in the throes of trying to fix a catastrophic roll-out of the MiSiS student records system.

We hope that you will support Superintendent Cortines' request. Since his arrival, he has brought stability to the District which is benefitting students, parents and staff.

Best wishes for a pleasant holiday and happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Judith Perez,  
President, AALA

cc: Ramón C. Cortines

**HEALTH BENEFITS FAQ: CONTINUITY OF CARE  
WHEN CHANGING HEALTH PLANS**

**What happens when I change plans while receiving medical treatment under my old health plan?**

Under California law, you have the right to continued medical care even if your doctor is not part of your new health plan or if your doctor, medical group or hospital leaves your plan. All plans offer “continuity of care.” This means that you may receive temporary care by an out-of-network provider (your former plan provider) if you are actively being treated for certain acute or serious chronic conditions.

**What conditions are covered under “continuity” or “transition” of care?**

<i>Type of Problem or Condition</i>	<i>Time Frame for Continuity of Care</i>
<b>Acute medical condition*</b>	As long as the condition lasts
<b>Serious chronic condition (for example, severe diabetes or heart disease)</b>	Until you complete a course of treatment and your doctor can safely transfer your care to another doctor, up to 12 months
<b>Pregnancy</b>	During pregnancy and immediately after the delivery (post-partum period)
<b>Terminal illness</b>	As long as the person lives
<b>Care of a child under 3 years</b>	For up to 12 months
<b>An already scheduled surgery or other procedure (for example, knee surgery or colonoscopy)</b>	Scheduled to happen within 180 days of your doctor or hospital leaving your health plan

\*An acute medical condition is generally one caused by injury, illness (such as pneumonia) or other medical problem that requires prompt medical attention for a limited duration.

**I just switched health plans and have a condition that may qualify for continuity of care. How do I access continuity of care in my new health plan?**

You must call your health plan to ask for continuity of care. Additionally, your doctor or hospital must agree to keep you as a patient and agree to your plan’s reimbursement terms. As part of this process, be ready to discuss your medical information, such as the name of your doctor or hospital, your medical condition and treatments you are receiving. You can also ask for a copy of your health plan's policy on continuity of care at any time.

**What if I need immediate treatment for a medical condition covered under “continuity of care”?**

Complete the continuity or transition of care application form and contact the member or customer service number for your plan. Be sure to identify your medical emergency and your need for immediate care. Your request should be expedited. The following information may be helpful:

- **Anthem Blue Cross EPO and Select HMO**—Continuity of care policy and form are available by calling 800.700.3739 or clicking here: [Anthem Continuity of Care](#).
- **Health Net**—800.654.9821. View Health Net’s transition of care policy at: [Health Net Continuity of Care](#).
- **Health Net Seniority Plus**—800.275.4737.

## FAQ (Cont.)

- **Kaiser**—Contact Member Services at 800.464.4000 to request a form.
- **UnitedHealthCare® Group Medicare Advantage HMO**—800.457.8506.

## END-OF-THE-YEAR NEWS ROUNDUP

- December 14, 2014, marked the second anniversary of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings that took the lives of twenty children and six adults. It was the deadliest K-12 school shooting in the history of the country and has generated continued policy questions around school safety, gun laws, arming teachers, adolescent mental health, threat assessment and school climate. The original school building has been razed and a new Sandy Hook is projected to open in 2016. The parents of ten of the victims have filed a joint lawsuit against the manufacturer of the gun that killed their children, a Bushmaster AR-15, the distributors and the store where the gun was purchased. The Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, a federal law passed in 2005, shields most gun makers and dealers from civil action “resulting from the criminal or unlawful misuse” of a firearm or ammunition, and according to a report from NBC news, “...the families' lawyers say there are exceptions. The suit is using one of them—the theory of negligent entrustment—to argue that the companies are at fault for letting civilians get their hands on weapons meant for the battlefield. Other suits have cited that exception, but only when targeting the retailer—not the manufacturer or the distributor.” The suit will definitely be a test of the law.
- *When you Google “hero,” there should be a picture of a principal, a school lunch worker, a custodian, a reading specialist, a teacher or a bus monitor. Real heroes don’t wear capes. They work in America’s schools.* This is an excerpt from a letter written to teachers from **Nelba Marquez-Greene**, the parent of two students at Sandy Hook Elementary School. Her six-year-old daughter, **Ana Grace**, was killed; her son was in the building, but was not injured.
- The U.S. Court of Appeals in New Orleans recently ruled that a student’s rap song that was posted on the Internet in which he accused two coaches at his high school of sexually harassing female students was protected by the First Amendment. The student, a senior at Itawamba Agricultural High School in Mississippi, wrote the rap song and posted it while he was off campus during nonschool hours. The lyrics were characterized as so vulgar and violent that *Education Week* refused to print them. The student was subsequently suspended from school. He filed a lawsuit challenging the discipline and the school district was granted a summary judgment; however the Court of Appeals reversed that ruling. The court found that previous student-speech cases had not addressed speech *that occurs off campus and not at a school-approved event*, that no circumstances had been identified in which *a public school may regulate students’ online, off-campus speech*, and that the song did not *substantially disrupt the school’s work and discipline*.
- **President Obama** announced last week a package of more than \$1 billion in funding for early childhood programs around the country. The funding is a combination of federal and private revenues, with more than \$330 million coming from the private sector. Eighteen states were awarded \$250 million in grants to create or expand preschool programs, and although California applied, it was not selected. However, organizations in the state did receive some funds to expand Early Head Start programs; \$4.4 million will go to programs in nine rural Northern California counties.

## NEWS (Cont.)

- State Senator **Kevin McCarty** (D-Sacramento) has introduced AB 47 which would expand the state's full-day preschool program for low-income children. It is similar to a bill proposed last year that was rejected due to the cost. Senator McCarty's bill is cheaper, but would provide additional funding for more preschool spots for 4 year olds. Instead of expanding transitional kindergarten that uses certificated K-12 teachers, his plan would expand state preschool which does not. Critics have already said that the bill does leave out a group of students, mostly those who are middle class who do not qualify for transitional kindergarten due to their birth month, but Senator McCarty says that while he prefers universal preschool, "it doesn't seem it's in the cards right now."
- Twenty-four states allow persons other than law enforcement personnel to carry guns on public school campuses. Most require the approval of school officials, school board, superintendent; others only specify if there is no intent to commit a crime; a few require that the gun remain in a private vehicle; and Hawaii and New Hampshire have no specific requirements. The states are Alabama, Arkansas, California (approval of superintendent), Connecticut, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.
- LAUSD has joined with three other California school districts (Desert Sands Unified, La Quinta; Grossmont Union High School District, El Cajon; Ceres Unified, Modesto) requesting that the Legislature separate retirement costs that districts must pay from the rest of the general funding they receive. As the amount that districts must contribute to CalSTRS for their certificated employees increases from 8.25% to 19.1% of the salary by 2020, the encroachment on the general fund is substantial. The coalition of four districts (with more expected to join) is proposing that a separate account for retirement costs be created within Proposition 98, so that it does not have to come out of the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). Their position is that the requirement of districts to fund the increased contributions to CalSTRS (mandated as part of the 2014-15 budget) undermines the goals and objectives of the LCFF.

## AALA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

In May 2014, AALA awarded twenty-five \$2000 scholarships to LAUSD seniors. Below is a letter sent to **Dr. Judith Perez**, AALA President, from one of the recipients, **Opemipo Akerele** (King-Drew Medical Magnet HS; **Michelle Woods**, Principal), who is now attending Stanford University.

*I am writing to thank you and the members of Associated Administrators of Los Angeles (AALA) for your generous \$2000 scholarship. I am very happy and appreciative to be one of the recipients of this award.*

*This is my 10<sup>th</sup> week of college, and I am excited to be here. I plan to major in human biology with a concentration in clinical and social issues of underserved communities; pre-med. I am currently carrying 15 units, and taking advantage of the many opportunities Stanford has to offer. I plan to one day become a neurosurgeon and global humanitarian, serving the underserved and encouraging young women to dream big and pursue their dreams. Thanks to you, I am one step closer to my goals.*

**LETTER (Cont.)**

*You have lightened my financial burden with this award. This award will allow me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. I am motivated by your generosity to help others and give back to the community.*

In this season of giving, we encourage AALA members to donate to our scholarship program so we can continue to support worthy students like **Opemipo**. You may mail your checks made out to Friends of AALA to the AALA Office, 1910 W. Sunset Blvd., Suite 850, Los Angeles 90026. If you would like further information, please contact **Gema Pivaral** at 213.484.2226 or [gpivaral@aala.us](mailto:gpivaral@aala.us).

During the week of January 12, 2015, the AALA Scholarship application will be emailed to school administrators (principals and assistant principals, SCS and ACS) and college counselors at comprehensive, options and adult schools. It will also be posted on the AALA website. The Community Volunteer Award nomination form will also be available online the week of January 12, 2015. All applications with supporting documents are due on **Friday, February 27, 2015**.

**ACADEMIC DECATHLON NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

The Los Angeles Unified School District's 2015 Academic Decathlon will again be a two-day event. AALA members are invited to assist with this outstanding academic competition that has produced many state and national champions. Your help is needed on the following dates: Saturday, January 31, 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., or Saturday, February 7, 2015, 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. or 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (for Super Quiz) at Roybal Learning Center. Essay readers are needed on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., at the Beaudry Building. A volunteer application and additional information are available at [www.acadecala.net](http://www.acadecala.net). For more information, please call or email **Cliff Ker** at 213.241.3503 or [cliff.ker@lausd.net](mailto:cliff.ker@lausd.net).

**SAVE THE DATE**

AALA and **John and Delilah Harris** are sponsoring a fundraiser for **Dr. George J. McKenna** to support his bid for reelection to the LAUSD Board of Education. The event will be held on Wednesday, February 11, 2015, at Taix Restaurant, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Contact **Tresa McCoy** at 310.487.6954 or [tresa.mccoy24@gmail.com](mailto:tresa.mccoy24@gmail.com) for more information or to RSVP.

**UPDATE WILL NOT BE PRINTED FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.  
THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE DATED JANUARY 12, 2015.**

**CALENDAR**

EVENT	DATE	CONTACT
Winter Recess	December 22, 2014 – January 9, 2015	
AALA Office Closed	December 22, 2014 – January 2, 2015	
New Year’s Day	January 1, 2015	
Second Semester Begins	January 12, 2015	
AALA Executive Board Meeting	January 12, 2015 4:30 p.m.	<b>Gema Pivaral</b> , 213.484.2226 or <a href="mailto:gpivaral@aala.us">gpivaral@aala.us</a>
CalSTRS Pre-Retirement Workshop at Hazeltine ES, Auditorium	January 15, 2015 4:00 p.m.	
Dr. Martin Luther King’s Birthday Observed	January 19, 2015	
COBA Meeting at Crenshaw HS Library	January 28, 2015 5:30 p.m.	<b>Josephine Ruffin</b> , 323.296.2040 or <a href="http://www.cobalausd.net">www.cobalausd.net</a>
AAPA Professional Development at Gratts LC	January 28, 2015 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.	<b>Daniel Kim</b> , <a href="mailto:daniel.kim@lausd.net">daniel.kim@lausd.net</a>
CalPERS Benefits Education Event at Desert Princess Palm Springs	January 30 – 31, 2015 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<a href="#">CalPERS Benefits Events</a>
Academic Decathlon at Roybal LC	January 31, 2015 7:30 a.m.	<b>Cliff Ker</b> , 213.241.3503 or <a href="mailto:cliff.ker@lausd.net">cliff.ker@lausd.net</a>

**PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
CREDENTIAL—TIER II**

The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, California State University, Northridge, is pleased to announce the next cohort of its program for the attainment of the Professional Administrative Services Credential (Tier II). This is a one-semester, 6-unit Tier II program.



The cohort will run from January 2015 through May 2015 at a centralized location. Tuition for the entire program will be \$2,489. Please note that this cohort is available to certificated employees of the Los Angeles Unified School District. For registration information, please contact **Cynthia Perez**, at the CSUN ELPS Office at 818.677.2591 or [cynthia.perez@csun.edu](mailto:cynthia.perez@csun.edu).

*The staff of Associated Administrators of Los Angeles wishes all AALA members and their families a joyous holiday season.*

*We are hopeful that you will set aside the professional challenges you face daily and enjoy this special time with your family and friends.*

*Warmest wishes for peace, love and laughter in 2015!*

*Charlotte      Judy      Don*  
*Michelle      Jeri      Lorraine*  
*Steve      Sylvia      Hema      Michelle      Cathy*  
*Allian      David      Daris      Mike*  
*Jane*

## 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://www.lausdjobs.org> (classified) or [http://teachinla.com/admin\\_vacancies/](http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/) (certificated). 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, SCHOOL-BASED**

#### ***PRINCIPAL, SECONDARY***

**Venice High School, ESC West, MST 47G, E Basis.** For more information and application procedures, please contact **Jaime Morales**, Instructional Director, at 310.914.2100 or [jaime.morales@lausd.net](mailto:jaime.morales@lausd.net). Application deadline is 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2015.

#### ***INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST, TSP***

**San Gabriel Elementary School, ESC South, MST 38G, B Basis.** For more information and application procedures, please contact **Ruben Valles**, Instructional Director, at 310.354.3400. Application deadline is 3:00 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2015.

**San Miguel Elementary School, ESC South, MST 38G, B Basis.** For more information and application procedures, please contact **Ruben Valles**, Instructional Director, at 310.354.3400. Application deadline is 3:00 p.m., Monday, January 5, 2015.

#### ***INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST***

**Ritter Elementary School, Partnership LA, MST 37G, B Basis.** For more information and application procedures, please contact **Margery Weller**, Recruiting Manager, at 213.201.2000, ext. 248, or [Margery.Weller@partnershipla.org](mailto:Margery.Weller@partnershipla.org). The application deadline is Friday, January 2, 2015.

**75<sup>th</sup> Street and Woodlawn Avenue Elementary Schools, ESC South, MST 38G, B Basis.** For more information and application procedures, please contact **Anthony Aguilar**, Instructional Director, at 310.354.3400. Application deadline is 3:00 p.m., Monday, January 12, 2015.

### **PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED POSITIONS**

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, SCHOOL &amp; FAMILY SERVICES MST 42G, A Basis</i>	Division of Special Education	<b>Aaron Jeffery</b> , Director, 213.241.6701	<u>EXTENDED</u> 5:00 p.m. Friday December 19, 2014
<i>PRINCIPAL, ELEMENTARY MST 41G, E Basis</i>	Maywood ES, ESC South	<b>Anthony Aguilar</b> , Instructional Director, 310.354.3400	5:00 p.m. Friday December 19, 2014

# Associated Administrators of Los Angeles

CERTIFICATED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>COORDINATOR, SCHOOL &amp; FAMILY SERVICES</i> MST 40G, A Basis	Division of Special Education	<b>Aaron Jeffery</b> , Director, 213.241.6701	<u>EXTENDED</u> 5:00 p.m. Friday December 19, 2014
<i>PRINCIPAL, SMALL SCHOOL</i> MST 42G, E Basis	The Incubator School, ISIC	<b>Rosemarie Martinez</b> , Instructional Director, 213.241.0100 or <a href="mailto:rmart8@lausd.net">rmart8@lausd.net</a>	3:00 p.m. Monday December 22, 2014
<i>PRINCIPAL, OPPORTUNITY HS</i> MST 42G, E Basis	Central HS and Tri-C CDS, ESC East	<a href="http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/">http://teachinla.com/admin_vacancies/</a>	Monday December 22, 2014
<i>INSTRUCTIONAL SPECIALIST, TSP</i> MST 38G, B Basis	Florence Griffith Joyner ES, Partnership LA	<b>Margery Weller</b> , Recruiting Manager, 213.201.2000, ext. 248, or <a href="mailto:Margery.Weller@partnershipla.org">Margery.Weller@partnershipla.org</a>	Monday December 22, 2014 or until filled
CLASSIFIED POSITIONS	LOCATION	CONTACT	DEADLINE
<i>FISCAL OVERSIGHT ADMINISTRATOR</i> \$7,821.40 - \$9,744.86/month, 10- or 11-month position	Charter Schools Division	Click <a href="#">HERE</a>	Monday December 22, 2014
<i>TREASURY MANAGER</i> \$6,927 - \$8,599/month, 10- or 11-month position	Accounting and Disbursements Division	Click <a href="#">HERE</a>	Monday December 22, 2014
<i>PRINCIPAL AUDITOR</i> \$38.09 - \$47.47/hour, A Basis	Office of the Inspector General	Click <a href="#">HERE</a>	<u>EXTENDED</u> Monday January 5, 2015
<i>DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES</i> \$100,300 - \$124,200, A Basis	Maintenance & Operations Branch, Facilities Services Division	Click <a href="#">HERE</a>	Tuesday January 6, 2015
<i>DESIGN AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION COORDINATOR</i> \$89,000 - \$110,200, A Basis	Facilities Services Division	Click <a href="#">HERE</a>	Friday January 9, 2015