

# The Burbank Bugle



**September 4, 2025 – Issue #18** 

### A Farewell to Mrs. Moore

By Siani Avila and Alyce Amador

Mrs. Moore, our principal, is leaving our school a transformed

place. Over the past summer she was promoted to Regional Director for the Highland Park and



Eagle Rock area. For the past 15 years, she has had a massive effect on our school in many ways.

While Mrs. Moore was working here, she was an amazing leader, and she always inspired people to do their best. Some teachers have shared some of their thoughts about Mrs. Moore's impact. Mr. Downs said, "Mrs. Moore was an amazing leader. It is rare to find someone who leads by example, inspires others to do their best, and gives people freedom to work with their individual strengths." Mr. Downs listed some of her accomplishments, including "creating a community school, a wall-to-wall magnet, raising academic success, creating a loving and caring environment and being a School to Watch." Mr. Feinberg said, "Mrs. Moore is a visionary leader who has taken our school from good to great."

Not only did teachers share their thoughts, but some students did too. Hazel from eighth grade mentioned, "The new position is definitely good for her, and she deserves the promotion." Another eighth grader, Emily said, "I am very happy for Ms. Moore and I hope to see her continue what she did here at Burbank!"

So, what is next for Mrs. Moore? Ms. Gastelum, our assistant principal said, "The next big step for Mrs. Moore is becoming the Director for our area of Highland Park and Eagle Rock. That is essentially the principal of the principals!" You will probably still see her around since she will help support our new principal.

Mrs. Moore has left Burbank a transformed place. She made our

school have many more opportunities and made it a welcoming community.



"The Pride of Highland Park"

### New Principal Selection Process Begins

By Emily Clinton and Eleanor Cortes
Over the summer, Mrs. Moore, our

past principal, got promoted to a new job. Now, we need a new principal. How will our new principal be chosen?



Applications

for the new principal job opened in early August. Anyone with the right qualifications could apply. Next, a committee will be formed to interview the candidates. Interviews for the position will take place around mid-September. We may have a new principal as soon as three weeks after the interviews take place.

Students have mixed feelings about having a new principal. Eighth grader, Adan said, "It is good for Mrs. Moore, but it will be weird to have a new principal." Students are also wondering how the rules will change with the new principal.

The principal oversees the school and leads the teachers and staff. The choice will be important and have a big impact on our future at LBMS.

#### SBA Scores Show Growth

By Violet Leyva and James Lambe

Every spring, students take a state standardized test called the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA). The test is used by schools and districts to monitor student performance.

Ryan Lopez, an eighth grade WEB leader said, "It's a hard part of the year, but we need to get over it". Adam Cornejo added, "It all depends on the student. For me, it can be easy, but I can get how people struggle."

In the 2024-25 school year, math scores at Burbank rose by 9% over the prior year, and 41% of students met or exceeded standards in math. This was a huge growth from the prior year. In English, scores rose by 3%. Specifically, 45% of students met or exceeded standards. Ryan said, "[These scores] could improve, we need to work harder in class and on homework."

State standardized testing has been used for several decades, and there are no plans to end them. The results are used to determine how to fund and improve American students' education.

Mr. Feinberg's Advisory – Y22

## **Burbank Becomes a Community School**

By Leonel Duong and Nicole Guzman

This year Burbank Middle School has become a community school. A community school is a school that offers services for free such as dentist appointments, hearing examinations, or eye exams. It also helps students

overall
well-being,
any
resources
they might
need, and
helps
parents

with their



with immigration support.

To become a Community School, last year our former principal, Mrs. Moore, put in an application. Ms. Gaby, from the parent center, and



Ms. Wohl helped complete the application. It was accepted at the end of last year. We

are now the 73rd Community School in LAUSD. Ms. Wohl has become our Community School Coordinator

Eighth graders Julie and Daniel said, "I feel there's been no change, same school just different teachers; it feels pretty similar to a regular school." That is because this year, the Community Schools coordinator will lead focus groups, interviews, and more to see what we need. Services will not start for about a year.

Other students, like Mia and Eliza want to know, "What are community schools? Isn't every school a community school?" While every school serves the community, not every school is a community school with extra resources. There are still many schools in LAUSD who have not been given these resources. Hopefully these resources will help our school become a place that serves the community beyond the school walls.



### What did LBMS Bears do for Summer Break?

By Zai'lee Matthews and Kimberly Puac

Members of the Burbank Community did lots of fun things this summer. Some students did nothing, some went on trips, and others participated in enrichment programs.

Eighth grader Isaiah Velez said, "I went to Glassell Park to play basketball with friends." Another



eighth grader, Juliana Badua, went to a "backyard concert." She finished WEB

training, and she celebrated her birthday as well. Daniel Arevalo went to his first ever concert and hung out with friends.

Teachers did some amazing things too. Sixth grade English teacher, Ms. Bilovsky, went



on safari in Tanzania, Africa. "It was an amazing experience, and I saw so many wonderful animals." She saw



animals like elephants and cheetahs! She said, "The people of Tanzania are wonderful."

However, there was one downside. "It was an extremely long plane ride."

Mrs. Lee, sixth grade science and math teacher, visited Seattle, Alaska, Ensenada, and Las Vegas.

Mr. Miller, sixth grade history and science teacher, loved by all, "I spent time with my family here in the US and in Mexico. With my wife, I flew

to Mexico to hang out for twelve days with all my wife's family."



### Word Scramble

Can you unscramble these words from this edition of the Burbank Bugle?

OMIUTMYNC OCSOHL	-
NWE RPNLIICPA	
ATZNIANA	
OEBNYD HTE LLEB	
MR I NIDORGIEG	
MR LNDORCIES	
AIGDHHNL PKRA	

### LBMS Brings on New Teachers

By August Nunez and Danery Parada

This year, there are seven new teachers at Luther Burbank Middle School. They teach a variety of different subjects and grades. They all decided to teach at LBMS because they want to be role models for kids, educate, and to inspire the next generation.

Ms. Angel, our new LBMS 7th grade science teacher, said, "I love watching students learn and

understand. It makes me feel happy when students try their best, and



try to work and learn, and reach their goals. I feel very welcome in this new community at LBMS."

A new 7th grade English teacher, Mr. Colindres, said "I feel very welcome at Luther Burbank, and everyone here is great. I wanted to



teach here because I thought it would be a great opportunity to be

in this new community, to teach and make kids learn."

Some eighth graders had some advice for the new teachers at LBMS. An eighth grader, Mia Saldana said, "Put up with the students, and some of the students are going to mess around." Another eighth grader, Eliza Valdez, said "Always do fun things with your students." The last eighth grader, Sophia Bernal, said "Most of the students are nice, but also some of the kids talk a lot."

### ICE Raids Impact Community

By Pavel Marrull and Jimmy Martinez

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also known as ICE, has been conducting immigration raids across the country this summer.



During these raids, they arrest people who they suspect of being

undocumented and detain them, sometimes even sending them to other countries.

In the Highland Park community, ICE has created a lot of fear. Some people do not even go outside for fear of being detained. Others have family members or neighbors that are undocumented, and they fear for their friends. One LBMS 8th grader commented about ICE saying, "Innocent people are getting hurt."

Ms. Wohl, the LBMS Community School Coordinator, said, "The Highland Park community is strong,

and people have come together to protect and support



each other during this crisis."

It is important to know that ICE cannot enter LAUSD schools. One teacher said, "Schools might be the best place to be."

If you encounter ICE officers off campus, it is important for everyone to know their rights. Talk to a trusted adult about your plan of action.

### **Beyond the Bell Supports Students through Sports**

By Sophia Tong, Angelique Moreno and Natalie Rios

Beyond the Bell is the afterschool program at Luther Burbank Middle School. They offer a variety of programs including sports. This year they will be offering flag football, futsal, soccer, volleyball, and basketball.

School sports are important to improve fitness and give students practice for high school. Eighth grader, Cinzia Moore, said, "I think

after school sports are fun and include everyone." Isaiah

Velez said he plays basketball because it helps him exercise.

Michael Proa, another eighth grader, added that Beyond the Bell "helps



develop teamwork" and he "gets to know people that are very passionate and find good teammates and make new friends to play with." He likes that he can go to his practices after school

and play games with his teammates. He says, "It helps straighten up your anxiety and helps making new friends and teams."