



LONG BEACH COLLEGE PROMISE: PROGRESS REPORT › MARCH 2010



EXTENDING THE PROMISE
OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO THE
GREATER LONG BEACH COMMUNITY



FROM SEAMLESS EDUCATION TO THE LONG BEACH COLLEGE PROMISE

Two years ago, we signed the Long Beach College Promise and committed our institutions to providing local students the opportunity to pursue – and succeed in – higher education.

Building on the more than 15 years of collaboration through the Seamless Education Partnership and the especially close ties between the school district and CSULB's School of Education, we embarked on the next phase of the partnership by signing the Long Beach College Promise which commits all three institutions to help students successfully reach their higher education goals beginning in elementary school.

THE LONG BEACH COLLEGE PROMISE SEEKS TO:

- Increase the percentage of **LBUSD** students who are prepared for and attend college directly from high school;
- Increase the percentage of **LBCC** students who earn degrees and/or career and technical certificates;
- Increase the percentage of **LBCC** students who successfully transfer to CSULB or another four-year college or university; and
- Increase the percentage of **CSULB** students who graduate with a bachelor's degree and/or advanced degrees.

While it is too early to measure the ultimate success of the Long Beach College Promise completely, the three institutions are committed to providing regular progress reports to the community.

This Progress Report presents initial measurements of leading indicators of success. The results are promising and show that the Long Beach College Promise is on track to help more students successfully complete higher education. Future reports will demonstrate how the initiatives undertaken in support of the Long Beach College Promise have helped increase and accelerate the achievement of our students.

These efforts, however, are threatened by the massive reductions in state funding for all three institutions. It will be difficult to sustain these efforts in the face of the tremendous cutbacks in staff anticipated at LBUSD and the reduction in access occurring at LBCC and CSULB as a result of the state's ongoing, multi-billion-dollar cuts to public education.

While California's fiscal crisis will make further implementation of the Long Beach College Promise difficult – and may even slow the pace of improvement – the three institutions remain determined and committed to providing greater educational opportunities for students.

Chris Steinhauser
LBUSD Superintendent

Eloy Ortiz Oakley
LBCC Superintendent-President

F. King Alexander
CSULB President

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

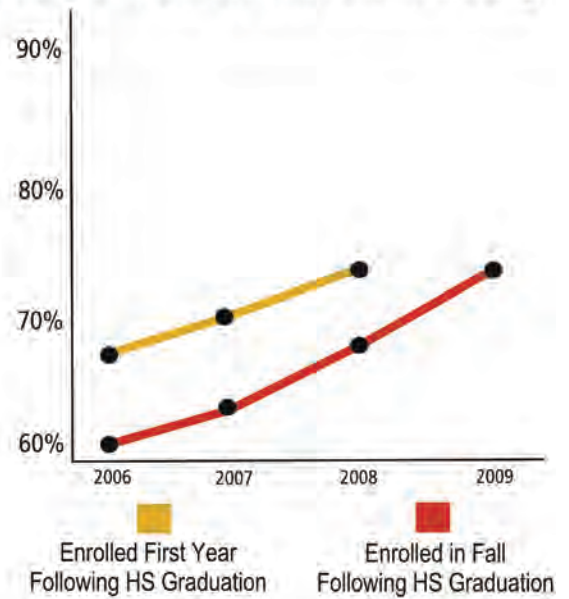
MORE LBUSD GRADUATES ARE PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION:

The percentage of LBUSD graduates who enrolled in college after graduation has increased over the past four years and is above the state average in both areas. Half of the graduates pursuing higher education attend LBCC or CSULB.

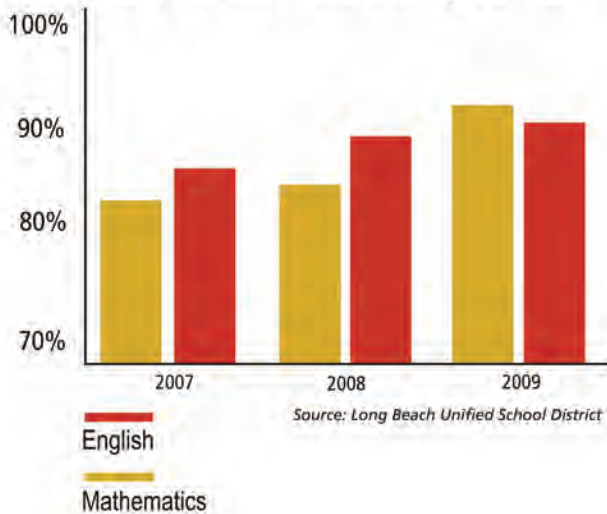
LBUSD INCREASING COLLEGE READINESS:

LBUSD has increased the number of students tested on the Early Assessment Program (EAP) in both English and math. The EAP is administered by the CSU Chancellor's Office to assess college preparedness at the end of the junior year. The percentage of students exempt from remediation at the college level has remained stable while the number of students taking the English and math EAP has increased over the past four years.

Percent of LBUSD Graduates Enrolled in College



Percent of LBUSD Juniors Taking EAP Test



LBCC STUDENTS FROM LBUSD HAVE STRONGER MATH SKILLS THAN OTHER INCOMING STUDENTS:

First-time LBCC freshmen from LBUSD are assessed into collegiate education in mathematics at a higher rate than students originating from all other high schools. Preliminary data show that on average 21% of LBUSD students perform at a collegiate level in math compared to 11% of students from other high schools.

LBCC STUDENTS FROM LBUSD ARE MORE LIKELY TO PERSIST: Preliminary data show that LBUSD students are twice as likely to persist from their first fall term of enrollment to the following fall. On average, 67% of LBUSD students persist from fall to fall compared to 34% of their counterparts entering LBCC from other high schools.

CSULB'S COMMITMENT TO THE COLLEGE PROMISE OFFERS LBUSD AND LBCC ADMISSION WITH CSU MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

This incentive has resulted in an acceptance rate of more than 80% for LBUSD applicants compared with 30% for students from other high schools for the fall 2009 cohort. Similarly, LBCC transfer students applying to non-impacted degree programs had an acceptance rate of more than 54%, which was more than twice that of transfer applicants from other institutions in fall 2009.

CSULB STUDENTS FROM LBUSD AND LBCC ARE MORE LIKELY TO PERSIST:

Freshmen originating from LBUSD that entered CSULB in fall 2007 & 2008 have persisted at a 5.0% and 1.2% higher rate respectively than freshmen enrolling from other high schools after one year. Similarly, juniors transferring to CSULB from LBCC in the same terms have retained at a 3.0% and 2.2% higher rate respectively after one year.

FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATORS FROM ALL THREE INSTITUTIONS ARE ENGAGED IN THESE INITIATIVES TO INCREASE AND ACCELERATE OUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS:

PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE SUCCESS

Faculty from all three institutions are working to align requirements for college level work and to create additional opportunities for students to enter college prepared to succeed. LBCC has become a statewide leader among California community colleges in using the EAP results.

COUNSELING INITIATIVE

Counselors from all three institutions are collaborating to help students and parents successfully navigate the college admissions and financial aid processes beginning in fourth grade and continuing through middle and high school and into college.

EXPANDING PATHWAYS

LBUSD is creating career pathways from its rigorous small learning communities to programs at LBCC and CSULB which lead students to high-wage and high-demand jobs.

POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS

LBCC is implementing its Student Success Initiative – a college-wide effort that systematically integrates instructional and support services into key gateway courses – to help students achieve college readiness and succeed in college-level courses. Preliminary data already demonstrate improvements in both course success and retention rates.

CSULB is implementing an array of student success initiatives including strengthened academic advising programs, learning communities, undergraduate research opportunities with faculty, and targeted support services for first-generation and underrepresented students.

ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT

The Long Beach City College Foundation has raised more than \$6.5 million to provide a scholarship for the enrollment fees of every local high school graduate who enrolls directly to LBCC after graduation, beginning in 2011.

We sincerely thank the Boeing Company for their support of this publication and the Long Beach College Promise.

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Pictured on March 20, 2008 left to right signing the Long Beach College Promise in front of the CSULB Pyramid: F. King Alexander, President, California State University, Long Beach; Eloy Ortiz Oakley, President, Long Beach City College; Chris Steinhauser, Superintendent, Long Beach Unified School District