



Volume 5, Issue 9

<http://eastlaservicearea.org/>

East Los Angeles Skills Center WEEKLY BULLETIN

October 17, 2016

Submit items including pictures for the Weekly Bulletin to Jose Rico, APO jrico6@lausd.net

CALENDAR

CASAS TESTING

CASAS Post-Test make-ups will continue this week. Congratulations to all ESL teachers for having a 100% EL Civics completion.

ESL Promotion Test

Thursday, October 20th.
Please see Ms. Bedon or Ms. Arredondo for more information.

Community Health Fair

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. at East Los Angeles Skills Center.

Free Health Screening, Workshops, and Manicuring.

Please note that parking spaces will be limited

HiSET TESTING

Tuesday & Wednesday October 18-19, 2016 at Eastside Learning Center.

See your counselor for more information.

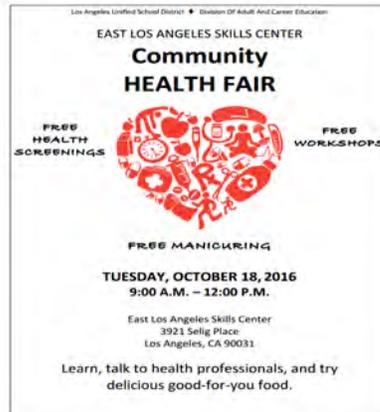
CASAS Student Survey

Scheduled for the week of October, 24, 2016.

Notes from

Ms. Rodriguez

Please check your mailboxes on a daily basis and thank you for your work to improve students learning.



All LAUSD schools will participate in the annual ShakeOut this week in conjunction with the State-wide earthquake drill, *The Great California ShakeOut*. We have scheduled the ShakeOut for the following days, times, and locations:

- Eastside Learning Center on Thursday, October 20th at 9:45 am for the morning program and at 8:15 pm for the evening program.
- The Skills Center on Friday, October 21st at 9:45 am

In the News In the News In the News

This is a reminder to all teachers that according to the UTLA contract Article IX Section 3.3 "Adult education employees shall be at their assigned duty station at least ten (10) minutes before the first daily class and ten (10) minutes after the last class".

Donate Blood to Save Lives— Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1st at the Skills Center from 9:00 am—3:00 pm. Teachers please encourage your students to go to the main office to sign-up to donate blood.

MESSAGE FROM THE SIS STAFF:

Teachers **DO NOT** allow any new students in your classroom without the proper registration documents.

ELASC WEBSITE

<http://eastlaservicearea.org>

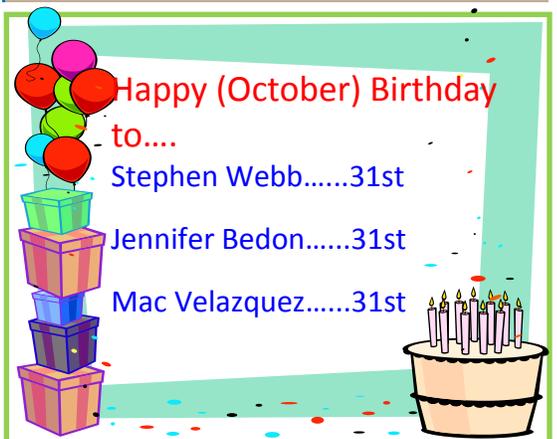
Need information about our programs, classes, testing dates, vacations, school bulletins, and more? Need a course outline, want to check out the Staff Handbook? Our school website is your information resource! If you have suggestions or questions, contact Luis Trejo, our website designer extraordinaire at ltrejo@lausd.net

ASSIGNED HOURS

Adult education teachers are paid at an hourly rate and are expected to hold class for the entire time assigned. To comply with state law and district policy, classes must meet for the full time scheduled. Do not change the time or day of the class or dismiss classes early without getting prior authorization from an administrator. Adhere to the scheduled break time.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Each October recognizes the societal and workforce contributions of people with disabilities. Congress designated in 1945 the first "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week"; the word "physically" was removed in 1962 to allow for the inclusion of all Americans with disabilities. In 1988, the week was extended to a month and changed its name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month". The Disability Support Services (DSS) office will be offering handouts throughout the month of October, so teachers please look out for this information in your mailbox.



Student Corner

ELASC WEBSITE

<http://eastlaservicearea.org>

Need information about our programs, classes, locations, fees, and more? Our school website is your information resource!

FOOD SERVICES

Did you know we have both catering truck and/or vending machines at two of our main campuses? Satisfy your hunger and visit...

- ◆ **SAM'S GOURMET CATERING TRUCK**
ELA Skills Center, Monday-Friday, 7:15-8:00 a.m. for breakfast, 10:00-10:15 a.m. for break, and 12:15-1:00 p.m. for lunch
- ◆ **EASTSIDE LEARNING CENTER**
We are trying to find a new company that could provide coffee and food vending machines and better service.

STUDENT PHOTO ID CARD

Student IDs are \$10.00 and are available in the bookstore at each main campus. All students should plan to get a school ID for safety purposes.

ESL TEXTBOOKS

ESL students may purchase their assigned textbooks in the bookstore at any of our main campuses. Ventures textbooks cost \$31.50 for both the text and workbook. Learn English faster and practice at home with your own textbook.

STUDENT BUS PASS

Students who attend 12 or more hours of class per week are eligible for a student bus pass. If you qualify, please speak to your teacher or a counselor to learn how to apply.

VISITORS POLICY

All visitors must go through the main office first to sign-in and get a Visitor's pass. Teachers do not admit any visitors to your classroom without a Visitor's pass. Also, children are not allowed to accompany parents in classrooms. This is due to liability reasons.

(FINAL REMINDER)

FREE FLU SHOTS Thursday, October 20, 2016 from 8:30 am—12:00 pm at the Arroyo Vista Family Health Center in Highland Park. No appointment Necessary and there is a limited supply. Call Ms. Holguin (323) 987-2007.

The Grammy Museum mission is to help students use music as a gateway to learning and as a way to inspire and cultivate creativity and critical thinking. The museum has designated the month of **October** to Connect Music, Politics, and Social Change and has scheduled the following event:



GRAMMY MUSEUM
AT L.A. LIVE

Woody Guthrie: Narrating a Nation of Turmoil

Tuesday, October 18, 2016

For more information visit the Museum's web-site @ www.grammymuseum.org/education



The month of October has been designated College Awareness Month by Dr. Frances Gibson, Chief Academic Officer.

Teachers and staff show your college spirit by wearing your favorite college gear on Friday, October 21 & 28, 2016.

Professional Growth Opportunities

Teaching Critical Thinking online Series

- Session 1: *Critical Thinking and Metacognition* on Tuesday, October 25, 2016 - 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Helps teachers move students beyond simple knowledge to greater understanding of what you are teaching. It will demonstrate methods for teaching critical thinking skills and for planning instructional activities that encourage and require students to think critically.

- Session 2: *Problem Solving and Decision Making* on Wednesday, October 26, 2016— 4:00 to 5:30 pm.

Presents the basic steps to problem solving and decision-making. You will explore strategies for helping students apply critical thinking to their lives both in and out of the classroom.



District Policy You Should Know

"District-Wide 2016 Earthquake Exercise "

The annual ShakeOut earthquake exercise is to be conducted under the direction of the school site administrator on Thursday, October 20, 2016, in conjunction with the State-wide earthquake drill, The Great California ShakeOut. All LAUSD schools will practice their response to a large earthquake. The exercise provides an opportunity to simulate a full disaster response and to evaluate and test the site's emergency procedures plan. For more information see Bulletin REF-5216.8.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Transformational leaders don't start by denying the world around them. Instead, they describe a future they'd like to create instead."
Seth Godin



From: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bdesham/3259862687/>



The article below was published in the Tech & Learning E-Newsletter, a FREE E-Newsletter which I had previously encouraged all of you to subscribe to it, and excerpted from "Four Dimensional Education" by Charles Fadel, Bernie Trilling and Maya Bialik. To subscribe to the E-Newsletter please log-in at www.techlearning.com.

The Role of Metacognition in Learning and Achievement

Metacognition, simply put, is the process of thinking about thinking. It is important in every aspect of school and life, since it involves self-reflection on one's current position, future goals, potential actions and strategies, and results. It is a basic survival strategy.

Perhaps the most important reason for developing metacognition is that it can improve the application of knowledge, skills, and character qualities in realms beyond the immediate context in which they were learned. This can result in the transfer of competencies across disciplines-important for students preparing for real-life situations where clear-cut division of discipline fall away and one must select competencies from the entire gamut of their experience to effectively apply them to the challenges at hand. Even within academic settings, it is valuable-and often necessary-to apply principals and methods across disciplinary lines.

Transfer can also be necessary within a discipline, such as when a particular idea or skill was learned with one example, but students must know how to apply it to another task to complete their homework or exams, or to a different context. Transfer is the ultimate goal of all education, as students are expected to internalize what they learn in school and apply it to life.

To illustrate the value of metacognition and how it actually plays a role in learning, we can consider an example from mathematics, where it has been shown that metacognition plays a central role in learning and achievement. Specifically, when novice students were compared to seasoned mathematician, the students selected a seemingly useful strategy and continued to apply it without checking to see if the strategy of choice was actually working well. Thus, more experienced mathematicians on the other hand, exercised metacognition, monitoring their approach all along the way to see if it was actually leading to a solution or merely to a dead end. Being aware of how one is engaging with the process of learning influences how the student interprets the task at hand, and what strategies are selected and employed in service of achieving learning goals. It can help optimize the problem-solving experience at a very high level, and is thus applicable across a large range of contexts. These metacognitive strategies are powerful tools for any discipline, inter-discipline or for learning in general.

Metacognition can be developed in students in the context of their current goals and can enhance their learning of competencies as well as transfer of learning, no matter their starting achievement level. In fact, it may be most useful for lower-achieving students, as the higher-achieving students are already employing strategies that have proven successful for them. For learning disabled and low – achieving students, metacognitive training has been shown to improve behavior more effectively than traditional attention-control training.

Students who have higher levels of self-efficacy (more confidence in their ability to achieve their goals) are more likely to engage in metacognition and, in turn, are more likely to perform at higher levels. This strongly indicates a positive feedback loop for high-achieving students—they are more successful by using metacognitive strategies, which increases their confidence and in turn leads them to continue to increase their performance. Metacognition is an integral part of this virtuous learning cycle, and one that is amenable to further improvement through instruction.