

# Los Angeles Academy Middle School

“In Pursuit of Excellence”

## Newsletter

Maria A. Borges, Principal



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Web Site: <http://www.laamschampions.org>

February 2009

### **8B**Being Extraordinary

Every month, students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade on B-Track have a little extra incentive to get good grades. Any 8B student has the chance to participate in a variety of activities, just for having a B-average or better in their classes.

Any 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Track B student who keeps a B Average on each Progress Report can participate in the activities. From watching a movie to playing Rock Band to having a water balloon fight with their teachers, 8B has celebrated those students who work hard and focus on school.

In their most recent celebration, 8B students and teachers had a congratulatory cake and a song. Students took turns playing Rock Band, with cameos by Ms. Pier (vocals) and Ms. Naponelli (guitar). There were beginners and experts, rock stars and rock fans, but everyone enjoyed a little music to kick back and relax to—while laughing along the way.

Another celebration is being planned for those who had a B average on their Semester One Report Card. We look forward to another fun and rewarding activity with the 8B students

Being extraordinary is possible for everyone. Work hard, stay focused, ask for help, and do your best, and nothing will stop you from achieving your goals.



8B Students Enjoy playing Rock Band after school as part of the “8B Being Extraordinary” Program.

### **A Day at the Opera**

On Wednesday, Dec 10, several teachers took 80 LAAMS students to the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion to see a performance of the opera, “Carmen”. The trip was provided by the LA Opera, and included workshops ahead of time so that the students who attended were aware of what they had to look forward to. The students were recommended by their teachers. According to the teachers who attended, our students were very well behaved and appreciative of the opportunity to see live theater. The students had nothing but good things to say about the trip, and all expressed an interest in a return trip.

### **School Vision**

Los Angeles Academy Middle School will be a model school where all students become life-long learners, critical thinkers, and responsible contributors to the global community.

### **School Mission**

We, the Los Angeles Academy Middle School community, provide all students with a positive learning environment in which they are inspired to succeed academically and socially.

### **New Bus Drop-Off Area**

In an effort to create a more safe environment and relieve traffic congestion, we have changed the drop-off area for buses from the front of the school on 56<sup>th</sup> Street, to Avalon Blvd. Having buses park at the front of the school creates many traffic problems on 56<sup>th</sup> Street. Before making this change we consulted with the city of Los Angeles to get their assistance and direction. The city has now installed “Tow Away No Parking” signs on Avalon, and School Police have begun to write citations. From now on, parents must drop off and pick up their students at the front of the school on 56<sup>th</sup> Street, where there is less traffic, and no buses to get around. Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to make our school safer for all.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- |            |                                |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| Feb. 16    | Presidents’ Day. No School     |
| Feb. 18-20 | Black History Program.         |
| Feb. 19    | Student-Led Conferences        |
|            | Shortened Day; 2:12 Dismissal. |
| Feb. 27    | Last Day for Track B           |
|            | Minimum Day; 12:40             |
|            | Dismissal.                     |
| Mar. 3     | Track A Students Return.       |

### **Administrative Staff:**

**Principal:** Maria A. Borges

### **Assistant Principals:**

Al Lewis  
Ernesto Guerrero  
Jaime Gomez  
LaTonya Dover  
Claudia Lara