

# School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Long Beach Unified School District...and more!



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## City of Long Beach, City Auditor



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### The Secret to a Meaningful Life

What is the secret to a meaningful life, where you feel engaged and connected to a purpose? I, like many others, have found meaning and joy through service. As Ruth Bader Ginsburg wisely said, "If you want to be a true professional, you will do something outside yourself, something to repair tears in your community, something to make life a little better for people less fortunate than

you. That's what I think a meaningful life is – living not for oneself, but for one's community."

At the end of last year, I joined fellow community leaders and members in putting this principle into action during Mayor Richardson's Inauguration Day of Service. The day of community service was a great opportunity to connect and engage with so many wonderful Long Beach organizations and residents across our wonderful City.

The day kicked off with North Long Beach neighborhood groups planting trees. We then headed to our beautiful coastline for a beach cleanup which is held monthly at Granada Beach with the Community Action Team. The Community Action Team also accepted canned goods for Long Beach State University's Associated Students, Inc. Beach Pantry which provides food items for students in need. From there we headed to Willows Spring Park in

central Long Beach where we picked up trash, cleaned up weeds, and planted some more trees. Then it was off to the Long Beach Rescue Mission collecting donated holiday toys for children. The day concluded with the Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance collecting pet food and blankets for ASPCA.

This day was a great reminder of the many meaningful community service opportunities throughout the year. There are a variety of ways to align passions, interests, skills, time, and items to make a positive impact. For example, you can help individuals experiencing homelessness by serving hot meals with local organizations such as Christian Outreach in Action, Catholic Charities, and Beacon Light Mission or by donating needed items such as hygiene kits to the Multi-Service Center. You can join the Animal Care volunteer team to walk and read to pets at our shelter. You can also volunteer at our El Dorado Nature Center, support literacy programs at our libraries, or assist in safety patrols through the Senior Police Partners. For what Ruth Bader Ginsburg said is true, nothing makes community better than making it stronger for all. Find out more on ways to give back and make our Long Beach community strong at [www.longbeach.gov/jobs/volunteer](http://www.longbeach.gov/jobs/volunteer).

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