

# LOS ANGELES SCHOOL POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Welcome to the New Year, 2017



Special Edition Newsletter

January 2017

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## Administrator Spotlight

**Eric Davidson – Principal, University High School**

by Officer J.B. Williams

Having what he refers to as a collaborative relationship with Resident Police Officer Vincent Bolden and other members of the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD), University High School Principal Eric Davidson says is what keeps his school community safe. Born in Nebraska and raised in Missouri by a family of educators, Mr. Davidson is himself a product of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) having graduated from Westchester High School.

Aside from family influences, Mr. Davidson was inspired by Dr. Joann Fisher to become an educator while attending Loyola Marymount University (LMU). Eventually earning a Master's Degree in Education from LMU, he rose through the ranks teaching, counseling and then becoming principal of LAUSD's historic and esteemed "Uni." He credits his career achievements to strong family and peer support, an outstanding team of teachers, coaches, administrators and support staff. His students are what inspires him.

Mr. Davidson is most appreciative of his close working relationship with the LASPD; citing collaboration and resolving issues before they get worse or become criminal matters. Davidson states, "LASPD officers establish professional and mentoring relationships with our students which influence the culture and climate of the school. My

students are less likely to achieve if they don't have an environment that is 100% safe. The LASPD definitely impacts the safety and security of our school."

Officer Bolden and Mr. Davidson can be seen regularly throughout the sprawling campus contacting students and assisting other staff members; together keeping the school safe. Often crossing paths, Officer Bolden says "Mr. Davidson is everywhere! He puts in his miles walking the campus. It doesn't matter where or when a situation arises, Davidson pops up and is right there in the middle of it. And, when a situation is a criminal matter, we discuss it. He trusts I am making the right call..... That I appreciate."



Officer V. Bolden, Sergeant T. Perkins, and Principal Eric Davidson  
Photo Credit: Officer J.B. Williams

# Walk To School Day



Lt. A. Piszewicz, Sergeant P. Lynch, and students from Charles White Elementary School.  
Photo Credit: Ms. Irene Worell, Principal



Sergeant J. Epps, Principal Ms. Olivia Flores-Torres, and students from Panorama City Elementary School.  
Photo Credit: Sergeant G. Sandoval



Vista Middle School students, with Principal Mr. Giuseppe Nardulli.  
Photo Credit: Sergeant G. Sandoval

## Walk to School Day

by Lieutenant A. Piszewicz

On October 5, 2016, the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD) in conjunction with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) participated in the "Walk to School Day" event throughout the Los Angeles Unified School District. "Walk to School Day" is an annual national event that occurs at thousands of schools throughout the country. Students, parents, school administrators, staff, volunteers, and community members walk as a community to school. "Walk to School Day" is an energizing event. It reminds adults and students alike of the simple joy of walking to school. For many communities, the event leads to more walking all year long. It also builds support for creating or improving safer walking routes to school.

Over 177 District schools participated in this year's 20th annual event. The "Walk to School Day" was a fantastic opportunity to help encourage children to walk to school leading to healthy habits and improved safety around school campuses. Each school planned, recruited participants, and organized their walk to school. This year's events came in all shapes and sizes. Some were big, others small. The key was to find the right fit for the community.

LASPD personnel participated throughout all Campus Services Bureau Divisions. Our focus was to support those schools listed on the Vision Zero Los Angeles Top 50 schools experiencing vehicle versus pedestrian and bicyclist accidents. Vision Zero Los Angeles is our city's commitment to eliminate all traffic deaths by 2025. As directed by Mayor Garcetti, this citywide effort brings together transportation engineers, police officers, advocates, and policymakers to work together towards creating safer streets. The focus is to protect our most vulnerable road users, including children, older adults, and people walking and bicycling.

The "Walk to School Day" event was a resounding success! By establishing lasting partnerships with school communities, our LASPD officers promoted safety and community outreach at an unprecedented level. Each year, the event will grow to include additional students, school administrators, staff, parents, and other community members to improve vehicle, pedestrian, and bicyclist safety around our school campuses.



Officer J. Howard, School Safety Officer P. Bustios, students of Patrick Henry Middle School alongside Principal Sandra Cruz and Assistant Principal Lucinda Burton.  
Photo credit: Sergeant G. Sandoval

# Our Community



## Season of Giving at LASPD



*Ninth Street Elementary School family, Detective M. Portillo, and Principal Mr. Antonio Camacho  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*

In anticipation of the holiday season, the Los Angeles School Police Department (LASPD) held its annual toy and teddy bear drives to assist families in Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and children at the LAC+USC Pediatric Medical Center. LASPD officers recognize how difficult it may be for many parents to provide the basic necessities for their families.



*LASPD Officers alongside Officers from Bell P.D., Corona P.D., El Monte P.D., and Vernon P.D.  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*

As the holiday preparations began, the spirit of giving for LASPD officers took full effect. LASPD officers interact with students within LAUSD and develop lasting relationships that extend beyond the school day. This is what drives them to collaborate with other agencies and partners with the same vision; providing gifts to those who would normally go without. LAUSD Transportation Services Division, LASPD Officers, and staff delivered toys to children in the community.

Special thanks to the following Law Enforcement Agencies for their support and contribution to the 2016 Teddy Bear Drive. The partnership and collaboration from our brothers and sisters is heartfelt and appreciated:

- Alhambra Police Department
- El Monte Police Department
- Upland Police Department
- Bell Police Department
- Bell Gardens Police Department
- Los Angeles Airport Police Department
- Los Angeles Port Police Department
- Los Angeles Sheriffs Department
- Vernon Police Department
- Corona Police Department
- Metropolitan State Police Department



*Chief S. Zipperman, Lt. A. Pisarzewicz, Officer J. Caruso, Officer R. Hernandez, and Ninth Street Elementary School family  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*



*Officer J. Ramos, Officer L. Lara and Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*



*Lt. A. Pisarzewicz, Sergeant J. Spry, Officer J. White and kids from the community  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*



*LASPD Officers visiting baby Richard at LAC+USC Pediatrics Ward.  
Photo Credit: LASPD Social Media Team*

## New Year - New Laws



*Child Safety Restraint - California Laws - Effective January 1, 2017*

Children under 2 years old must be in a rear facing car seat unless they weigh 40 pounds or more, or are 40 inches tall or more.

Children under age 8 must be buckled into a car seat or booster in the back seat.

Children age 8 or older, or who are 4'9" or taller, may use vehicle seat belt if it fits properly with the lap belt low on the hips, touching the upper thighs, and shoulder belt crossing the center of the chest.

For more information, visit California Department of Public Health [www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov), California Highway Patrol [www.chp.ca.gov](http://www.chp.ca.gov) and California Office of Traffic Safety [www.ots.ca.gov](http://www.ots.ca.gov).

## LAUSD 2017-2018 School Calendar



Los Angeles Unified School District, Board of Education approved the single track calendar for the 2017 – 2018 school year. Click link to view [calendar](#) or visit [www.achieve.lausd.net/domain/36](http://www.achieve.lausd.net/domain/36) The school year will run from August 15, 2017 to June 7, 2018.

## Renewed Focus

The Los Angeles School Police Department will continue to focus on our community engagement, police services, and the Department's adopted Strategic Goals:

- Goal 1: Increase School Safety and Student Positive Intervention Programs
- Goal 2: Increase Service Delivery Satisfaction
- Goal 3: Increase Staff Performance and Professional Development
- Goal 4: Increase District Asset Protection
- Goal 5: Increase External Stakeholder Relationships