

# BLUEPRINT



VOLUME 4 / Summer 2009 / laschools.org

green schools & sustainability

## The Future is Bright for Solar Power at LAUSD



Students at El Dorado Avenue Elementary School got a lesson in how solar panels will convert energy from the sun to power their school.

With a goal of 50 MW (megawatt) installed and online by the close of the 2012 fiscal year, LAUSD has one of the most ambitious solar energy policies and programs of any major public agency in the United States.

LAUSD's Facilities Services Division (FSD) is on track to install and start generating nearly five MW of solar power by the end of 2009. One MW of power has already been installed on the roof of the Pico Rivera warehouse and is generating electricity. In February, the Board of Education gave its approval for FSD to move forward

with eight additional solar projects at seven school sites and one local district office that will generate 3.7 MW of power.

Utilizing solar power is good for the environment, as well as the District's financial outlook. The savings in electrical costs to LAUSD for the Pico Rivera warehouse alone are approximately \$65,000 a year. Together, the cost savings generated by the nine sites total more than \$1 million per year. These are dollars that would otherwise be spent out of LAUSD's general fund and can now be directed back toward the classroom.

Two of the schools (Ann Elementary School and El Dorado Elementary School) in this group of projects will be grid neutral sites. This means that they have sufficient available roof space to support enough solar

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Dear Friend,

chief facilities executive

LAUSD has a tremendous amount of construction currently underway - nearly \$3 billion! Over the next

several years, even more construction will begin as we near the end of the current \$20.1 Billion New School Construction and Modernization Program and achieve the goal of a two-semester neighborhood school for every student.

While we are making progress on the bond side of the house, our maintenance and operations efforts are being severely impacted by the District's tremendous budget challenges. The Facilities Services Division (FSD) will be taking a \$96.4 million budget cut this year, with the majority of the jobs being grounds workers and custodians based at schools.

As FSD transitions during tough financial times, we remain focused on the mission. The Program's broad coalition of support from community members, building industry partners and public officials continues to be of key importance in delivering progress to neighborhood school facilities.

Also important to our success moving forward is a focus on internal communications. I am pleased to announce the CFE Suggestion Box for FSD employees is now available on-line at: <http://mo.laschools.org/suggestion-box/>. There is also a physical CFE suggestion box on the wall in the elevator lobby on the 23rd floor. All suggestions are confidential. I have been receiving excellent feedback from all of you and look forward to getting your e-mails as well.

Guy Mehula  
Chief Facilities Executive

## Program Update

- 77 of 131 New Schools Completed
- 59 of 64 Additions Completed
- More than 18,000 Repairs & Modernizations Completed
- More than 80,000 New K-12 Seats Completed

fsd  
employee  
profile

# Home Run Hitter Bruce Kendall Passes the Baton

## Bruce Kendall, Deputy Chief Executive for Existing Facilities is a Navy man,

having spent twenty six years changing jobs every two or three years. This constant shuffle in his Navy career ensured that he continuously built his knowledge base and experience so he could go anywhere at any time in service of his country.

When the question came, "Can you head up Maintenance and Operations (M&O) for LAUSD's more than 14,000 buildings (averaging more than 45 years old and serving more than 800,000 students) in 28 cities and for which there are too few resources to maintain in a timely manner, as well as execute a \$7.6 billion Modernization and Repair Program?" The answer he was well prepared to give: Yes.

Bruce has spent his longest deployment by far – seven years – in service to LAUSD's Facilities Services Division, and as he retires from the District, there is a lot about his experience on which to reflect.

Bruce joined the Division in 2002 as M&O Director and was promoted to Deputy Chief Executive, Existing Facilities in 2005. When he started as M&O Director, there was a crisis in mold and water intrusion due to deteriorating roofs, a huge problem with broken air conditioning systems and no master information system in place that allowed the Facilities team to effectively see where resources could be best put to use. Bruce quickly got to work to address these issues and much more. He implemented the Maximo System to connect the various silos of information on facilities across the District, established the Facilities Condition Index to prioritize projects coherently, and formulated a forward-thinking action plan to address the untenable state of many school restrooms.

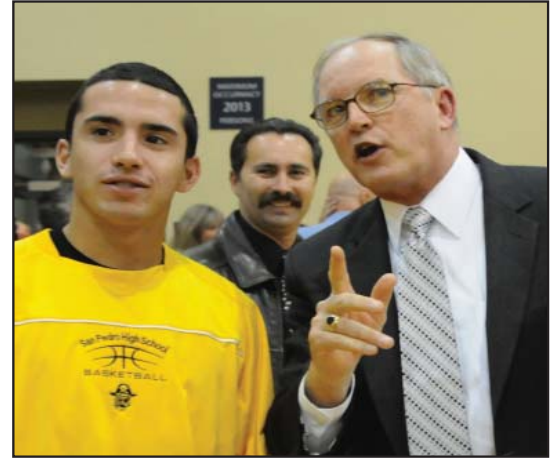
Aside from leading the monumental task of keeping buildings operational day to day, there is a long list of accomplishments that stand out during Bruce's tenure as Deputy Chief Executive. Among the highlights, he helped lead an unprecedented leveraging

of state modernization funds (\$1.4 billion and growing) to expand the reach of the bond program; he demonstrated great support of LAUSD's commitment to small businesses with 70 percent of Existing Facilities Contracts awarded to Small Business Enterprise firms since 2003; and he was instrumental in laying the groundwork to deliver on LAUSD's 50 megawatts of solar installations by 2012. Under his leadership, Existing Facilities executed 40 percent more project starts in the last two years, translating to more work opportunities for contractors, more local workers employed and ultimately, more efficient delivery of better learning environments for students.

Like anyone who has served at LAUSD for any period of time, Bruce knows that when it comes to maintaining and bettering school facilities, there is no time to rest on your laurels. Bruce has an admitted fondness for sports analogies to motivate his team. He says if there's not a football analogy that will work for a situation, there's certainly a basketball or baseball or track analogy that will. "It's a race without a finish," he says. "I have tried to instill a sense of urgency in my team and to provide vision and focus."

Bruce has managed to take time out from the race to inspire the "I'm a Student Exploring Excellence" (ISEE) Architecture and Engineering students. He explains, "I tell them everything engineers do benefits society. They build the life support structures of society – roads, water systems – the entire infrastructure. It's a great calling, one that is about working for the greater good."

The need for continuous improvement and the importance of public service are ideals he has successfully passed on to the members of his team. Talk to anyone in Existing Facilities, mention Bruce Kendall, and you will hear it in their responses: "leadership," "a tireless public servant," "unafraid to accept accountability," "passionate about



*Bruce Kendall with a student at the San Pedro Gym Ribbon-cutting on December 11, 2008.*

his work," "straightforward," "a constant quest to better the organization." There are funny responses too: "A frustrating attention to detail," "a love of graphs rivaling Ross Perot," and his never ending quest to get us all to, "sing from the same sheet of music."

It takes a certain caliber of character not to shy away from a job where the stakes are so high, the stakeholders so many, and the requisite resources so few. Bruce, we all sing from the same sheet of music when we say THANK YOU for your dedicated service to the students of LAUSD.

When it's the bottom of the 9th inning, Bruce Kendall is the man any team would be lucky to have.

Though he admits he will miss his professional associations and the pace here at LAUSD, Bruce very much looks forward to returning to his home in Virginia and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.

## STAFF

Shannon Haber, Communications Director  
Samantha Koos, Communications Deputy  
Naomi Zimmermann, Contributor

food services

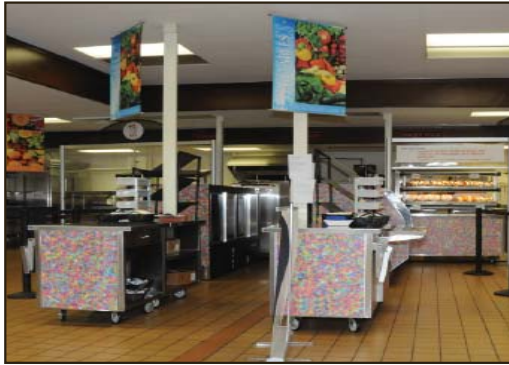
# Critical Renovations Move Food Service to the Fast Lane

**While forgoing a meal or eating unhealthily on the run** has become commonplace for the average American on the go, most people agree this is not beneficial to the learning process, health or overall happiness, and that this trend needs to be discouraged in our students who are developing the habits they will carry with them throughout their lives.

Unfortunately, the majority of LAUSD school facilities are burdened with a great increase in student population over the years, and do not have the proper set up and equipment to provide students the healthy meals they need in the half hour time period allotted for lunch. With the current economic downturn creating an overall increase in students participating in school meal programs across the state, the need to provide better access to healthy meals for students is increasingly critical.

The Existing Facilities Branch, currently administering \$7.6 billion in bond funded modernization and repair projects across the district (Measures BB, K, R and Y), has joined forces with LAUSD's Food Services Branch to address this key health issue. So far, 49 of 142 secondary schools have received cafeteria renovations to better serve students, including: Belmont HS, Jordan HS, Garfield HS and South Gate MS. The renovated cafeterias are brighter, more inviting and thanks to the Café L.A. concept, are serving healthier and more appealing food options. The main focus of the modernizations is to increase the efficiency of service by providing multiple mobile serving lines. These new lines include equipment to ensure hot foods stay hot, cold foods stay cold and that fruits, vegetables and pre-packaged meals are well-presented. A seven percent increase in students served at breakfast and a more than ten percent increase in students served at lunch, indicate the renovations are working.

With only forty nine (less than half) of all secondary school cafeteria renovations complete, the District estimates it has



*Above: Director of Food Services Dennis Barrett, University High School Principal Eric Davidson, Chief Facilities Executive Guy Mehula and School Board Member Marlene Canter toured the University High School's newly modernized cafeteria on Healthy Schools Day, April 27, 2009. Thanks to new mobile serving lines and equipment which ensure the hot foods stay hot and cold foods stay cold, the University High School cafeteria is now serving as many as three hundred more lunches a day and in less time.*

increased access to meals for nearly 30,000 students each day. An additional eighteen schools are currently receiving or scheduled to receive complete renovation, expansion and/or building of new cafeteria space to upgrade the food preparation, servicing, multi-purpose and assembly areas to meet the need for sufficient core facilities.

Upon apportionment of Measure Q funds, Food Services is scheduled to complete the modernization of all remaining secondary school cafeterias, moving LAUSD well on its way to delivering all of the estimated 650,000 meals it serves each day in less time, with less stress and more of what matters for its students.

## In Memory of Bruce Abbott (1950 – 2009)

*The Facilities Services Division (FSD) lost a key member of its team in February with the passing of Director of Facilities Information Systems Bruce Abbott. With his five years of dedicated service to FSD punctuating a distinguished thirty-year career, Bruce is remembered by friends and colleagues for creative thinking and his ability to bring levity to difficult situations, as well as for his passion for advancing the information systems profession and the career development of his team.*



# The Way Forward: Innovation

innovation  
partnership  
solutions

**From creating spaces for afterschool programs** to providing funding for mobile health clinics, LAUSD's Joint Use Innovation Fund dollars are hard

at work to bring needed resources to students and communities District-wide. The result is a host of new programs and services to better students' chances of success in the classroom and beyond.

On February 26, 2009, the Los Angeles City Attorney and LAUSD Superintendent Ramon C. Cortines announced a partnership to establish five new youth centers at middle schools. The announcement was made at Maclay Middle School in Pacoima, where the partnership is making possible a new technology center to be utilized by the parent center and students during the day. Additionally, the technology center will house after school programs to keep students learning, engaged and away from potential negative influences.



The new technology center at Maclay Middle School will serve as home base for the Jr. iSEE (I'm a Student Exploring

Excellence) program. The Jr. iSEE program is an afterschool "green" academic enrichment program for LAUSD middle school students, building on the success of LAUSD's iSEE Architecture & Engineering Internship Program that has provided LAUSD high school juniors and seniors hands-on career experience for the past three years.

Joint use dollars are also making possible the upgrade of the fields at Maclay to enable Cal South Soccer to run soccer programs for students and the community after school.

On March 6, 2009, LAUSD celebrated the opening of the Hilda L. Solis

Dental Clinic at El Sereno Middle School, another project supported by joint use funds. A partnership between Health Net and Universal Care Dental Center made operation of the clinic possible, and provides a new model for bringing experienced national managed care providers as partners in serving students. The clinic provides dental care for students and their families eligible for Medi-Cal, Healthy Families and private insurance. For those students who are ineligible but in need, Health Net will provide services for free.



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panels so that the school can produce all of the energy it needs.

The District is in the process of surveying more than 200 sites within LAUSD for possible solar panel installation. Of the 200 sites, 122 have been identified as viable for solar panel installation. More projects will be brought to the Board of Education for approval by the close of the 2008-09 school year. Funding for these projects stems from several different sources including Los Angeles Department of Water and Power settlement funds, utility incentives, and Measure Q bond funds.

Installing solar panels is one part of the

District's plan to achieve its goal of reducing the District's annual energy consumption by 10 percent by 2012. This means reducing the District's energy use by more than 50 million kilowatt hours by 2012. Other aspects of energy reduction plans include initiating a District-wide conservation awareness program, installing energy management systems in 120 high schools, retrofitting the lighting fixtures and systems and retrofitting heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems where appropriate.

By harnessing the power of the sun, the District is not only saving natural resources,

but is seeking to better serve its students, teachers and staff by employing more environmentally friendly operations. For more information, please visit LAUSD's new sustainability website at [www.laschools.org](http://www.laschools.org).

