

Inglewood News

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Santa Holiday Festival Fun Time



There was free holiday fun for families galore at the Crenshaw Imperial Plaza's Santa Holiday Festival this past Saturday. Photo: Robert Vega.

Inglewood School District Projects Budget Relief in the Coming Year

By Halemon Anderson

The Inglewood School Board received a financial report at its meeting last week, indicating a positive outlook for the coming year. Eugenio Villa, chief business officer for the Inglewood Unified School District, said the first interim report was filed early, ahead of the Dec. 15 deadline.

The report, the first in a quarterly series of budget revisions and projections due to the County Office of Education, indicates changes to the budget, revised assumptions and actuals for July through October. "This report reflects the first major revisions to the budget," said Villa.

Assumptions documented in the report incorporate a one-year state loan payment deferral for 2018-19, a sum of \$1.8 million. The report also incorporates the projected AB 1840 additional revenues, which could mean several million dollars in each of the next three years from the state. A criterion for AB 1840, is the expectation of a qualified or positive designation by the second interim. "We've met the goal early," said Villa.

Villa noted that AB 1840 funding brings both support and accountability. The increased state funding is targeted to help beleaguered school districts cover a portion of their operational deficits, and not additional programs. The bill is designated for deficits from 2019 through 2022.

Villa added there has also been a general improvement in enrollment, also projected into the report. "These reports are really critical," he said. "It quantifies everything that happens in the district. We are able to file our interim report as 'qualified.' It's not positive yet, but this is a significant improvement. The district filed 'negative' for all of 2017-18, as a result of unplanned deficit spending that was uncovered."

Villa's report projects the district will be able to meet the required 3 percent minimum reserves. The next report, the second interim, is due March 15.

Thirteen district employees were honored at the meeting, as recipients of the Employee Excellence Award. The honorees were selected to receive the award from a group of over 50 nominees.

Keith Crafton, director of business advisory services for LACOE, reported to the board on the completion of a forensic audit done in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Office of Education. Crafton said the finding of the county is that fraud and misappropriation of funds may have occurred in accounts where ASB funds were handled. According to Crafton, the funds in question amount to thousands of dollars that could not be accounted.

Crafton said the CTC (California Teaching Commission) and district attorney's office would be notified. According to Villa, the "extraordinary audit is required under the

guidelines of AB-139." The audit report dated Oct. 23 was filed with the county district attorney.

Board member D'Artagnan Scorza questioned special education costs, which have ballooned in the last years. He also asked what formative assessments are being used to identify gaps in learning in looking to increase test scores. "These numbers are not going to bring people back to us," said Scorza.

Chief Academic Officer Carmen Beck said a cross-agency plan is being developed with LACOE, the California Department of Education (CDE) and the California Council on Economic Education (CCEE), to identify what needs to be in place and to meet all compliance issues. "We have earmarked specific funds for [academic] interventions before, and after school and on Saturday," said Beck.

Principals Richard Barton and Alberto De Leon were on hand to provide details about their schools' strategic plans. Barton,

See School Board, page 8



District staff receive Employee Excellence Award at Inglewood School Board meeting.

Weekend Forecast

Friday
Mostly
Cloudy
66°/53°



Saturday
Sunny
65°/53°



Sunday
Mostly
Sunny
67°/55°



Real Estate



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Open House Directory

- Fri 12-2pm 5402 West 149th Place #12, Hawthorne 3/2.5, 1660 sf \$829,000
Gina Hoffman PALM Realty Boutique 310.864.5347
- Fri 11:30-1:30pm 406 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3, new, rooftop deck \$1,539,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Fri 11:30-1:30pm 412 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3.5, new, rooftop deck \$1,599,000
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- Sat 2-4pm 1630 E. Palm Ave #3, ES 3/2.5, updated, Washington Park \$819,900
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- Sat 2-4pm 5402 West 149th Place #12, Hawthorne 3/2.5, 1660 sf \$829,000
Gina Hoffman PALM Realty Boutique 310.864.5347
- Sat 2-4pm 137 & 145 Virginia Street, ES 3/2.5, open layout, SW corner \$1,179,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sat 2-4pm 406 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3, brand new, rooftop deck \$1,539,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sat 2-4pm 412 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3.5, brand new, rooftop deck \$1,599,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sun 2-4pm 5053 W. 109th Street #1, Lennox 3/4, new construction \$539,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sun 2-4pm 5402 West 149th Place #12, Hawthorne 3/2.5, 1660 sf \$829,000
Gina Hoffman PALM Realty Boutique 310.864.5347
- Sun 2-4pm 530 Sierra Place #4, ES 3/2.5, amazing loc, open layout \$899,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sun 2-4pm 205 E. Acacia Ave., ES 3/2, recently remodeled \$1,149,000
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- Sun 2-4pm 137 & 145 Virginia St., ES 3/2.5, open layout, SW corner \$1,179,000
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- Sun 2-4pm 434 W. Maple Avenue, ES 5/3, remodeled, open layout \$1,499,000
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- Sun 2-4pm 406 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3, brand new, rooftop deck \$1,539,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sun 2-4pm 1225 E. Acacia Ave, ES 4/3.5, remodd modern farmhouse \$1,595,000
Bill Ruane RE/MAX Estate Properties 310.877.2374
- Sun 2-4pm 412 W. Grand Ave., ES 4/3.5, brand new, rooftop deck \$1,599,000
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\$615,000. 900 Cedar Street.
Western facing condo, 2 bedrm/2 bth new carpet, paint, vinyl, pool/spa & sun deck. Must see! Show by appointment only. 310.322.1900.

735 Loma Vista, 2bd, 2bth home, Swedish fireplace, triple paned windows, new carpet & paint, kitchen breakfast bar, city lights, guest/in-law w 3/4 bth, garage. Much to see and enjoy!!! Show by appointment only. \$1,149,000

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*"At Christmas, all roads lead home."
- MARJORIE HOLMES*

School Board from front page

a 40-year veteran of the district, heads Oak Street Elementary. "Our school site plans align with the district's strategic plan. Our goal is 15 percent growth in performance levels," he said.

De Leon, principal at Centinela, is newly arrived to the district. "I came to Inglewood at the perfect time," he said. "I came at a time of action."

Associated Student Body President Evan Hardin from Morningside High gave the student report. Harding is semifinalist for the Gates Millennium Scholarship, one of

2,000 students nationally.

Mariam Morris, president of the Inglewood Council PTA (Parent Teacher Association), reported the organization has three goals: building a stronger PTA, activating and empowering leadership, and boosting employee and teacher morale.

The Inglewood School Board meets once monthly. The next meeting scheduled for the 2018-19 school year is a board workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 9, at 5 p.m. at 401 S. Inglewood Ave., in the Dr. Ernest Shaw Board Room. •

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