

**PRESS RELEASE 0607-05**  
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## **COLLEGE ROUND UP**

College Round Up is a festive, informational event where LBHS students have the opportunity to ponder choices about their futures as they ask college representatives questions about dorm life, college majors, and even varying weather conditions.

This year's college fair showcased over 100 colleges and universities, including six University of California campuses, eight California State Universities, four California Community Colleges, five art colleges, two interior design schools, a culinary institute, a chiropractic college, twenty-four private colleges and universities in California, and a combination of fifty public and private universities from out of state. Additionally, two representatives for over twenty universities in Switzerland and Great Britain attended. This rich variety of resources for post-secondary education provides LBHS students opportunity to make well-informed decisions about their futures.

Nance Morrissey, LBHS ninth grade counselor, has coordinated the college fair for the past two years. Her work as a college counselor at a private school gave her an in-depth experience in the college application process, while her work as an academic counselor at the University of Denver provided experience from the college side.

Mrs. Morrissey remarks about the amazing evening, "All of us in the counseling office, including 10-12<sup>th</sup> grade counselors Tristen Gire and Gretchen Ernsdorf, enjoy seeing the students become aware of the myriad opportunities available to them. Gretchen met some of her students at the fair and walked around with them, showing them new options for next year. Seeing students light up as a representative describes what makes his or her university special is truly a treat. That happens over and over during College Round Up."

Parents and students also received information on two key college topics: starting a college search and getting financial aid. The Director of Financial Aid at University of Southern California, Cathy Thomas, gave an in-depth presentation aimed at helping parents get financial help to pay the high price of college. Local college counselor Cathy Burgner spoke about how to start a college search.

Typically, a small school district like ours cannot attract the number of colleges and universities that attend our fair each year. Mrs. Morrissey believes our continued success is due to the people of our District who provide a warm welcome to our visitors, "Our students have manners and enthusiasm; they enjoy meeting the representatives and talking about their future possibilities. The representatives continually comment that the LBUSD fair is their favorite event because of the way they are treated. That is a tradition we intend to maintain!"

LBHS Principal, Dr. Donald Austin, shares his enthusiasm, "LBUSD's student support from parents, staff, and community has a huge impact on our academic college-going culture. It is more a question of where our students are continuing their education than if they are continuing their education." The extraordinary number of outstanding universities that attend our College Roundup speaks volumes about the high caliber of LBHS students."

Last June ninety-two percent of LBHS graduates went on to pursue higher education.