FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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LAUSD Principals Become Executives For a Day

Executive For a Day program gives educators a glimpse into today’s corporate landscape to help them in shaping tomorrow’s workforce

LOS ANGELES – Los Angeles Unified School District school principals throughout the city spent the day shadowing executives at their workplaces today. The 2007 Executive For a Day program, coordinated by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, promotes a new spirit of civic involvement in education and encourages educators to reshape classroom instruction to help meet the demands of today’s workplace.

“Executive For a Day is one of several hands-on learning experiences we provide for principals leading our schools into the 21st century,” said Gary Toebben, president & CEO of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce. “The Chamber serves as a leader to engage the business community in education and workforce development issues.”

CEOs and other business executives welcomed elementary, middle and high school principals into their offices to observe their daily duties and learn more about the business of running an organization. Executives and principals also discussed methods to better prepare students for future careers.

“Improving academic achievement begins with involving the community,” said LAUSD Superintendent David L. Brewer III. “Executive For a Day is an important step in getting the businesses community involved in our schools. I look forward to working with the L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce, local business leaders and the entire community as we continue to transform the LAUSD.”

Businesses participating in Executive For a Day include: Apple, City National Bank, Cynosure Management Solutions, KNBC-TV 4, Merrill Lynch, Oakwood Corporate Housing, St. Jude Medical, Inc., Wells Fargo Bank, Westfield Corporation, Inc. and Wyle Laboratories.

“Shadowing an executive counterpart opened my eyes to new opportunities for the teachers and students at my school,” said Zoe Jefferson, principal at Arlington Heights Elementary School.
The Executive For a Day experience exposes educators to new leadership and management styles, technology innovations and personnel training techniques. The ultimate goal is to increase mutual understanding and to develop long-term partnerships between the business and education sectors.

Created in 2001 as a complement to Principal For a Day, Executive For a Day gives business executives the opportunity to shadow school principals on campus. More than 150 executives and principals participated in Principal For a Day activities in February.

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The Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce represents the interests of business in L.A. County. Founded in 1888, the Chamber promotes a prosperous economy and quality of life in the Los Angeles region. For more information, visit www.lachamber.org.