

FREE

School News

Education + Communication = A Better Nation

Covering the Long Beach Unified School District...and more!



Volume 19, Issue 133

www.SchoolNewsRollCall.com

April 2018

City of Long Beach, City Auditor



Laura L. Doud
City Auditor

Special Bonds that Shape Us

I remember at a young, impressionable age looking up at my mom and asking her, "Are we rich?" Without a moment of hesitation and with a smile on her face, she replied, "Yes, we are rich in blessings." And, we were indeed. I was blessed to have a strong bond with my mom as she helped me grow into the woman I am today.

Recently, I shared this story and the impact my mom had on my life at the Khmer Parent Association's 3rd Annual Mother & Daughter Conference where I was honored to be a guest speaker. Listening to the mother and daughter panelists of diverse backgrounds, I was reminded of the strength in the mother and daughter bond. Unifying themes carried through generations and cultures no matter where or when experiences are rooted – the bond remains the same.

Through her advice as well as by her example, my mom influenced my life's path. From an early age, she nurtured my skills and interests. She believed in me and supported me from my early school years through studying for and passing the CPA exam. Along the way, she instilled in me the values of honesty, integrity and compassion. I watched her as she helped family, friends and neighbors in large and small ways - cooking, running errands during illness, offering comfort and counsel and many times by just listening. She always encouraged me to tap into my own unique gifts and then to share these gifts with others to enhance their lives. This led me to find my purpose and calling to public service with the goal of making positive change by providing valuable solutions to improve my hometown, Long Beach.

My mom ultimately taught me life's success is not measured by owning a big house, expensive car or flashy jewelry, rather it is by the long-lasting relationships we build and the positive impact we have on others' lives. I am grateful for the special bond with my mom, especially as it carries over to the bond I have with my own daughter.

This inspiring conference emphasized, that despite differences in our community, we are unified by the dynamic of the mother and daughter bond. At the same time, it was a great reminder to recognize and appreciate the importance and value of other bonds in our lives. Whether it be with sons, grandparents, aunts, uncles or teachers – powerful bonds can enrich and help us find purpose in our lives.