

The following is information on the youth camps that First District PTA sponsors and is the focus of their Holiday Luncheon.

Los Angeles County Office of Education – Probation Department Youth Authority Camps

Each holiday season First District PTA, along with participating Council PTAs, hosts a luncheon in December to acknowledge and support the three Juvenile Court and Community Schools (JCCS) in the First District PTA area. One of the purposes of this lunch is to invite and present our gifts to the three youth camps that we sponsor during the holidays. First District PTA considers this a child welfare service project and is able to accept gifts and/or donations from Units, Councils and First District members.

LACOE's Division of JCCS operates 19 schools for approximately 20,000 students annually who are adjudicated under the authority of the Los Angeles County Juvenile Court. The 19 school sites of JCCS are located throughout the 4,300 square mile county in juvenile halls, probation camps and large residential group homes. Schools are organized geographically into Principal's Administrative Units (PAUs).

Focusing on literacy and academic achievement as one of the largest, fully accredited court and community school systems in the nation, JCCS redirects troubled youth toward success in school, in the workforce and in the community, providing students with a second chance at success.

The Angeles Forest PAU comprises **Afflerbaugh, Paige**, and **Glenn Rockey** camps. Its mission is to provide every student with a quality educational program that offers opportunities for developing academic, vocational, and social skills.

At **Afflerbaugh** and **Paige**, some students are required to attend an average of 300 minutes per week over a two-week period to allow for work experience in fire suppression, MOVE (Mobility or Movement Opportunity via Education), and intergenerational programs. (Students who work during the day attend classes on alternate days, evenings and Saturdays.)

At **Glenn Rockey**, all students receive 300 minutes of instruction per day. The educational program is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

All camps provide the much needed support services for these youth. Special emphasis is placed on coexisting, responsibility and self-control. Team cooperation between camps and parents, as well as peer counseling is underscored.

It cannot be overemphasized enough that the goal of these camps is rehabilitation, not punishment. A measure of the success of the camps is that a majority of their wards do not return to or mainstream back into their home school but move on to higher education.

For additional information on the JCCS contact the Los Angeles County Office of Education at (562) 922-6111 or visit them at their website at www.lacoe.edu.