

**Electronically Submitted Public Comments
July 15, 2021 Special Board Meeting**

Public Comment - Items not on the agenda, within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board

| Name | Comment |
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| Stacy | <p>Can board please consider not requiring masks at least for the elementary students please? Masks aren't required in movie theatres, grocery stores, sporting events, etc. Not sure with the already record low amount of registered students, Laguna can't make this change. Thank you!</p> |
| Jessica Stevens | <p>I am a LBUSD parent. I have a daughter who will be entering first grade. I am asking you to make masks optional indoors and outdoors. Please make this a parent's choice. The country is opening up and thousands upon thousands of people are gathering together in public places. Baseball stadiums, concerts, restaurants, Disneyland, grocery stores; the state of CA is freely living with personal choice to either mask up or not. I consider myself a logical person, I follow science. Forcing our children to sit inside for hours at a time in a mask against their will is simply reckless at this point of the pandemic.</p> <p>According to the CDC, over the course of the pandemic, 49,000 Americans under the age of 18 have died of all causes. Only 331 of those deaths have been from COVID. All told, 600,000 Americans have lost their lives to COVID over the course of the pandemic; just 0.05 percent of those were under the age of 18, a population that represents more than 20 percent of the country's population as a whole.</p> <p>Masking our children has largely been to stop the spread and protect the vulnerable. Mass vaccinations for adults in the US has completely changed the course of the pandemic- lowering the risks for both vaccinated and unvaccinated and cutting the mortality rate significantly for the vulnerable.</p> <p>Let's use logic, and stop putting the burden our children.</p> <p>PLEASE lift the mask mandates in schools and make masks personal choice.</p> <p>Best, Jessie Stevens</p> |
| Carli | <p>The kids are safe. They always have been. I 100% think it should be a parental choice whether or not our children are required to wear masks for the 2021-2022 school year. They haven't been able to see each other smile or show express in over a year and a half. That is crazy!!! We can go to restaurants, even the movie theater without a mask. You can go EVERYWHERE in Laguna Beach right now without a mask with the exception our our #1 ranked schools.....that makes 100% zero common sense. Our kids have suffered long enough through this pandemic and I think it is it should be optional and a personal decision whether or not children should be silenced and masked. I respect those who want to have their kids in masks, but I truly believe this should be a personal decision. One of my son wears glasses and he can't wear his glasses to school b/c they fog up with the mask that he is required to wear for 7 hours a day. The other gets headaches from the masks. I really hope the board and parents decide to think about the children and all that they have been through. My vote is masks optional. Thank you for your consideration.</p> |

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| Brittany Johnson | Please make masks OPTIONAL for all children attending elementary at el Morro / TOW |
| Lauren Boeck | Hello Board Members...First, I want to thank you for your service. You all have an incredibly important role that I know comes with difficult decisions. I am a concerned mother of an El Morro 3rd grade and Kindergartener, and I am writing to ask you to please give parents the choice about whether our children are required to wear masks at school. We moved to Laguna Beach in June of 2020, and I am sad to admit that the last year of my children's lives has been detrimental to their development, mostly due to mask wearing. They ended the year sad, defeated and unsure of themselves or this beautiful town we moved to last year. They all cried multiple times and begged us to move back to Texas where they know their friends have safely gone on with life. Its tough to explain why we are still wearing masks when the data doesn't support the response. According to my peditrician at Hoag in Newport, kids just aren't getting COVID-19, and if they do, their illnesses are not severe. I do not believe this is the fault of your decisions or the efforts of the teachers, but rather a result of the parameters with which the state forced school districts to work. At what point are education professionals going to look at the data and do what is best for kids? I am a former school administrator, and I can't even imagine how many children have been lost, abused and neglected over the last year. Its time to give parents choice in the health and welfare of our children. Thanks for your time. |
| Andrea Heins | Please consider making the mask wearing optional during summer enrichment programs and school in August. There are many students who are already vaccinated and all staff members who wish to be vaccinated as well. Let's start using our heads and trust the science/statistics behind your decisions. These children can go into Ralphs, Pavilions, Active Culture, Wahoos without a mask with 100's of other people, it makes no sense to mask them up in the classroom with 20 kids. Medical masks were meant to be worn and thrown out yet these children are wearing the same masks all day - some probably not even washing them all week or ever :(I can only imagine what they are spreading by touching their masks, then laying them on their desks/floor/ground while they eat, then putting them back on. How is that better? |
| Debbie Elgas | Please make face masks optional for our kids. Our Governor said, just this week, that school districts have the ability to make their own decisions as to masking indoors based on their local COVID numbers. Furthermore, I think its important to remember there is no science showing children are the spreaders let alone the ones suffering from infection! All the teachers have had their chance to be vaccinated. Our kids ability to breathe freely and be free of mental and developmental impairments as the result of covering their smiles and faces is not necessary! |
| John Halloran | Vaccinated Students and Teachers should not be required to wear masks. If some students do not get vaccinated, they know the risks. Students who choose not to get vaccinated do not have the right to force the rest of the district to have the barrier of a mask between student and teacher impeding their education. We have already lost a year. Enough is enough. |
| Lauren Halloran | Dear School Board, I am a LBUSD parent of 2 boys in the district. I have a Sophmore and 7 th grader. My kids have been vaccinated. This should be a |

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| | parent's choice. People who choose not to be vaccinated, know the risks. The students who have been vaccinated should not have to wear a mask. Please use the CDC guidelines and listen to science. Our students have lost a year of their education and should be allowed to choose to wear or not wear a mask. Please make our kids the priority & listen to science. Thank you, Lauren Halloran |
| Jill witte | I refuse to have my son, who is entering the first grade, wear a mask to school this coming year. No where else in public is it going to be required. The masks are themselves alone a detriment to their health and social development. Please look at the data and make an informed decision, not a controlling, fearful choice. |
| Anonymous | I would like to know when and where I can view the new curriculum on ethnic studies and inclusion. I would like to view the entire curriculum grade by grade and in full not just examples. This is a very heated topic for a lot of parents and your full cooperation would be much appreciated. |
| Ashley Woravka | Please make masks optional this fall. Masks are detrimental to our children's social and emotional well being. It will be confusing and scary for school to be the ONLY place they are required to wear masks. It's safe for kids to play indoors, dine indoors and sit shoulder to shoulder in a baseball stadium with 45,000 people yet for some reason being in school, 3 feet apart with 20 people, somehow becomes unsafe?? It makes no sense. They are all together outside of school at the beach, playing sports and having play dates and birthday parties all without masks. LBUSD is a small enough school district to be able to give families a choice. It is our job as parents and teachers to protect our kids yet we are doing the opposite by forcing them to mask their faces in order to go to school for a virus that doesn't even affect them. Again, please make masks optional this fall! |
| Jo Allen | Please make masks optional this coming fall. Our kids deserve the same treatment as the rest of the public who are now gathering both indoors and outdoors without masks. Thank you so much!!! |
| Carolina Piñera | No masks for students |
| Tiffany Moran | I do not want kids to wear masks in class (esp the elementary aged kids) |
| Russ Watson | I am extremely concerned about the Superintendents and Ed. Board bring on Education Elements, a company who specializes in advising school districts in teaching Critical Race Theory. Ed. elements call is by a different name "EQUITY" SO PEOPLE ARE CONFUSED BY WHAT THEY ARE TEACHING. Thousands of lawsuits between parents and school districts are currently being adjudicated. Soon we will find out if schools who teach CRT will be financially penalized for teaching victim hood and teaching kids to treat people differently by the color of they skin. CRT IS NO DIFFERENT THAN WHAT THE KKK believed by treating people differently solely on the color of their skin. |
| Lauren Sumner | Unmask our children! Based on the number of COVID deaths among children ages 0-17, there is a five times greater chance of our children dying of cancer than from COVID. Samples taken from children's masks have shown dangerous bacteria cultures including meningitis. Make masking optional indoors! Our children have spent the last two months in various summer camps unmasked and |

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| | <p>there hasn't been one single incidence of COVID among campers or counselors. Our kids are thriving! They are sharing food, eating in groups, swimming together and they are elated to be back to normal. Please end this absurdity!</p> |
| <p>Marivic Schaefer</p> | <p>CRT (Education Element - Equity): CRT has no place in grade school. It teaches the students to treat people differently based on the color of their skin and victimhood. The school should focus more in educating our children Math, Science and Reading.</p> <p>CRT - believes racism is present in every aspect of life, every relationship, and every interaction and therefore has its advocates look for it everywhere</p> <p>CRT - relies upon "interest convergence" (white people only give black people opportunities and freedoms when it is also in their own interests) and therefore doesn't trust any attempt to make racism better</p> <p>CRT - is against free societies and wants to dismantle them and replace them with something its advocates control</p> <p>CRT - only treats race issues as "socially constructed groups," so there are no individuals in Critical Race Theory</p> <p>CRT - believes science, reason, and evidence are a "white" way of knowing and that storytelling and lived experience are a "black" alternative, which hurts everyone, especially black people</p> <p>CRT - rejects all potential alternatives, like colorblindness, as forms of racism, making itself the only allowable game in town (which is totalitarian)</p> |
| <p>Malcolm O'Donnell</p> | <p>I've been informed that LBUSD has hired a company named Education Elements to consult LBUSD in the implementation of "equity". After looking at the slide presentation given to LBUSD it's extremely apparent that "Equity" is just a new name for CRITICAL RACE THEORY. If LBUSD moves forward with in acting this junk science only my kids, I'll be forced to going to every school board meeting and fighting for my kids right no to be indoctrinated.</p> |
| <p>Jessica Schneider</p> | <p>I would like to know when and where I can view the new curriculum on ethnic studies, equity and inclusion. I would like to know what is being taught around this in each grade. This is a very heated topic for a lot of parents and full transparency is needed.</p> |
| <p>Mrs. Harrison</p> | <p>Having to children in LBUSD I have some concern about the direction the school board in heading in. After looking at a company that LBUSD hired, education elements, I'm NOT in favor of what this organization teaches at all. Let's hope the school board doesn't sit on their "holier than thou", we know better than YOU, Perch and try to shove this garbage down my kids throat. Here's a thought how about the school teach my kid reading, writing and arithmetic. Parents are the ones to teach morality, ethics and point of view. Stay in your lane.</p> |

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| Anonymous | <p>I have heard comments in the community regarding Critical Race Theory and that Education Elements is somehow involved in curriculum in the district regarding CRT. As a member of the Equity Steering Committee, I can state unequivocally that 1) Education Elements has never discussed or referenced CRT and 2) Education Elements is not designing curriculum. I hope the Board realizes the untruths that are being circulated by those who have chosen to ignore the reality of what is being done around equity in our district and does not buy into public panic and created controversy.</p> |
| Stephen Schaefer, Sr. | <p>I understand that the California School Board is either planning to move forward with or at least seriously considering the implementation of Critical Race Theory into our children's education. I also understand that the LBUSD School Board is possibly jumping on the bandwagon to also implement CRT in our school community. I am extremely opposed to such an implementation. The fact that our school board has already assembled a team this past January to organize such an effort is upsetting. As an individual who personally grew up in Laguna Beach, I can certainly state that racism was never a part of the culture here in this town. It should not be forced on our kids to believe the inaccuracies of what is being displayed in the mainstream media and that "racism" is alive and well in our community, let alone our country. This false claim could not be further from the truth. Unlike other school districts, LBUSD is a stand-alone district within one small community and we do not need to bow down to the lies distributed in the media. We also do not need those same lies pumped into our children's minds on a daily bases during school hours. Stop the nonsense and explore other academic ideas as a pathway to a better education for the kids in our town.</p> |
| Carrie Gardner | <p>Please free the children from the mask mandate in school. Mental health and early childhood development can be an educational priority also.</p> |
| Amber Offield | <p>Dear School Board,</p> <p>This is a follow up comment to my email sent to you all earlier today about the mask mandate indoors at the elementary schools. I'll keep it short, because unfortunately I have lost faith that any of the input or requests from parents is considered.</p> <p>My first request would be for masks to be optional and not required for students. Although, I'm afraid this request will fall on deaf ears knowing the School Board's decision making up to this point.</p> <p>If the district foolishly holds on to the mask mandate here is my suggestion. My strong request is for the district to provide outdoor, tented classrooms so the kids can have the opportunity be maskless learning. I suggested this during the peak of Covid and it was not considered or implemented.</p> <p>Prove me wrong that parent input and requests are not considered by the district and School Board by offering another option to mandated masks in the classroom. Be resourceful, considerate and creative-all skills we are trying to teach students. These requests are for the direct benefit of the student's well-being and the stakeholders you and the board are supposed to represent.</p> |

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| <p>Concerned Parent</p> | <p>Having 2 kids still at LBHS, 2 that have graduated and as an alum myself, I have a great deal of respect for the quality of education LBHS and the Laguna Beach school system is known for.</p> <p>It is for this reason I am shocked for the stupidity and/or malevolence shown by the directors of this once great school system, regardless of whether it is simply following statewide or nationwide trends.</p> <p>The lack of truthful or evidentiary based descisions on medical mandates for our children in the classroom are stupefying but shows the overall lack of concern for our children’s long term health and well being. Given the attack on body, the mind appears to be the following target.</p> <p>It is my understanding that now critical race theory or some form of the principles thereof are either being considered and/or implemented into school curriculum. To avoid a long dissertation on history and the human race, I will simply say this is one of the most harmful, divisive, deceptive and destructive weapons I’ve seen.</p> <p>But it requires people either evil enough or stupid enough to use it. It also requires an audience that doesn’t see judging fellow humans on the basis of skin color is the very definition of racism.</p> <p>We are all the human race and should only be judged by the content of our character. That is what I was taught growing up in this once great educational system.</p> <p>Please protect our children from these attacks.</p> |
| <p>Kareen Kohler</p> | <p>I am highly against our kids having to continue to wear mask for seemingly obvious reasons. I believe the negative impact emotionally, mentally, socially way outweighs any health risk. Actually, it’s possible the health risk wearing the mask could even outweigh the risk of contracting COVID which is already at such a low percentage anyways.</p> |
| <p>Amber Offield</p> | <p>Elementary Outdoor Learning Spaces:</p> <p>It is our strong recommendation that the district and board provide outdoor, covered, flex space to be used for students to be taught maskless. This is not a difficult task to implement in our small, wealthy, nimble district. Rental companies have substantial tents that can be secured to the ground safely, or there are several portable options that the district could purchase. With our small class sizes in elementary each classroom could have a designated flex space that can be used as an outdoor learning space with no masks required. If the staff is unable to execute this request there is a growing group of parents ready to research and assist the staff in making this happen.</p> |
| <p>thomas gardner</p> | <p>10x the number of children and young adults (0-29) overdosed and committed suicide in 2020 then died from Covid. 2,755 0-29 year olds died from Covid, only 331 under the age of 18. Anywhere from 27,000 to 30,000 people in that age group (0-29) ended their lives prematurely. That number is 4,000 - 7,000 above 2019 levels. 2-3X more children and college age young adults died in 2020. Can</p> |

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| | all of them be the result of mask or no mask in school? Of course not, but you can make a difference immediately by giving the least vulnerable to this disease the freedom they deserve by unmasking them. If teachers becoming sick is the issue then deal with that. Free the most vulnerable. |
| Ashley Woravka | I think it is clear parents are disappointed and dumbfounded that masks are still going to be required this fall. If that is the case we need to move our elementary school classrooms outdoors. As a small school district, we are beyond lucky LBUSD has both the funds, space and capability to do this. I sincerely hope the school board can work together to achieve this and do what is best for our kids. |

Information Item: Report of Fourth Quarter Report of Uniform Complaints for the Williams Case Settlement

| Name | Comment |
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Action Item: Approval of the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2021-2022 School Year

| Name | Comment |
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Action Item: Approval of Job Description Changes for Instructional Assistant, Labs and Intervention Paraeducator

| Name | Comment |
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Action Item: Approval of the Transition of Athletic Director from a LaBUFA Position to Certificated Management Position Titled District Athletics Administrator with Job Description Changes

| Name | Comment |
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Action Item: Approval of Instructional Minutes for Laguna Beach Unified School District for the 2021-2022 School Year

| Name | Comment |
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| Brittany Johnson | OPTIONAL MASK WEARING |

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Action Item: Approval Independent Contractor Agreement with the Boys and Girls Club of Laguna Beach for the Social Skills Facilitation Project and After School Play and Homework Help During the Regular School Year in the amount of \$90,500.00

| Name | Comment |
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| Jill witte | Yes |

Action Item: Approval of Consent Calendar Items C-X

| Name | Comment |
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