

Public Comments Submitted Electronically for the
August 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

Only Board items with public comments are listed.

**Items not on the agenda, within the subject matter jurisdiction of
the Board**

Name	Comment
Dana Christian	<p>It has come to my attention that various High School age members of our community are being sent to El Toro High School as there is not special day program provided at LBHS. As a parent of two children who have both received the diagnosis of ASD, I find this to be deeply concerning. While I understand the importance of providing these students with the support they need, I firmly believe that this decision fails to consider the profound impact of removing them from the community they know and love.</p> <p>For many students with Autism, consistency, familiarity, and a sense of belonging are critical to their well-being and success. Being part of their local community - attending the same schools as their siblings, neighbors, and friends - is invaluable. The emotional and social stability provided by remaining in a familiar environment cannot be replicated, no matter how excellent the services offered elsewhere may be.</p> <p>Removing these students from a community that understands and accepts them is harmful and disrupts connections essential for their development and confidence. This sense of displacement could cause significant distress and hinder their educational progress, rather than helping them thrive.</p> <p>Furthermore, this decision also places an undue burden on families who now face the challenge of supporting their child through an unnecessary transition. I urge the school board to reconsider and explore ways to provide necessary services within our district!</p>
Karen Arellano	<p>I would like to comment how parents with children in special education are given what they refer to as the best alternative. The reason for that is that they can not accommodate our child's needs within our schools. It is not the first time my son</p>

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	<p>has been unable to attend our local schools . LBUSD had Jason driven out to Saddleback unified schools for the first few years of school, beginning with pre-school. So if he started there and once again is being sent out, i would like to know what was done in between then and today. How did the district work on assuring that they would never have to feel excluded from the rest of their classmates and community. To provide them with the least restrictive Enviornment in our local schools, for our kids to not have to feel excluded or different ,to feel the unfairness and frustration they don't quite understand.I was told that yes it is a change that my son would rely on the adults in his life to help him get through it. Well, you are one of them, and even more so, you are professionals. Professionals that are supposed have been equipped to provide all students with learning opportunities within our school because you don't go looking for football coaches or rent out swimming pools elsewhere so why do it with our special needs students. The district seems to have fallen comfortable with looking other places where to send them off to. Thank you.</p>
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