

**Public Comments Submitted Electronically for the
March 13, 2025 Regular Board Meeting**

Only Board items with public comments are listed.

Public Comments Submitted

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

Name	Comment
Denise B.	<p>Dear President Perry. For the past decade, I have watched you sit on this board and I always respected you. We didn't always see eye to eye, but I knew that your intentions and heart was in the right place. I defended you. I supported you. I am so disappointed at our lost recent actions because I now question your intentions.</p> <p>Why was it okay for Mr. Dixon to meet with Sensible Laguna, a group that has nothing to do with students, and not another group, whose sole focus is to ensure a good education for our students?</p> <p>Why was it okay for yourself and 2 other board members to attend another Sensible Laguna meeting? As a board member, you are non-partisan. Please stop making this political. I am so disappointed in you and I have lost faith in your leadership. Please, please, prioritize our students and district.</p>
Concerned Parent	<p>It has come to my attention that Howard Hills is beginning to insert himself in the MUN program at the high school and various social studies/leadership classes. He is NOT a teacher, nor does he provide any sort of professional experience that would warrant even one visit. I implore the teachers of those programs, who are the experts in their chosen fields, to decline these offers as I am know they are busy anyway with their own curriculum and spring activities, and I encourage parents to voice their disapproval as I have. Mr. Hills' time would be better spent learning how to conduct himself in his own board meetings through workshops or conferences.</p>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Please be more mindful of your microphones. For those of us listening at home we often missing things that are said due to microphones not being turned on or people talking over each other or not speaking directly into the microphone. Please work on this so that all people are able to engage with the board meetings.2. The amount of board meetings is overwhelming and uncessary. Why are there special board meetings coming up 2 days prior for issues that are not urgent is any way shape or form?

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	<p>3. Having the board lord over the staff is embarrassing. How can you extol the work of staff and then at the same time do a petty power play where your table is above the others to exert your power and dominance. Its shameful and does not encourage collaboration and respect.</p> <p>4. You need to respect the professional expertise of the staff. We have one of the most highly educated and qualified educators in Orange County. You either trust them or you don't. You either work with them or against them. If you work against them you will decrease morale and no one wants to work hard when they don't feel valued. You are not valuing the teachers. You are not valuing the staff.</p>
Active and Engaged Parent	<p>It has come to my attention that three of you—Dee, Howard, and Sheri—attended a virtual meeting hosted by Village Laguna to discuss the pool. Let me be clear: This is entirely unacceptable.</p> <p>At least one of the Weekly Board Updates on the public records page explicitly outlines what constitutes a meeting under the Brown Act and what constitutes a violation, and I know you have all received multitudes of information on the Brown Act over and above what is in that weekly update. There is no excuse. You were all in one place, discussing a matter currently before the Board and scheduled for further discussion on March 20, 2025. Dee your camera may have been off, but you participated in the meeting just by being there, not to mention the screenshots taken by those interested in your lack of ethics by showing you commenting (yes people are watching)!</p> <p>This blatant disregard for legal and ethical standards by all of you is either due to incompetence or a complete lack of respect for the law, the Education Code, the Government Code, your colleagues, staff, and students. Your actions are unprofessional, irresponsible, and unacceptable.</p> <p>This district does not need a new governance system, as Howard repeatedly suggests—it needs three new Board members. The sooner, the better. Enough of the reckless behavior. Follow the law.</p>

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Garthe Knight	<p>The actions of the board have been particularly egregious as of late. First the committee of three, Howard, Sheri and Dee decided to hold a special meeting with limited notice to Jim and Joan. The result of which was that Jim and Joan could not attend. They called a special meeting so they would only have to give 24 hours notice. The meeting was not of any urgent nature which required it to be special. It forced the staff to scramble to prepare for the meeting at the whim of Herr Howard and Meister Morgan. Next they barred Jeff Dixon from providing a seminar to the community under the guise that it violated various sections of the board policy manual. However they had no such qualms when they asked Jeff to update Sensible Laguna, again at their whim. They seem to only be interested in exercising power as a way to cure prior grievances. Witness the fact they requested they sit at a higher level than staff and the audience. What a sad power trip at the communities expense!</p>
Monica Levine	<p>This comment is directed to members Morgan, Hills and president Perry. I find it completely absurd that Perry, Morgan and Hills chose to hold an urgent meeting without the most experienced members of the board and with short notice causing undue stress and demands of our incredible staff. Holding emergent meetings at 3pm when parents and working individuals are unable to attend clearly limits access and comes off as disrespectful. Further, Perry's actions to block the superintendent Dixon's informational discussion with the community about LBUSD finances is evidence of her insecurity in her role and her intentions to extinguish opportunities for the community to be informed and involved. Please stop these divisive actions. Please listen to the advice that has been provided by leadership associates and learn your roles. Your actions are visible to any potential superintendent candidate. This community and our incredible LBUSD staff deserve better.</p>
Anonymous	<p>In watching things unfold over the last four months, it appears what the majority has long (wrongly) accused the former superintendent and former boards of engaging in is EXACTLY what they are doing now: asserting power outside of their purview and pushing a clear and nefarious agenda based on grievances. Dee, from day one when you sat in the superintendent's office, which was unnecessary, to singlehandedly changing the way meetings are run (without consulting the other board members), only to create chaos for three</p>

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	<p>months, ultimately driving you to return to the old rule, to openly violating the Brown Act by attending an online Village Laguna meeting and engaging in the chat when two other members were already slated to attend, to scheduling a "special meeting" with 48 hours notice but NOT consulting all board members about availability (to which you responded, "I didn't know." You've been a board member for 10 years and you are now the president. It's your job to know) to meddling in the affairs of teachers, it is clear you want to assert your will and the will of the other two majority members and you have no intention of working as a collective group, which is what you are mandated to do by law. To add insult to injury, you cite BOARD bylaws to cancel a webinar with the Acting Superintendent, who has every right to be front-facing in the community explaining matters that pertain to the district, which was open to everyone. You need advising, not the acting superintendent.</p>
Newth Morris	<p>The board needs to be singularly focused on finding a superintendent. The board should not be calling emergency meetings on grade weighting. The board should not be speaking on campus to students. The board should not be blocking the superintendent from educating the public.</p>
Leslie Elliott	<p>I am deeply disappointed by Board President Dee Perry's decision, which led to the cancellation of Jeff Dixon's webinar—a session designed to educate the community on LBUSD's funding and budget allocation. This move contradicts Perry's long-standing advocacy for transparency, depriving the community of a valuable opportunity to learn and engage in meaningful dialogue about district finances. Once again, this decision undermines efforts to promote informed participation and build trust within the community.</p>
Anonymous	<p>Ms. Perry you have let what you perceive as a power position get out of control. You are not the authority or the queen or in charge. You are supposed to be part of a team but your past grievances on not getting your way has warped any chance of you working as a positive influence on what a functional board should be. Please, please stop your lecture on public comment. We know you did a 180 from making it free form and welcoming to make up for all the years you were embarrassed that speakers were not listened to or humiliated. Everyone knows the timer is on the screen. So bizarre</p>

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	<p>you went back to shutting off the mic---is that flip flopping? Mostly, quit stating YOU will have the SRO removal anyone you deem is not behaving civilly. Did you even bother to discuss this with the whole board? The "I" framework indicates not. This statement is an attempt to intimidate.</p>
Erin Berryman	<p>Please just affirm Jeff's Contract finally and move on! And please stop the chaos, particularly with the interference with curriculum. The burden you are placing on staff and others with your gross overreach is highly problematic. If you want to have more impact on campus sites or with students, please go back to school and earn (or renew if very outdated and not applicable to current educational pedagogy) your teaching credential, master's degree, or Phd. Otherwise let the incredible staff do their jobs. We are so lucky to have this extraordinary group of people working with our kids; please don't jeopardize this anymore.</p>
Claudia Morris	<p>I am deeply disappointed by Board President Perry's decision to halt the recent public meeting on school district finances. This action denied stakeholders the right to crucial information. I demand a clear explanation for this decision. I request President Perry to prioritize transparency and focus on essential board functions, such as superintendent selection, rather than creating unnecessary disruptions. I expect a prompt response and a commitment to restoring open communication.</p>
Mike Gruba	<p>I enjoyed hearing from 3 board members during the Village Laguna Zoom presentation regarding the upgrades needed for the pool. I appreciated Howard, Sheri and Sensible Laguna explaining that they support the pool now that they have all the facts. I always learn a lot in these public forums. I was equally looking forward to another public education event with Acting Superintendent Jeff Dixon that was scheduled for earlier this week so I could learn more about District funding. This webinar was open to the general public and was going to educate many of us parents on the topic. I was disheartened that board President Dee told Mr. Dixon he could not attend this meeting due to "board bylaws". Yet Dee and 2 other board members presented district related info to Pillage Laguna on a similar format. How was that also not a breaking board bylaws? I would like an explanation from the board president on what board</p>

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	bylaws she is referring to, did she and 2 other board members break these same bylaws when they spoke publicly to VL and if board bylaws even apply to anyone other than the board?
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Closed Session

Name	Comment
one of the 79%	To the three board members who don't believe they are part of a team-----sorry but you have no individual authority by law. With the outrageous behavior and comments in public session it would make one shudder to think what you might try to direct staff to do when you are in Closed. As to labor negotiations, over stepping and freakish attempts to control the process will put the district in a position of staff distrust. You three could easily destroy the collaboration and good will that have existed for years. Previous boards and superintendents have worked to treat all staff with respect and appreciation. Don't ruin it.
Anonymous	Hills and Morgan: closed session topics are highly restrictive as per Brown Act requirements. Refrain from expressing yourselves on unrelated topics----as that is what you both have been doing in open session.

**Student Board Member Discussion Regarding February 24, 2025
Governance Workshop**

Name	Comment
one of the 79%	Morgan and Hills: these student board members are not fools. They are well informed and dedicated to their role. Furthermore they have observed your behavior in the past and are fully aware of how you misrepresented their high school to achieve election. Do not pander to them; they deserve respect not manipulation.
Anonymous	Interesting in this poorly written description (really Ms Perry who sets the agenda" the whole board is apologizing"? No it should be you or you and Hills if he was involved) and Student Board Member McKinzie already addressed this in his public comments. Refrain Hills, Morgan and Perry from making excuses and just listen to

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	Carter. I guess since you only referenced Carter you don't wish to hear from Kate. Too bad.
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Action: Ratification and Approval of Service Agreements with Leadership Associates for Governance Workshop and Superintendent Search

Name	Comment
one of the 79%	Hills: Hope you realize when you put the parameter that you only want a sitting Superintendent you limit the field from which your consultant can select candidates. With the chaos you, Morgan and Perry have caused in recent months you need all the possible candidates you can attract. In education administrators work their way up----they don't just appear and become Superintendents. Try to have a more open mind.
Leslie Elliott	<p>Despite Leadership Associates' invaluable insights and efforts to counsel the board on governance, the board persists in micromanaging, bypassing proper communication channels, disregarding advice, and revisiting past grievances. This behavior undermines effective governance and creates challenges for any future superintendent. It is unlikely that Hills, Morgan, and Perry will adapt to the leadership roles required for progress unless significant changes occur.</p> <p>To address this, I recommend continuing Leadership Associates' services in a counseling role. Their expertise could help clarify board members' responsibilities, encourage strategic focus over operational interference, and foster collaboration between the board and administration. Structured professional development and role-specific training might also help shift entrenched behaviors toward effective governance.</p>
Anonymous	New majority you were given a number of pieces of sage advice from Ms. Lynch on how to be a functional board member. So far none of it seems to have sunk in. You need to do a lot better if you expect to attract high level candidates. Significant that she wisely advised you wait until you have a new superintendent to make significant changes in board by laws----this would be contrary to the message so far that you three intend to dictate what is done.

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Mike Gruba	Please agree to this service agreement as I've found Leadership Associates to be invaluable contributors to our current board learning to work together to attract the best candidates for SI.
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Action: Approval of up to Seven Delegates for the California School Board Association (CSBA) 2025 Delegate Assembly Election

Name	Comment
one of the 79%	Hills: if at all possible listen to Dr. Kelly as you know little about any of these people.

Action: Approval of Contract for Employment for Acting Superintendent

Name	Comment
Thasz Zuziak	Please approve this at this meeting and don't let it drag on.
one of the 79%	New Majority: if you had been prepared to actually be effective board members on 12/16 and planned the agenda with the agenda items you needed (as you were asked) you would have met this need starting a discussion that night and could have had this contract in January. So better it is finally done and try using Mr. Dixon in the role. It often seems as if you all try to one up each other and him. TEAM Ms Perry means no one is the star.
Newth Morris	Please execute this agreement to maintain continuity while the Super search proceeds.
Leslie Elliott	Please finalize Jeff Dixon's contract as Acting Superintendent immediately. The delay in ratifying what should be a standard agreement for this temporary role undermines confidence in the board's ability to act decisively. Prolonging this process has detracted from critical priorities, such as selecting a permanent superintendent and addressing pressing district needs. Enough already.
Anonymous	Finally something that should have been in place months ago. If the new majority did not feel the need to continue to blame and demean getting down to business would have happened 12/16.

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Mike Gruba	Please approve this so we can continue to move forward with other agenda items.
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Action: Approval of Service Agreements with Leadership Associates for Executive Advising to the Acting Superintendent in an amount not-to-exceed \$18,000

Name	Comment
Thasz Zuziak	Can they also act as Executive advisors to our School Board. They need this more than our Interim superintendent. We desperately need help with this board.
Concerned Parent	The board needs "advising" more than the acting superintendent. When Ms. Lynch gave the board solid advice the other night, "it's not the what, it's the how," Howard argued with her. How can you argue with someone who has that much experience? Howard always finds a way.
Leslie Elliott	Please approve no cap consultant fees for Leadership Associates to provide executive counseling for the Acting Superintendent. Given the ongoing governance challenges posed by Hill, Morgan, and Perry—including persistent micromanagement, bypassing proper communication channels, disregarding expert advice, and revisiting past grievances—support is essential to ensure the Acting Superintendent can navigate these 3 obstacles effectively. May the force be with you, Mr. Dixon!

Action: Request for transportation to CTE after-school classes offered at surrounding high school campuses

Name	Comment
Thasz Zuziak	How many students are really in need of this and what is the cost? classes are on different nights and at different schools. Kids sign up for these knowing that there is no transportation and work that out. Transportation is very expensive and we need to know how many would use it on a regular basis. Dee has been trying to get this for a few years and has been told it is not appropriate. This needs to have alot of reaseach and cost analysis to back this up.

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Concerned Parent	This is cost prohibitive, and with the varying classes across Orange County and one student taking auto shop here, fashion there, it just doesn't make sense--still. Sometimes you can't meet the needs of everyone. Time and energy should be spent on adding CTE classes to the 8-period schedule as students are mostly busy after school with sports and activities.
Anonymous	Good grief. No back ground info---no info on how many students this might be, no cost analysis, no indication of which schools and so on. Poorly prepared and obviously only intended to satisfy a long standing criticism by Ms. Perry that the district should transport to CCA classes.

Action: Approval of Positive Certification of the Second Interim report 2024-2025

Name	Comment
Anonymous	Another positive and informational report from Mr. Dixon and his team. Strong finance reporting.

Action: Approval of Consent Calendar Items C-R

Name	Comment
Anonymous	Contrary to recent criticism that LBUSD has neglected the social emotional well being of students (Hills) several consent items show that is not the direction LBUSD has been heading.