

**Public Comments Submitted Electronically for the
January 8, 2026 Regular Board Meeting**

Closed Session:

1) Conference with Real Property Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code 54956.8 and 2) Conference with Labor Negotiators Pursuant to Government Code 54957.

Name	Comment
nic	Remain diligent in protecting the asset at Aliso/Lang for long term financial stability of LBUSD. (2) As you prepare to enter contract negotiations with the unions keep in mind how loyal these employees are to LBUSD and how much knowledge and talent they bring to ensure students get the best school experiences. Based on some of the public verbal remarks by some board members that have been critical and unkind refrain from using closed session to be more vindictive.

Action: Approval of New Vocal Arts 2 Course for Laguna Beach High School Beginning in the 2026-27 Academic Year

Name	Comment
Erika Hennon Rule	I love seeing more arts classes become available to students and support real creativity that will set them up to be resilient and thoughtful.
Ketta Brown	Sheri, this is a great addition. Leave it at that and don't spend a hour patting yourself on the back and singing your praises (no pun intended) for getting it through. It's a routine part of your job to approve staff vetted curricula. Just do it.
R. Mutt	This would be a wonderful addition to the course offerings for students. It goes beyond the scope of just musical theater, which for some students, is a turn off. This gives them the option to focus just on vocal arts.
nic	Well prepared and presented. This was in the works long before the ad hoc arts committee was in place. The VAPA staff can do the work needed and know what their departments need.

Action: Approval of New Theatre Production Course for Laguna Beach High School Beginning in the 2026-27 Academic Year

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Name	Comment
Erika Hennon Rule	Perfect supplemental class that allows drama classes to focus on acting while supporting people who are passionate about being behind the scenes.
Ketta Brown	Sheri, just approve this. Don't spend an hour talking about Maris's theater journey and waxing poetic while tearing up thereby showing everyone your own drama skills.
R. Mutt	I wish this was something that had been offered when I was LBHS! I went on to college to focus on theatre production and it served me well for years afterward. But if there had been a theatre production course offered at the high school, I might have continued my pursuit of lighting design, as it would have given me a leg up on the technical side of theatre.
nic	Well prepared and presented. Drama department has a solid reputation, and the staff understand all the elements that are necessary for a quality production. Again, in the works long before the ad hoc arts committee. A folly of Perry.

Action: Approval of Adoption of New Amplify Desmos Elementary Math Curriculum for Grades K-5 to Align with Updated California Mathematics Frameworks in An Estimated Amount of \$309,000 Commencing with the 2026-27 School Year

Name	Comment
Ketta Brown	Board majority. You can't do math. Please just approve this and don't slam our current model or denigrate our teachers. Just approve and move on....
R. Mutt	I encourage you to adopt the new Amplify Desmos Elementary Math Curriculum. I have seen my child thrive using this new curriculum that has been piloted in the classroom. He has struggled with math during his early elementary years. But during the few months since his class started working with the Amplify curriculum, I have seen the "aha" lightbulb go on! He is confident about doing math and no longer feels like he's

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	dumb and can't do it.
nic	Staff is always willing to pilot new curriculum and make changes that enhance learning for all students. Math is always a challenging subject to teach and for students to learn.

Information: Technology Update - Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education

Name	Comment
Gary Kasik	I look forward to the details of the guidance and would encourage administrators to avoid rigid policies and guidelines that are difficult to modify. As the pace of technology, and technology access, continues to accelerate so must the oversight guide rails. What is appropriate today will not be "tomorrow". Let the policies evolve with the tech.
Erika Hennon Rule	AI is an important tool we must accept, and I appreciate the thoughtfulness the district is taking when it comes to integrating AI.
Ketta Brown	Sheri: please don't use ChatGPT generated questions during this discussion. It's a waste of time for everyone. Howard: please don't say anything. If that proves impossible do not bring up the evils you've had to bear because of technology. It's not helpful nor is it truthful.
nic	The constant reporting of and writing about AI and the caution about the downsides tells that this is a continual moving target to utilize whatever can be beneficial while protecting students and staff. Assuming teachers continue to educate about authentic sources there have to be big red flags about taking what AI gives on the face without further research. A huge challenge and will need constant monitoring.

Action: Approval to Award Contracts for the LBHS Pool Modernization Project in an Amount of \$18,813,222.00

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Name	Comment
Gary Kasik	I support approving the bids and moving forward with the project. The project, while significantly more expensive than when originally estimated, remains on schedule and any delays will likely not be beneficial. I'm disappointed with the path taken to get to this point but support completing the effort as presented as the best course forward. Full disclosure of TOTAL costs and planned scheduling is important and should have completed by now.
Erin	You must move forward and award contracts for the pool.
Erika Hennon Rule	This pool becoming one step closer to reality is going to help so many people in the community. Waiting much longer and there's a chance we lose the pool completely. Money is earmarked for this and it came under the projected budget. Please vote to move this forward.
Ketta Brown	It is done. The plan has been vetted, approved and bid. No discussion, no "but have we considered", no but but but... approve it and move on.
Erinne Dobson	I am a working LB mom of 3. We need this pool for the community. There is a whole generation of kids who are about to miss out on foundational aquatics (such as my 4 yr old) and many community members who use the pool for exercise. Construction must commence as planned. No more delays. Let's award this contract.
staff	The only anser is to approve this. It is under the anticipated budget by almost \$4mil. You have an obligation to this student community to give our students a safe up to code pool. This district has been planning for this for years when it was identified as a need. We should be praising the forethought and hard work that this district saved for it. We will receive an income stream from the City to help maintain this new pool. Bottom line is it doesnt pass health code or new

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	standards it is your job to give the students a safe learning environment.
Seriously Concerned CSEA Member!	It's about time that this moves forward for board approval. The constant re-reviewing and unnecessary haggling over the pool has wasted so many hours and dollars. This is what the majority of the community wants and needs.
R. Mutt	The board needs to approve the award contracts for the LBSH pool modernization. As a family who uses the pool several days each week, it is time to get this show on the road. No more stalling, debating, renegotiating. Let's do this already!
Kayla Wiechert	Please continue the planned funding for the pool that the current and future generations will enjoy. Keeping it as is is not sustainable, and going back to the drawing board will only delay and hurt our kids. I understand the need to listen to neighbors and other community members, but I urge you to listen to our young families on the services and resources they will use the most!
nic	Finally, it becomes clear this is the time to show confidence and trust in CW Driver and the bid recommendations. As is require in all but one the lowest (responsible) bid was chosen as is the requirement of school construction. There is comprehensive and thorough background given on bidders and amounts. Please approve these to move the project forward on the time line.
Michael Contursi	Yes
Cathy	I respectfully urge you to stay on track and approve these contracts tonight. The pool modernization has been planned, vetted, and funded, and it serves both students and the broader community. Thank you.
Community member	Approve these bids

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Action: Approval to Award Contracts for Construction Services to Modernize the Laguna Beach High School and Community Pool in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$2,176,305

Name	Comment
Erin	Award contracts to modernize the pool.
Erika Hennon Rule	This pool becoming one step closer to reality is going to help so many people in the community. Waiting much longer and there's a chance we lose the pool completely. Money is earmarked for this and it came under the projected budget. Please vote to move this forward.
Ketta Brown	Please see my previous comment regarding this....
staff	This just needs to pass and be done and we all celebrate a new pool in a year. Dee dont be a traitor on this and flip your vote like at the Dec meeting. You have already done enough damage please don't do anymore.
R. Mutt	The board must approve the award contracts for construction services to modernize the LBHS pool. We can no longer delay this project.
Kayla Wiechert	Please continue the planned funding for the pool that the current and future generations will enjoy. Keeping it as is is not sustainable, and going back to the drawing board will only delay and hurt our kids. I understand the need to listen to neighbors and other community members, but I urge you to listen to our young families on the services and resources they will use the most!
nic	Showing how many agencies must be utilized to satisfy all the requirements of school construction should put to rest the idea put forward by a few in the community that another supervising agency needed to be hired to oversee CW Driver. Anyone who thinks districts get off easy since they are exempt from city Design Review should pay close attention to what these agencies watch.
Michael Contursi	Yes

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Cathy	I respectfully urge you to stay on track and approve these contracts tonight. The pool modernization has been planned, vetted, and funded, and it serves both students and the broader community. Thank you.
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Action: Approval of Exploring the Feasibility of a Bond Measure, Utilizing True North Research (True North) to Design and Conduct a Public Opinion Survey of Voters in the District

Name	Comment
Gary Kasik	I support necessary funding to create a state leading district. It's difficult to comment on bond needs when there has not been a presentation of needs; FMP. I understand that 2026 is advantageous for community approval given the expiration of the prior bond and that does warrant consideration. That said, needs should drive funding not the reverse. I remain concerned on historical "we have the money" decisions now being "we can get the money".
Erin	You absolutely must move forward here and start the initial steps to get the bond on the ballot.
Erika Hennon Rule	Only the most high performing school districts have bonds and this should have no issue to support. It's unfortunate that we are essentially required to have bonds to support maintaining infrastructure but the small amount is something that any homeowner should support. This money goes a long way and is an important investment into the future of this district.
Ketta Brown	Great idea! Needs no discussion. It's the fiscally prudent thing to do and will cement your legacy (in a good way)!
staff	I am against spending the money on consultants when Mr. Hills is using his position as a trustee to undermine this Districts credibility to our community. If he can't speak positive as a need he should not be saying anything and trustee Morgan needs to understand it is a school bond measure not a city measure and the money has to be spent on district owned facilities not

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	on city issues. she should quit and go run for city council because even after a year neither one understand what a school board does and its responsibilities.
R. Mutt	Please approve this so that the future for our children can be safe and secure.
Kayla Wiechert	Please open doors for as many opportunities to hear public opinion en mass. The board meetings that are late at night are not conducive for all Laguna residents, especially those with kids! A public opinion survey would help the board better understand the needs of the community.
nic	Did the district use a firm to determine feasibility of a bond measure for the bond in 2001? Has the administration and the board reviewed the bond language from the 2001 bond? Were other firms considered before True North was recommended?
cathy	These items simply authorize the District to hire experts (polling, financial, and legal) to evaluate the feasibility of a 2026 bond measure. Blocking these steps would prevent the District from doing the due diligence needed to give the public a clear, informed choice. Please keep the process moving. Thank you.
Community Member	Research all work done with 2001 bond. The success was remarkable. Use that success to create a similar outcome.

Action: Approval of Exploring the Feasibility of a Bond Measure, utilizing Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates (FRA) to assist as Municipal Bond Advisor

Name	Comment
Erin	Approve please!
Erika Hennon Rule	Only the most high performing school districts have bonds and this should have no issue to support. It's unfortunate that we are essentially required to have bonds to support maintaining infrastructure but the

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	small amount is something that any homeowner should support. This money goes a long way and is an important investment into the future of this district.
Ketta Brown	See previous comment on this bond issue
staff	Only if this board speaks positively about it to our community. if you speak negatively and speak down about the district you should not be representing this district and dont waste its funds for consultants if you are going to send the community negative fake paid adds about it.
R.Mutt	Please approve.
nic	Who was the Municipal Bond Advisor for the 2001 bond? Considering the overwhelming voter support (over 80%) of the bond if that bond advisor is still working did the CBO consider using them? Can't knock previous success. From presentation by Mr. Dixon in the fall of 2024 it requires careful consideration to choose an election to align with. Heavy voter turnout from those who usually vote no on bonds must be researched.
cathy	These items simply authorize the District to hire experts (polling, financial, and legal) to evaluate the feasibility of a 2026 bond measure. Blocking these steps would prevent the District from doing the due diligence needed to give the public a clear, informed choice. Please keep the process moving. Thank you.
Community Member	Extend the current bond. Keep the amount asked for moderate and that will keep taxpayer amount as reasonable as it has been with the current bond.

Action: Approval of Agreement with Dannis Woliver Kelley (DWK) to Provide Legal Services Associated with Considering and Calling a Bond Election in 2026

Name	Comment
Erin	Approve please!
Erika Hennon	Only the most high performing school districts have

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Rule	bonds and this should have no issue to support. It's unfortunate that we are essentially required to have bonds to support maintaining infrastructure but the small amount is something that any homeowner should support. This money goes a long way and is an important investment into the future of this district.
Ketta Brown	See previous comment on this bond issue
Seriously Concerned CSEA Member!	Please make sure that we have the best legal council on board to make sure that Board Member Morgan has a clear understanding of what a school district board can and cannot be used for. The lack of understanding and then the continued misinformation that is shared out by Board Member Morgan and Hills could make the community less willing to pass a board because they fear misuse of the bond funds. Do better. Actually take the time to educate yourself fully before you speak on behalf of the board.
R. Mutt	Please approve.
nic	Who was the legal counsel used in the 2001 bond? If that firm is still practicing it would seem logical to use them again as to the success of that bond.
Cathy	These items simply authorize the District to hire experts (polling, financial, and legal) to evaluate the feasibility of a 2026 bond measure. Blocking these steps would prevent the District from doing the due diligence needed to give the public a clear, informed choice. Please keep the process moving. Thank you.
Community Member	Who was legal for 2001?

Action: Approval of the November 13, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

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Name	Comment
nic	Ms. Morgan for future reference you can call attention to a correction needed in a set of minutes and go ahead and approve those minutes with the correction noted. It seems to say you don't trust the change/correction to be made and instead insist those minutes be pulled and brought back. No need for creating extra agenda items in a future meeting.

Action: Approval of Consent Calendar Items B-M

Name	Comment
nic	Once again legal costs in the warrants show use of two firms during October for a total just under \$70K

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

Name	Comment
Erin	Please restore public comment to the beginning of the meeting!
Erika Hennon Rule	Please keep comments concise and ensure we all work together seamlessly. If public comments are at the end, it's important to approach agenda items in a matter that allows the community to participate. Having some limited public comments in the beginning can relieve this issue.
Sara Hopper	In an effort to gather input from all stakeholders, we support moving public comments to the beginning of the board meeting, as per past practice.
	Please have public comments at the beginning of meetings. Hearing from community members is imperative for making decisions that impact our students, district, and community as a whole.
Randi Beckley	Jurisdiction of the Board: Please return public comments to the beginning of Board meetings. You know that your meetings often go until 11 pm or even later. Do you think students,

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	<p>parents, and teachers should be staying up that late to share a 3-minute comment that you could very easily hear at 6 pm? It seems like purposeful censorship by barring us from commenting before you take action or vote on policy. You really should consider revising this new and harmful policy.</p>
Staff	<p>Please move comments back to the beginning of the meeting to support stakeholder participation and voice.</p>
staff	<p>Put your big boy and girl pants on and move public comments back to the beginning. Howard and Sheri you absolutely would not have stood for this. your hypocrisy is so unbelievable.</p>
Seriously Concerned CSEA Member!	<p>While we recognize the importance of maintaining and improving district facilities, we have significant concerns regarding the timing, prioritization, and potential impact of these decisions on our members and the district as a whole. We are further troubled by actions taken by Mr. Hills, who appears to be using his position as a Board Trustee in ways that undermine the integrity of the District within the community.</p> <p>Additionally, we are concerned about discussions involving Trustee Morgan regarding the possible use of bond funds to support city initiatives. We will continue to closely monitor these matters and remain committed to advocating for transparency, fiscal responsibility, and respect for the needs of our educators and staff.</p> <p>We are also deeply frustrated with the deliberate act that the Board continue the practice of placing general public comments at the very end of lengthy meetings. This approach effectively limits meaningful community participation and excludes staff, students, and families who are unable to stay late into the night to have their voices heard.</p>
nic	<p>Mr. Hills for the last year your behavior has continued to be a significant cause for concern. Along with Ms. Morgan you showed you can bully, berate and belittle</p>

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	<p>with the result of undermining staff, parent, student and community trust. Thrust into the role while serving as President, Ms. Perry was to keep you in line. However, as both of you have shown you continue to speak as long as you want, talk about non district related items and insult the minority board members. It is disgraceful and since it appears we are stuck with you for three more years and these behaviors reflect what long timers have seen for years it can only be hoped that you can force yourself to honor the 3 minutes. Same for you Ms. Morgan.</p>
Cathy	<p>I respectfully ask the Board to reconsider placing non-agenda public comment at the very end of meetings, as it limits meaningful public participation.</p>
Community member	<p>Absolutely not making the board experience what Perry has harped on for several years----warm and friendly. But worse is that this shows no consideration to the pleas from staff, students and parents to move this back to the start. That silly reason that this is to protect Hills from criticism is absurd He wanted public office so he can deal with it or resign.</p>