Public Comments Submitted Electronically for the July 9, 2026 Special Board Meeting

Closed Session: C) Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Laguna Beach Unified School District v. National Church Residences of Laguna Beach, et al. Case No. 30-2025-01518292-CU-OR-CJC
D) Conference with Labor Negotiators - Government Code Section 54957.6
Employee Organizations: LaBUFA and CSEA
District Negotiators: Mike Conlon, Manoj Roychowdhury, and Jonathan Pearl
E) Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (D) of Government Code 54956.9
F) Existing Litigation Doe, Jane (B.P.) (Beverly Paris) v. Laguna Beach USD Case No.: 30-2022-01297898-CU-PO-NJC

Name	Comment
Lee	This board majority has become a serious liability to our district. The constant conflict, repeated lawsuits, and ongoing governance problems are costing the district time, money, and credibility. Instead of focusing on students, staff, and educational excellence, the board is consumed by problems of its own making. I am especially concerned about the role Howard Hills appears to play in this process. Howard Hills is not the district's attorney, or even a licensed attororney and definetly does not understand the Brown Act, yet he seems to have an outsized influence on board decisions. That is unacceptable. The district should be relying on qualified licensed legal counsel whose duty is to protect the district, not to enable reckless decision-making or deepen legal exposure. Where is our attorney in all of this? It is the attorney's job to protect the district from unnecessary risk, not simply to go along with whatever the majority wants. The public should not have to watch our district become the most litigated and most dysfunctional in its

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	history. We need a new attorney who actually cares about the health of the district and best practice not just someone who says yes. ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! HOWARD AND SHERI , STEP DOWN. DEE, DO NOT RUN AGAIN! This district needs leadership that is stable, responsible, and capable of putting students ahead of ego, conflict, and personal agendas.
community member	Granted as Board Member Malczewski has commented school districts have litigation issues but based on recent meetings this board majority seems to have multiple anticipated litigation matters during closed. Perhaps as with the discussion of the "investigation" of the demonstration it is being used in a loophole situation where the majority can talk about where they think legal challenges may be headed when those discussions are likely premature. As always be diligent about the districts stake in the Aliso School property. Many previous boards before this current threesome that causes havoc have stood up for the districts interest in Aliso and the financial benefit to the district. Curious why the LaBUFA contract which is on the agenda for a hearing and then approval would need closed session discussion. Surely it is going to stay as presented without some last minute changes that the union would not be familiar with.
Parent and former staff	Too much time in closed session and the recent increase in complaints about the board majority and compliance with the Brown Act is ramping up. The three of you are making a mockery of the district and finding loopholes and obscure justifications for working outside the public view is offensive.

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Public Hearing - LBUSD/LaBUFA Tentative Agreement

Name	Comment
Heather Besecker	Thank you to the negotiations team for all of the time and effort that was used to make this agreement possible. I am really hoping that this meeting and topic can be kept positive and that the school board members focus on the future of our district and not fall back on what has happened in the past by continuing to try to make it appear as if the teaching staff did something dishonestly.
Lee	What you offered to Teaches and staff you should be ashamed of yourselves especially with all the money you are costing us. They deserve better than you all. This doesnt even cover cost of living and their health care out of pocket went up 33%. Howard where is your priority you 3 are full of lies.
community member	Without knowing all the details in the many discussions during negotiations it is assumed that the staff are ok with the 1% increase on the salary schedule while inflation is 4+% Granted there is additional support for the health benefits and then the possible 1% to the salary schedule in January of 2027 if the property tax is above a certain level. Still seems that for dollars in the pocket to spend on housing, food, gas, clothing, etc. a 1% to go against inflation at 4+% is not great and actually puts the spending power behind cost of living.

Action Item: Approval of LaBUFA 2026-2029 Successor Agreement

Name	Comment
Heather Besecker	Thank you again to all of those involved in the negotiations process. Please unanimously approve this agreement. Let's start the 26-27 school year off on a positive note and recognize the value of our LBUSD staff members. This is the start of my 21st year

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	teaching in this school district and I would like it to be one where I can be proud of not only my own classroom instruction, my colleagues' instruction and hard work, but also of the work done by the school board to make LBUSD a place of positivity, joy, ingenuity, and student centered decision making.
Lee	Shame shame shame on you. This is insulting. Our teachers and staff deserve better than what you gave. You would rather spend money fighting litigation caused by your egos and dysfunction than take care of the very people who take care of our students on a daily basis. This is just disgusting on your part. Lesser health care plans, higher out of pocket costs for the staff and a whole 1% when cost of living was 3.8%. THESE ARE VERIFIABLE FACTS! This is embarrising to our district. You continue to erode our district and will go down in history as the worst most destructive board majority in the history of our district. Sheri your public statement was a joke you should be embarrassed by it. You have no self awareness at all of what people think of you and neither does Howard. Yes you did hard work of demeaning and pushing down the moral of the employees and you say you are proud that the staff got lower health plans that cost them more money out of pocket and they got a measly 1% that doesnt cover anything. You gave the staff a HUGE PAYCUTT is what you did, all the while increasing our legal fees more than 75%. Congrats you showed everyone exactly what you think of staff.
	The insurance package you are offering staff is an embarrassment. While costs look great on paper, you neglect to tell staff the full story on providing a much less robust plan. We used to provide for our staff, now we do EVERYTHING in the name of saving money while the BOARD and MANOJ continue to build up legal fees and lie about the budget. Cut Manoj loose. Board

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	members should focus on their own jobs and not investigations into peaceful protests or staff who have done nothing wrong. Your venegulness will get the best of you, and hopefully sooner than late. Superintendent Austin, I hope you know what you've gotten yourself into!
Mary Evans	Please approve
Parent and former staff	1% is pitiful with inflation at 4%

Action Item: Approval of Resolution 26-07 to Establish an Interfund Transfer of $4,500,000 from the Special Reserve Fund for Other Than Capital Outlay Projects to the General Fund for 2026-27

Name	Comment
Bob Nichols	Based on Board Policy, there will need to be a plan from the business office that gets presented to the Board for approval to replenish reserves to acceptable levels as defined in the policy. I look forward to seeing how the district intends to return to the reserve levels we have had until now.
community member	It is sad that the district currently is drawing down on Fund 17 for reasons that it was not designed to cover. Yes the last resolution promises to put the dollars back and it is a one time only borrowing of funds. Hopefully is not like the comment about government currently that temporary is really spelled permanent. This insurance issue was examined by a forensic investigator under Mr. Dixon and there was a trail to track down which companies had purchased the insurance company that was covering the district in the mid 1970s. Do not give up on following this trail.
Parent and former staff	Stop draining Fund 17 It was set up to be a stop gap if funding crashes not as a bankroll for whatever

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Action Item: Approval of Resolution 26-08 Ordering A School Bond Election on November 3, 2026, and Authorizing Necessary Actions in Connection Therewith

Name	Comment
Lee	Do not mess this up!! and Howard stay out of the way. No ads,no letters to the editors let the voters decide all on their own. You don't even live in Laguna stay out of the way and let the democratic process play out without you sticking your nose in it.
Jim Garvey	Many of our facilities need renovation and modernization. We have some roofs that leak. Specifically in our old north gym. The windows need replacing as well. When it rains, the floor gets wet and the synthetic floor is very slippery and won't dry. The floor needs replacing. Almost any rain disrupts and severely limits activities. The north gym has no AC when it is sunny and hot, it is like an oven in there. I invite interested parties in visitng the hot gym with me on warm days. It is hotter inside than inside. The north gym also needs new score boards and window replacement because they have not been replaced in the 20 years I have been coaching. Finally, last year our big gym leaked where the walls meet the ceiling and ruined parts of our floor and had to be replaced. If we don't repair and improve our facilities now, they will continue to deteriorate and disrupt sports and other activities. Please strongly consider supporting a bond to help fund necessary improvements to our facilities.
community member	Absolutely necessary. Aa a taxpayer I no problem continuing with this extremely reasonable amount. Please examine more closely statement for the ballot and the projects as anything that should be covered under routine maintenance or covered on the FRRP that was established after the 2001 bond will be a negative to any voters who remember the promises made to maintain facilities enhanced or built with the 2001 bond

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	dollars. Also as I have heard Morgan spout this----nothing should be put out there as doing shared projects with the city. This is a school district bond for school district projects. The city has many projects without funding sources. Not the districts problem but the city would love to take some of our bond money. Working collaboratively does not include financing city projects. This would be a big negative to getting voter support as many city projects are not broadly supported.
Mary Evans	Please approve to put the School Bond on the ballot for November. The community should be allowed to decide the future of the schools.
Parent and former staff	Definitely put this on for the voters . Redo the projects and remove routine maintenance.