

**Public Comments Submitted Electronically for the
September 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting**

**Public Comment - Closed Session Items - C) Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation - Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) or (3) of Subdivision (D) of Government Code 54956.9
D) Conference with Labor Negotiators - Government Code § 54957.6
Employee Organizations: LaBUFA and CSEA**

Name	Comment
	Just has to come a time when negotiations is not a closed session item. Now after contracts have been voted on and finalized seems out of the timeline and would make staff wonder what is being discussed out of the public arena. Is this to talk about how the unions were not pleased with the minimal salary increase but still voted to accept the contracts?

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

Name	Comment
Global Citizen	Thank you to both unions, CSEA and LaBUFA for conducting a fair and thorough candidate forum. Rumor has it, it did not go well at all for Dee Perry and Liz Bates as they were ill-prepared and completely outclassed by the three candidates. "Embarrassing" was a common sentiment. Looking forward to a flip of the board so we can get back to focusing on the students. I think it's clear based on signage and support that the entire community of LB--staff, parents, residents--are ready for change. Sheri and Howard, you continually refer to "your constituents" and "what you were elected to do," and what you fail to realize is whatever support you had is largely gone. It was a fluke of an election, and the town is ready to course correct.
concerned staff	Thank you Dr. Austin for bringing our budget and LCAP back to the way it is supposed to be. Manoj would not listen to anyone about that is not how LCAP and budget is supposed to work. Manoj misinformed the board an

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	public when he made it sound like the way he did our LCAP and budget had always been done that way. Never since 2013 has the whole budget been in the LCAP and is not supposed to be but he would not listen to anyone. He does not understand how Community Funding works and chooses not to listen to anyone. He has created so much dysfunction and chaos with our schools because he does not want to do his job. We are so happy that you are here and understand how community funding works and hopefully can hold him accountable to do the job he was hired to do and actually start trying to collaborate and ask questions with his team and treat people in this district with respect including all staff and parents.
Briana Heathcott	Board President Sheri Morgan recently used her personal Instagram account to respond to concerns about staff morale, union endorsements, District finances and academic performance. The issue is not that she has a personal account. It is that she is using it to make claims about LBUSD that are misleading, unsupported or inaccurate. She questioned whether staff are “really unhappy,” even though both LaBUFA and CSEA endorsed the same three Board candidates. LaBUFA’s endorsement was unanimous, and CSEA reported more than 98% support. That is a significant signal from hundreds of District employees. She also wrote that only 15% of staff live in Laguna and pay taxes here. Why does that matter? Do teachers, aides, custodians and staff have less standing because they cannot afford to live in Laguna Beach? Their experience working in our schools matters regardless of their ZIP code. She claimed the District used “all available cash

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	resources” for the pool, yet the Board later transferred \$4.5 million from Fund 17 into the General Fund. Those statements cannot both be true in the way she presented them. She also reduced broader union concerns to “unions prioritize money.” That is not listening. That is dismissing. When the Board President publicly discusses District finances, employee sentiment and academic performance, the community should be able to expect accuracy.
Leslie Elliott	Why has the district failed to produce records responsive to Public Records Act requests concerning Ashley Consulting’s investigation of the May 14 community rally, including the contract, the scope of work, fees, and any reports, findings, or summaries produced? The board majority and its Nextdoor “colleagues” have promoted a false and misleading narrative about the rally. The public deserves full transparency about how much this investigation cost, what Ashley Consulting was asked to investigate, and what its investigation ultimately found. WHERE IS THE TRANSPARENCY THE BOARD MAJORITY RAN ON???
	Hills behavior at the last meeting was completely unacceptable and unprofessional. Morgan your feeble attempts to get him to stop his verbal attack on Dr. Kelly went unheeded. You should have turned off his mic. Basically, his continued conduct should be censured by the board. The waste of meeting time by the over talking by both Hills and Morgan can be controlled if they would

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	adhere to professional conduct. Whether they like it or not these board meetings are not their platforms. Morgan continues to deny the criticism and has made it clear she is going to continue her lectures on proper use of social media as if that is not the pot calling the kettle black. And both Hills and Morgan cannot control their need to talk about their families----unrelated to board business and quite frankly immature bragging.
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Action Item: Approval of the 2025-2026 Unaudited Actuals Financial Report

Name	Comment
Global Citizen	Legal fees are not broken out in the district's headline financial report here. But when the underlying warrants are examined, the numbers are striking: approximately \$408,000 in legal expenses in just six months (January 2026 - June 2026)—more than \$67,000 a month on average. This is what everyone is enraged about and should be the topic of conversation, not amount spent on books.
	Page at the start has not category identification and so is unclear. Adding the Funds 08 and 51 which have not been included in prior years because the board does not administer or manage these funds just confuses the public. Board is clearly responsible for the large increase in legal expenses and increased staff costs with the new positions coming out of the board majority demands. Micromanaged staff decisions is faulty.

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Public Hearing:

Public Disclosure of Proposal in Accordance with AB 1200 (Chapter 1213/1991), Government Code 3547.5 and CCR, Title V, Section 15449; 2026-2027 Compensation Proposal with Non-represented Classified and Certificated Employees

Name	Comment
concerned staff	Is the district contributing to the healthcare cap for this group which they should it should not all come on the backs of the 2% compensation that went to teachers and staff. That means the 3 Asst. Superintendents in effect get a 5% raise. 3% to salary and our 2% to health care. The district needs to contribute to the health care cap as well or it will continue to grow out of balance. Do the right thing and for every unrepresented add 2% more to the cap
	For the majority members who have talked incessantly for a few years and campaigned on not having a "me too" concept for unions and other staff this is an insulting offer to the non-represented classified and certificated employees. They deserve better. And they do not have union reps to try and help them. So Hills, Morgan and Perry you have ended up with "me too" after all. Guess your words are hollow and the backs of poor increases with inflation for all staff diminishing any buying power gain.

Information: Report to the Board: The Cycle of a School Year

Name	Comment
	Boards prior to this have received spread sheet info from Ms. Webber covering the year and where all the needs for board action, involvement, etc. fall. So this is redundant and the slides are basically a few words with no real info. Anyone can grab quotes---where is the meat? Previous boards have respected the great body of knowledge and the efficiency of Ms. Webber.

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Action Item: Approval of Consent Calendar Items B - L

Name	Comment
	Major legal fees---165K.