



LAGUNA BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

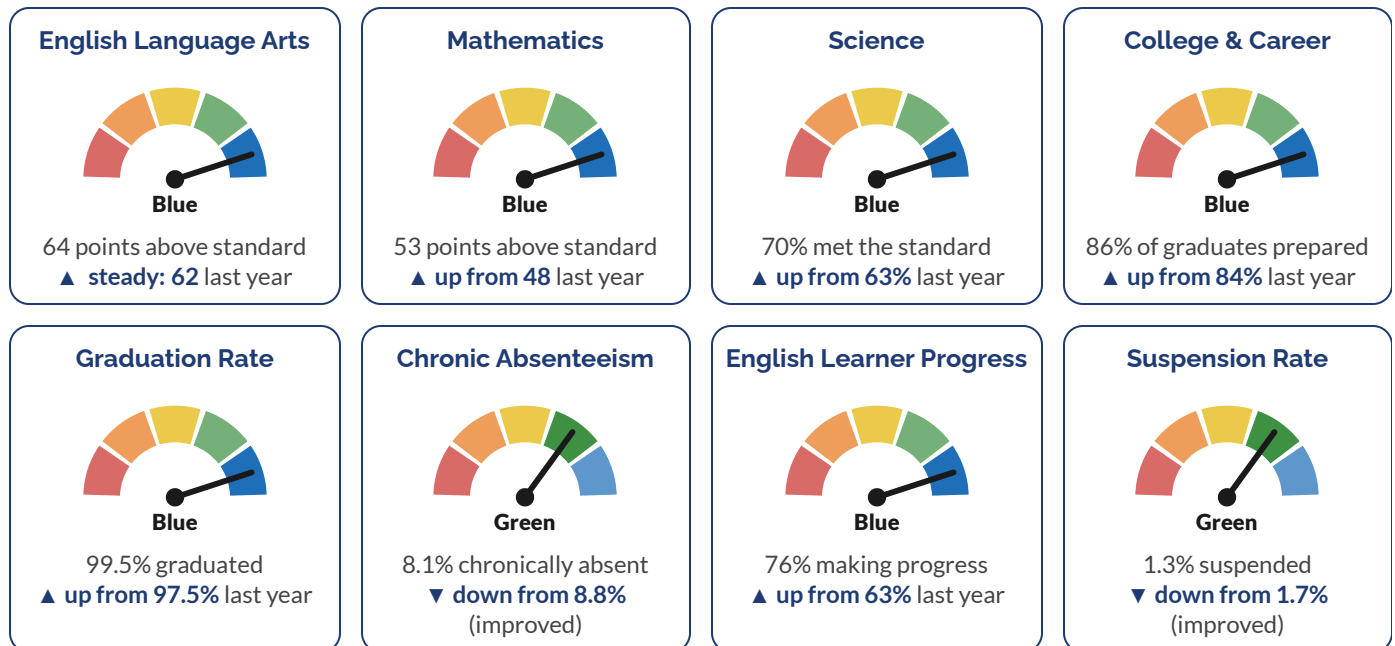
2026 Dashboard Performance Review

California School Dashboard Results • 2025–26 School Year

The **California School Dashboard** provides an excellent opportunity for both reflection and goal-setting. Each year, the state reports how every school and district is doing on a set of **state indicators**, such as test results, graduation, attendance and English learner progress, along with several **local indicators**. Results are shown for all students and for specific student groups, which helps everyone see whether *all* students are being served well.

This report explains what each measure means, how Laguna Beach Unified did on the 2026 Dashboard (based on the 2025–26 school year), what is going well and where we are focusing our work.

2026 at a glance



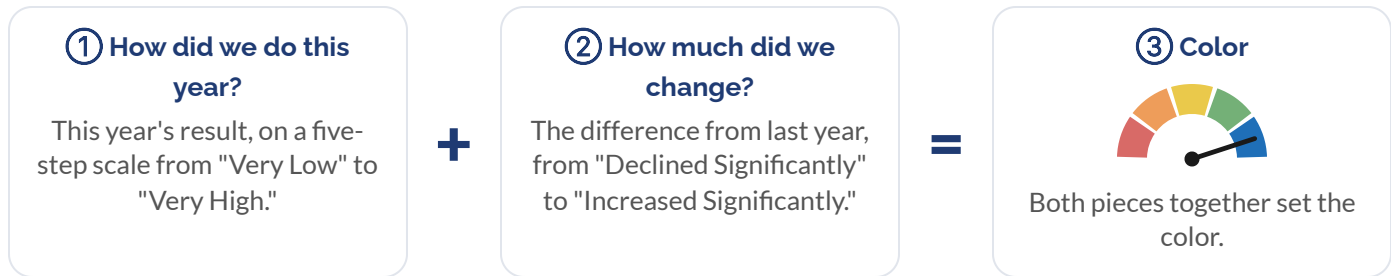
Six Blue (the highest color) and **two Green**, with no Yellow, Orange or Red, for LBUSD students overall.

How to Read the Dashboard

Each state indicator receives one of **five colors**. Blue is the highest performance and Red is the lowest:



How is a color decided?

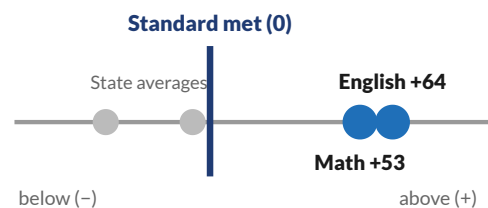


A school with a very strong result that holds steady can earn Blue. A school with a lower result that improves a lot can move up a color. For **chronic absenteeism** and **suspension**, a *lower* rate is better.

What does "points above standard" mean?

In English and math, every grade has a score that means a student has **met the grade-level standard**. The Dashboard shows how far, on average, students scored **above (+) or below (-)** that line. This is called **"Distance from Standard."**

LBUSD students scored **64 points above** the line in English and **53 points above** in math. The state average is below the line in both.



TWO KINDS OF "POINTS" IN THIS REPORT

Points from standard are state test-score points, used only for English and math. "+64 points from standard" means students scored, on average, 64 test-score points above the line for meeting the standard.

Percentage points describe the change between two percentages. If 63% of students met the science standard last year and 70% this year, that is an increase of **7 percentage points**.

Throughout this report, changes in test scores are labeled "points from standard," and changes in percentages are labeled "percentage points."

Who is included?

Results are reported for all students and for **student groups**, such as Hispanic/Latino students, students with disabilities, English learners and students from low-income families. A group needs at least 30 students to receive a color, and results for fewer than 11 students are not shown, to protect privacy. Because many LBUSD groups are small, a change of just a few students can move a result.

1

Academic Performance: English & Math

State tests: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP)

WHAT IT MEASURES

How well students in grades 3–8 and 11 are mastering California's standards in English language arts (reading, writing, listening and research) and mathematics, based on the state tests students took in spring 2026.

English Language Arts



Last year: Blue

Mathematics



Last year: Blue

78%

of students **met or exceeded** the English standard (948 of 1,210)

73%

of students **met or exceeded** the math standard (883 of 1,205)

LBUSD reached the state's highest level, **"Very High,"** in both subjects, and **both went up from last year:** English held steady at **64 points above standard** (from 62) and math to **53 points above standard** (from 48). Both are well above county and state averages.

Percent meeting the standard, by grade

Grade	English	Math
Grade 3	72% ▼ 5 pct. pts	82% ● same
Grade 4	78% ▼ 3 pct. pts	79% ▲ 2 pct. pts
Grade 5	84% ▲ 7 pct. pts	76% ▲ 9 pct. pts
Grade 6	74% ● same	66% ▼ 6 pct. pts
Grade 7	84% ▲ 6 pct. pts	77% ▲ 2 pct. pts
Grade 8	72% ▼ 7 pct. pts	78% ● same
Grade 11	83% ▲ 4 pct. pts	60% ● same

Arrows show the change from last year in percentage points (pct. pts).



What's going well

- **Grade 5:** English up 7 and math up 9 percentage points. **Grade 7** English up 6 and **grade 11** English up 4 percentage points.
- **El Morro** had the biggest math gain of any school: 79% met the math standard, up 11 percentage points, and scores rose 18 points from standard.

Where we're focusing

- **Math in grades 11 and 6:** grade 11 held at 60% (our lowest), and grade 6 dropped 6 percentage points to 66%.
- **English in grades 3, 4 and 8:** down 3 to 7 percentage points.
- **Hispanic/Latino students** scored lower than last year, and **students with disabilities** improved but remain well below other students.

WHAT IT MEASURES

What students know and can do in Earth and space science, life science and physical science, based on California's science standards. Students take the science test in grades 5, 8 and 11.



Last year: Blue

70%

of students met or exceeded the science standard (384 of 548), **up from 63%** last year



What's going well

- **Grade 11** science: students meeting the standard rose about 12 percentage points.
- Near pre-pandemic levels (71% in 2019).
- Top of the World: 80% met the standard.
- Students from low-income families rose 12 percentage points, to 62%.

Where we're focusing

- **Students with disabilities:** 33% met the standard.
- **Earth and space science** is the area where the fewest students scored above the standard.

Percent meeting the science standard, by grade

Grade tested	Met or exceeded
Grade 5	71% (114 of 161)
Grade 8	72% (128 of 178)
Grade 11	68% (142 of 209)

By student group

All students		70.1% (384 of 548)
Two or more races		78.7% (37 of 47)
White		70.1% (284 of 405)
Hispanic/Latino		67.3% (35 of 52)
Asian		65.5% (19 of 29)
Low-income families		62.3% (66 of 106)
Students with disabilities		33.3% (15 of 45)

3 Graduation Rate

WHAT IT MEASURES

The percentage of students in a graduating class who earn a regular high school diploma within four or five years. The class, called a **cohort**, is the group of students who started 9th grade together, adjusted for students who move into or out of the district.

Graduation



Last year: Blue

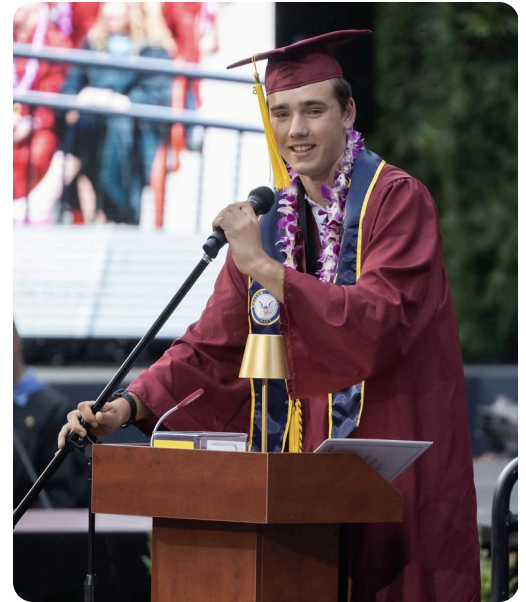
100%

of the Laguna Beach High School class graduated (213 of 213 students in the cohort). **Every student group: 100%**

99.5%

districtwide (215 of 216 students), **up from 97.5%** last year

Why 100% at LBHS but 99.5% districtwide? The district rate also includes 3 students in programs outside LBHS, and 1 of them did not graduate.



LBHS graduation rate by student group

All students		100% (213 of 213)
White		100% (149 of 149)
Low-income families		100% (76 of 76)
Hispanic/Latino		100% (28 of 28)
Two or more races		100% (22 of 22)
Students with disabilities		100% (20 of 20)

4

College & Career Readiness

How prepared our graduates are for life after high school

WHAT IT MEASURES

How many graduates leave high school prepared for college or a career. Graduates count as "Prepared" if they meet at least one of several measures, such as completing the courses required for University of California and Cal State admission (called "A-G"), passing two or more Advanced Placement (AP) exams with a score of 3 or higher, taking college classes in high school, scoring well on state tests, completing a career pathway, earning a State Seal (an award on the diploma) or completing internships and other work-based learning.

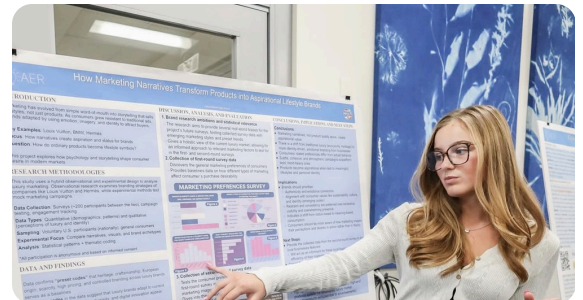
College & Career



Last year: Blue

86%

of graduates were "Prepared" (186 of 216), **up from 84%**



Top ways LBHS graduates qualified

College-prep courses (A-G)		90%
2+ AP exams passed		78%
State test scores		61%
Seal of Biliteracy		47%
Civic Engagement Seal		42%
Career pathway		26%
Internships / work-based		26%

Of the LBHS graduates who were prepared, the percentage who qualified each way. Many qualified more than one way. The Seal of Biliteracy recognizes fluency in two languages, and the Civic Engagement Seal recognizes community involvement.

What's going well

- More students qualified by passing two or more AP exams, and through the State Seal of Civic Engagement.
- Students from low-income families: 78% prepared (Blue).

Where we're focusing

- **Students with disabilities:** 48% prepared (11 of 23). Work-based learning (such as internships) is the most common way they qualify.
- Fewer students qualified through state test scores and the Seal of Biliteracy than last year.

5 Chronic Absenteeism

Grades K–8

WHAT IT MEASURES

The percentage of students who missed **10% or more** of school days (about 18 days in a full year) for any reason. Regular attendance is one of the strongest predictors of student success. Lower is better.

Chronic Absenteeism



Last year: Yellow

8.1%

of K–8 students were chronically absent
(125 of 1,541), **down from 8.8%**

16.1%

estimated statewide rate

What's going well

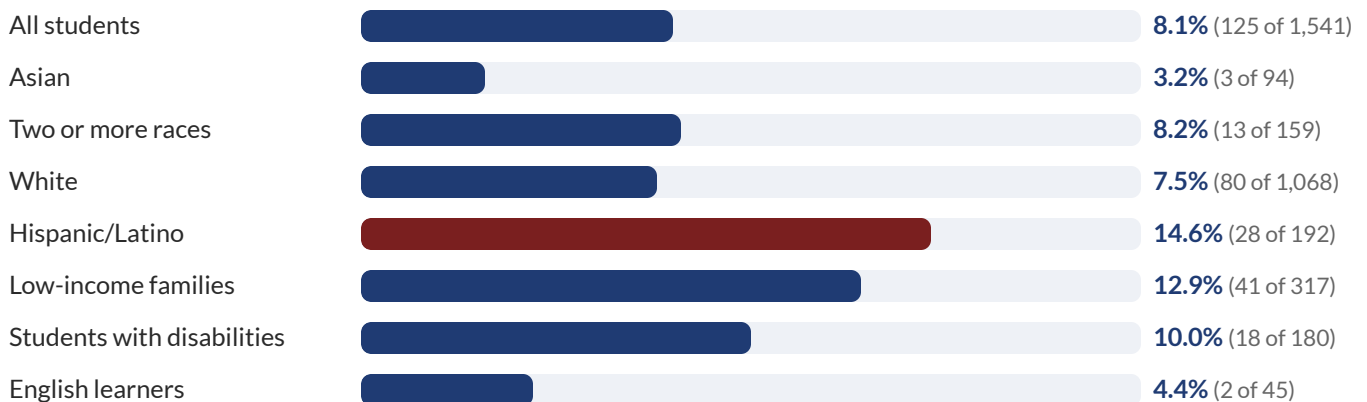
- LBUSD moved up from Yellow to Green.
- Students with disabilities: down from 16% to 10%.
- El Morro improved the most (12.6% → 9.8%).

Where we're focusing

- **Hispanic/Latino students:** 14.6% (28 of 192), up from 10.9%. This is our only Red.
- Students from low-income families: 12.9%.

Why are grades 6–8 Orange? Chronic absenteeism in grades 6–8 is 7.2% (39 of 543 students), which is in the "Medium" range (5–10%). It rose 0.8 percentage points from 6.3%, which counts as "Increased." On the Dashboard, **Medium + Increased = Orange**. Three fewer chronically absent students would have meant Yellow.

Chronic absenteeism by student group (grades K–8)



Lower is better. Bars are scaled from 0% to 20%.

6

Suspension Rate

Grades K-12

WHAT IT MEASURES

The percentage of students suspended for at least one full day during the school year. Lower is better.

Suspension



Last year: Green

1.3%

of students were suspended (30 of 2,392), **down from 1.7%**

2.7%

estimated statewide rate

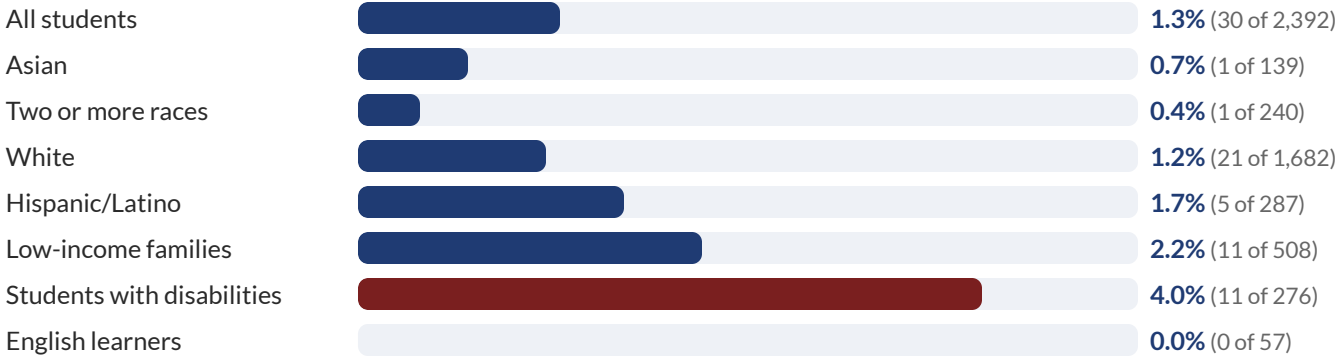
What's going well

- Thurston cut its suspension rate from 3.3% to 1.1%.
- Top of the World: 0.4% (Blue).

Where we're focusing

- **Students with disabilities:** 4.0% (11 students), rated Orange.
- **Grades 9-12** had 17 of the district's 30 suspensions.

Suspension rate by student group



Lower is better. Bars are scaled from 0% to 5%.

HOW THE RATE IS COUNTED

The rate counts **students**, not suspensions. A student suspended more than once is counted one time. Only full-day suspensions are included.

7

English Learner Progress

State test: English Language Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC)

WHAT IT MEASURES

Whether students who are learning English are making progress each year toward English fluency in listening, speaking, reading and writing, by moving up at least one level on the state's English language test or staying at the highest level.

English Learner Progress



Last year: Yellow

76%

of English learners made progress (25 of 33), **up from 63%**

49%

of English learners were **reclassified** as fluent English speakers (16 of 33)

How our 33 English learners did



● Moved up a level (18) ● Stayed at top level (7) ● Stayed at a lower level (8) ● Dropped a level (0)

Reclassification means a student has shown they are fluent in English and no longer needs English learner services. Every student who reached or stayed at Level 4, the top level on the state English test, was reclassified this year.

What's going well

- **Moved from Yellow to Blue**, two colors in one year.
- No student dropped a level (3 did last year).
- English learners' math scores rose 25 points from standard.
- Supports: progress tracking, teacher coaching, language software and an LBHS English development class.

Where we're focusing

- Helping English growth show up in **reading and writing**.
- With 33 students, results can change quickly from year to year.



Closing the Gaps: How Student Groups Compare

This table compares each student group with **all LBUSD students** on the same measures. Gaps are in **percentage points** (pct. pts), not points from standard. Colors are the official Dashboard colors. Test results are the percent of students who met or exceeded the standard on the 2026 state tests.

Measure	All students	Hispanic/Latino students	Students with disabilities	Students from low-income families	English learners
English: met standard	78.3% BLUE	67.4% (97 of 144) 10.9 pct. pts lower GREEN	40.9% (45 of 110) 37.4 pct. pts lower YELLOW	63.1% (152 of 241) 15.2 pct. pts lower GREEN	28.6% (6 of 21) 49.7 pct. pts lower YELLOW
Math: met standard	73.3% BLUE	60.1% (86 of 143) 13.2 pct. pts lower GREEN	38.2% (42 of 110) 35.1 pct. pts lower YELLOW	60.0% (144 of 240) 13.3 pct. pts lower BLUE	52.4% (11 of 21) 20.9 pct. pts lower BLUE
Science: met standard	70.1% BLUE	67.3% (35 of 52) 2.8 pct. pts lower BLUE	33.3% (15 of 45) 36.8 pct. pts lower GREEN	62.3% (66 of 106) 7.8 pct. pts lower BLUE	Fewer than 11 students
Chronically absent	8.1% GREEN	14.6% (28 of 192) 6.5 pct. pts higher RED	10.0% (18 of 180) 1.9 pct. pts higher GREEN	12.9% (41 of 317) 4.8 pct. pts higher YELLOW	4.4% (2 of 45) 3.7 pct. pts lower GREEN
Suspended	1.3% GREEN	1.7% (5 of 287) 0.4 pct. pts higher YELLOW	4.0% (11 of 276) 2.7 pct. pts higher ORANGE	2.2% (11 of 508) 0.9 pct. pts higher GREEN	0.0% (0 of 57) 1.3 pct. pts lower BLUE
Graduated	99.5% BLUE	100.0% (28 of 28) 0.5 pct. pts higher NO COLOR	95.7% (22 of 23) 3.8 pct. pts lower NO COLOR	100.0% (76 of 76) 0.5 pct. pts higher BLUE	Fewer than 11 students
College/career prepared	86.1% BLUE	75.0% (21 of 28) 11.1 pct. pts lower NO COLOR	47.8% (11 of 23) 38.3 pct. pts lower NO COLOR	77.6% (59 of 76) 8.5 pct. pts lower BLUE	Fewer than 11 students

Cell colors are each group's 2026 Dashboard color for that area: ■ Blue ■ Green ■ Yellow ■ Orange ■ Red ■

No color (fewer than 30 students)

For chronic absenteeism and suspension, a *higher* rate is worse. For English, math and science, the color comes from the Dashboard's test-score measure (points from standard), so a group can have a large gap in percent meeting the standard and still be Green or Blue. Students can belong to more than one group.

The largest gaps

- **Students with disabilities:** 35–37 percentage points behind in English, math and science. 47.8% college/career prepared vs. 86.1%. Suspension rate about 3 times the district rate.
- **English learners:** 50 percentage points behind in English and 21 in math.
- **Low-income families:** 15 percentage points behind in English, 13 in math. 12.9% chronically absent vs. 8.1%.
- **Hispanic/Latino:** 11 percentage points behind in English, 13 in math. 14.6% chronically absent, nearly twice the district rate.

Where gaps are closed

- **Graduation:** Hispanic/Latino students and students from low-income families graduated at 100%.
- **Science:** Hispanic/Latino students (67.3%) are within 3 percentage points of all students.
- **English learners:** 4.4% chronically absent and no suspensions.

Strengths & Focus Areas: Student Groups

The Dashboard shows results for student groups so we can see whether every student is being served well. Here is where groups are thriving and where they need more support.

Hispanic/Latino students

192 students in grades K–8 • 287 districtwide

CELEBRATE

- Blue in science, near the district average.
- 100% graduation (28 of 28).

FOCUS

- **Chronic absenteeism is Red** (14.6%), with increases in the elementary and middle school grades.
- English and math scores went down from last year: English down about 6 points from standard and math down about 4. 67% met the English standard and 60% met math.

Students with disabilities

276 students districtwide

CELEBRATE

- Big gains in math (up 31 points from standard) and attendance (16% → 10% chronically absent).
- 100% graduation at LBHS.

FOCUS

- **Suspension is Orange** (4.0%).
- English scores rose 3.5 points from standard, but only 38–41% met the English and math standards. 48% of graduates were college/career prepared.

Students from low-income families

508 students districtwide

CELEBRATE

- Blue in math, science, graduation and college/career.
- Math scores rose 21 points from standard and English rose 5 points from standard. The share meeting the science standard is up 12 percentage points.

FOCUS

- Chronic absenteeism is 12.9%, higher than the district.
- 63% met the English standard.

English learners

About 50 students districtwide (small, so results can shift quickly)

CELEBRATE

- Blue in English Learner Progress (76%) and in math.
- No suspensions. Chronic absenteeism is Green.

FOCUS

- ELA test scores decreased from last year, while math scores rose 25 points from standard (yet remain below LBUSD average).

Asian students, white students and students of two or more races are Blue or Green in nearly every area.

Celebrating Our Schools

Highlights from each school, with each school's 2026 Dashboard colors.



El Morro Elementary

- English: Blue
- Math: Blue
- Science: Blue
- Attendance: Green
- Suspension: Green

CELEBRATE

- Biggest math gain of any school:** 79% met the math standard, up 11 percentage points, and scores rose 18 points from standard. Every student group improved.
- Chronic absenteeism fell from 12.6% to 9.8% (Green).



Top of the World Elementary

- English: Green
- Math: Green
- Science: Blue
- Attendance: Yellow
- Suspension: Blue

CELEBRATE

- Highest share of students meeting the science standard** of any school: 80%.
- Lowest suspension rate (0.4%).



Thurston Middle School

- English: Blue
- Math: Blue
- Science: Blue
- Attendance: Orange
- Suspension: Green

CELEBRATE

- English and math scores both went up** from last year (about 4 and 7 points from standard). Math scores for students from low-income families rose 36 points from standard.
- Suspensions cut by two-thirds (3.3% → 1.1%).



Laguna Beach High School

- English: Blue
- Math: Blue
- Science: Blue
- Graduation: Blue
- College/Career: Blue
- Suspension: Yellow

CELEBRATE

- 100% graduation** and 87% college/career prepared
- 83% met the grade 11 English standard.

Local Indicators: All Standards Met

The Dashboard also includes five **local indicators** for areas the state does not measure with test data. Each year, districts report whether they met the standard. **In 2026, LBUSD met the standard in all five areas.**

Highlights from the district's 2026 self-reflection:

✓ Met

Basic Conditions

Qualified teachers, textbooks and safe, clean schools

- **100%** of teaching positions held by properly credentialed, correctly assigned teachers (162 of 162)
- **0** students without their own standards-aligned textbooks and materials
- **0** school facilities found not in good repair

✓ Met

Teaching to State Standards

How fully schools teach California's academic standards

- **Full implementation and sustainability** (5 of 5) in English, English language development, science and history
- Math rated 3 of 5 (initial implementation) as math teaching and materials continue to be strengthened

✓ Met

Family Engagement

Partnering with parents and families

- **86%** of parents feel welcome at their child's school
- **91%** say school staff care about students
- **89%** are satisfied with school communication
- A Family Resource Center and community liaison support families who face barriers, including families who speak languages other than English

✓ Met

School Climate

Students' sense of safety and connection, from the spring 2026 survey (1,879 responses)

- **88%** of students have at least one supportive adult at school
- Only **2%** of students report not feeling safe at school
- **82%** of students take part in challenging learning and **84%** in relevant learning

✓ Met

Access to a Broad Course of Study

Arts, electives, AP, career and college courses for every student (Class of 2025)

- **87%** completed UC/CSU (A–G) requirements
- **81%** took at least one AP course, and **73%** took at least one career technical (CTE) course
- **21%** of LBHS students earned college credit in high school

Source: LBUSD 2026–27 Local Performance Indicator Self-Reflection. Teacher assignment data are for 2024–25, the most recent year the state has released.

Our Focus for 2026–27

These results show a district performing well above county and state averages, along with clear areas where some students need more support. LBUSD's improvement work for the coming year will center on:

Deeper learning in English and math

Building students' skills in listening, research, problem solving and explaining their thinking in math, with a special focus on **grade 11 math**, plus extra small-group help for students who need it.

Every student, every day

Personal outreach to families to understand barriers to attendance, plus individualized attendance plans with resources such as transportation, counseling and check-ins, with additional outreach to **Hispanic/Latino students** and students from low-income families.

Supporting students with disabilities

Specialized teaching, more time learning alongside classmates, and positive ways to address behavior that help students learn from mistakes rather than miss school. We will also expand **internships, college classes and career pathways**.

Multilingual learners

Continuing what worked this year (progress tracking, teacher coaching, language software, the LBHS English development class and summer programs) while building stronger reading and writing skills.

How LBUSD compares

Measure	LBUSD	Orange County*	California*
English (points from standard)	+64	+20	-7.5
Math (points from standard)	+53	-4	-38.9
Graduation rate	99.5%	94.7%	88.1%
College/career prepared	86%	65%	55.2%
Chronic absenteeism (lower is better)	8.1%	11.4%	16.1%
Suspension rate (lower is better)	1.3%	1.6%	2.7%

*Unofficial estimates calculated from the 2026 state data files. Official figures may differ slightly.

All LBUSD staff will continue working together to create the conditions in which students grow into **empowered learners, creative problem-solvers, effective communicators and constructive collaborators**, ready to thrive beyond the classroom walls.

Additional resources: LBHS Class of 2026 Highlights · Multilingual Learner Progress Summary · CAASPP Performance Outcomes 2025–26