Resolution 26-18

Reduction of Cafeteria Waste

CYCP Student Leaders

Ariana Ghane
Senior, Class of 2027

Clark Alden
Freshman, Class of 2030

LBUSD Board Meeting / November 19, 2026

Tonight’s Ask

Adopt Resolution 26-18

Reduction of Cafeteria Waste

Fewer single-use items

More reusables

More organic waste diversion

Support SB 1383 compliance

We’re Here as Part of a Coalition

Students

53 petition signers

Green Team members and petition signers support cutting waste at school and protecting our coast.

Teachers & Staff

32 teachers

Ms. Harwood, Brianna, and teachers support making lunch a place to practice what students learn.

Administrators

Dr. Allemann

Supports reusables to help reduce waste and long-term costs.

What we believe Less waste, plastic-free meals, and a more climate-resilient district

Why It Matters

Students

Daily habits around reuse and sorting waste that carry beyond school.

Families

The materials used to serve hot school meals matter to families.

Community

Schools and local businesses can cut single-use plastic and protect our coast.



The Opportunity in LBUSD

~30%

LBHS waste diversion

24% compost and 4% recycling

90%

Districtwide goal by 2030



LBHS cafeteria fruit bar

2025 Student Waste Audit



Reducing disposable plastic supports the diversion goal

Resolution 22-04

Where LBUSD’s Waste Goes

School	Share of audited waste	Compost	Recycling	Landfill
El Morro 2026		**42.3%** 13 lb	**23.5%** 7 lb	**34.2%** 11 lb
Top of the World 2026		**51.6%** 16 lb	**18.3%** 6 lb	**30.1%** 10 lb
Thurston 2026		**23.4%** 11 lb	**27.7%** 13 lb	**48.9%** 23 lb
LBHS 2025		**24.1%** 13 lb	**3.7%** 2 lb	**72.2%** 39 lb

90% **Districtwide waste diversion goal by 2030**

Student Waste Audits (2025–2026) and LBUSD Sustainability Goal 1. Weights shown in whole pounds.

What Our Policy Does

What

Reduce single-use plastic, expand reuse, and keep more waste out of landfills.

By when

A flexible, phased rollout that gives school kitchens time to adapt.

Who

Nutrition Services, Business Services, Facilities, and Green Team students.



Building on District and State Action

District policy (2021)

BP 3510

Green School Operations
Less packaging, recyclable or biodegradable options, reusables, food waste systems, and share tables.

State law (2016)

SB 1383

Organics recycling and edible food recovery.

Our proposal

Resolution 26-18

Reduce cafeteria waste, prioritize reusables, and choose alternatives to single-use black plastic.

Sources: LBUSD BoardDocs, OC Waste & Recycling, Waste Management, CalRecycle, and Resolution 26-18.

What Other California Districts Are Doing

Fremont



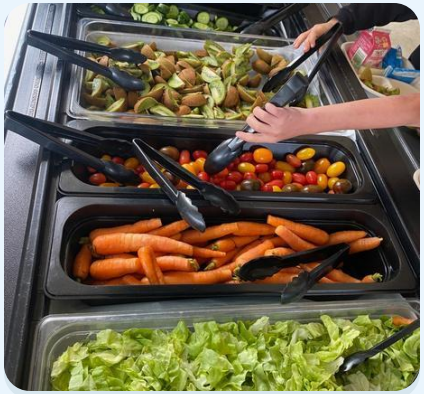


Reusable trays and utensils

Thornton Middle School students helped lead the effort. Reusable trays and utensils were washed off-site.

Encinitas





Carts to sort waste after lunch

85% reduction in lunchtime waste

Sources: UC Nutrition Policy Institute and California Department of Education.

Our Ask Tonight

Adopt Resolution 26-18

Reduction of Cafeteria Waste

Next steps

We’d like to keep supporting this work however we can.
To follow up, please contact Ms. Harwood or LBUSD district staff.