Electronically Submitted Public Comments
September 3, 2021 Special Board Meeting

Closed Session Item - Threat to Public Services or Facilities (Government Code Section 54957)

Name	Comment
Tammy Perkins	NO! There is no proof of a dangerous threat that warrants this action.

Mandatory COVID-19 Testing for All LBUSD Students

Name	Comment
Debbie Elgas	Please do not do this. My son had to be tested just this week and the nurse tells us they don't recommend testing unless a person has symptoms. What a horrible thing to do to children and forcing it on a regular basis! Plus, the inconvenience for parents! This is horrifying that you are considering this. Covid is not an emergency any longer. It is endemic and we need to live with it.
Joana Diver	If you are going to test, ALL students should be tested and treated equally (with equity). There should be NO allowance for exemption for vaccinated students. Even the CDC states that vaccinated individuals are spreading the virus. Is it ok for the vaccinated to spread it but not the unvaccinated? This is discrimination. Maybe we should poll the parents and ask who wants mandatory testing of ALL and who does not?
Payal Avellan	Yes - we would like to plead with the Board to enact weekly mandatory noninvasive (Saliva) Covid testing for all unvaccinated students. Students who don't comply should be subject to wearing masks outdoors in addition to indoors and should otherwise be held to the modified quarantine standards. We truly felt we didn't have a choice but to send our son to in-person school this year. Independent study for an 8-year-old with both parents who work full time isn't an option. We have vulnerable family members and would appreciate LBUSD going above the bare minimum as required by the state and be a true leader in Orange County in keeping our kids (and their vulnerable family members) safe and healthy. Thank you for your consideration.

Nicole	Mandatory testing for all LBUSD students is ABSOLUTE INSANITY!!!!! Why would you test a child without symptoms? The only thing this would do is instill MORE fear on these little kids. If this passes we will be pulling all of our kids out of TOW and putting them into private schools. I honestly cannot believe this is even on the agenda to be considered. Please keep this optional and use the testing as needing only if a child has symptoms or has been exposed to Covid.
Tammy Perkins	Absolutely NOT! I will remove my kid from this school. Non-negotiable.
Adrien Avellan	Yes - I will answer the same as my wife did: We would like to plead with the Board to enact weekly mandatory noninvasive (Saliva) Covid testing for all unvaccinated students. Students who don't comply should be subject to wearing masks outdoors in addition to indoors and should otherwise be held to the modified quarantine standards. We truly felt we didn't have a choice but to send our son to in-person school this year. Independent study for an 8-year-old with both parents who work full time isn't an option. We have vulnerable family members and would appreciate LBUSD going above the bare minimum as required by the state and be a true leader in Orange County in keeping our kids (and their vulnerable family members) safe and healthy. Thank you for your consideration.
Brook Sager	My blood is boiling today after reading that you are discussing making testing mandatory in order to attend public school. I do not co~parent with the state and this kind of decision should absolutely be up to the parent! This is not ok! I do not consent and now I will have to seriously consider pulling my kids out of school. I am devastated!. Please, Please reconsider this decision. When you start making medical decisions mandatory we have completely lost our way as a free society. Someone, will you please , stand up for our children and say No! This is not ok! These decisions should be left to the individual parent and the individual child's needs!. Testing should remain optional!!
Tim	Not A CHANCE!!

Ina	This is not consistent with your current masking rules, which work towards non-discriminatory practices (having everyone wear a mask regardless of vaccination status). If you are trying to avoid discrimination and bullying, then do not force kids to get tested regularly only when not vaccinated, while allowing those who do get vaccinated to be off the hook for regular testing. Plus, people who are vaccinated can spread it just as easy, so test everyone regularly if you must go that route. As far as potentially making "independent study" a consequence for not testing regularly, how could this ever be okay?! That's further enforcing bullying and could easily cause extreme emotional trauma for that poor child, as well as for the entire family that would be affected. Furthermore, rapid tests are not accurate for screening and can produce false positives and negatives. The accurate PCR testing is expensive and takes days to result. Children shouldn't be put under medical procedures without their parents present especially small ones. In general, I hope you choose to continue to make testing optional and do not mandate it. This is all too much weight to be putting on our little kiddos who are an insignificant risk (of getting covid, getting ill from it, and spreading it). We are most fortunate to have such a small, strong district that does not dwell in a "widespread transmission" area, thus we do not need to emulate what some districts are doing in large, hard hit areas.
Marek Kaczynski	Yes
Brittany Johnson	Absolutely NO TESTING FOR STUDENTS. THE CDC HAS CLAIMED THIS IS UNETHICAL AND ILLEGAL
Anonymous	Just last year, the CDC denounced 'unethical and illegal' mandatory coronavirus testing in schools. It IS unethical. It IS illegal. I know too many who will refuse and instead pull their children from your district.
Ashley Woravka	Covid testing should NOT be mandatory. If we are following the guidance of the CDC, "It is unethical and illegal to test someone who does not want to be tested, including students whose parents or guardians do not want them to be tested," the CDC said. If the district decides to further outrage the parents and testing does become mandatory then it should be for all students regardless of

	vaccination status. The science is clear that vaccinated people are still getting and spreading covid so there is no need to encourage more discrimination by making vaccinated kids exempt.
Jessie Stevens	Mandatory covid-19 testing for students is a violation of their rights. It is unethical and illegal to require our children to have such an invasive test, regularly… especially without symptoms. My first grader would be traumatized by the test, it is painful and invasive. This is not something I will put my children through regularly. LBUSD needs to start putting our children and their students top of mind. The CDC even stated that they do not condone mandatory testing for students on a regular basis.
Laura Heacock	Please consider this as a requirement for everyone regardless of vaccination status as those that have been vaccinated can still be carriers and/or get COVID-19. If is not required for all and only those unvaccinated, please consider an exception for those that have had COVID and can show proof of antibodies.
Nicole	No Covid testing for all students. Laguna Beach does not have the same transmission rates as other areas, in fact, the numbers have been plateauing and going down county-wide even with the Delta variant in circulation. This is a waste of time and resources for a demographic that has an incredibly low risk of getting and transmitting the disease. Once again, our district does not need to follow other larger, high risk school districts. If you want further evidence, just look at our local hospital which, during the peak of the pandemic, was never brought into service for Covid patients and whose parking lot continues to be used for beach overflow.
Amber Offield	If Covid-19 testing is voted to be mandatory to all LBUSD students it should be mandated to all students and staff regardless of vaccine status. Both the vaccinated and unvaccinated can spread and get Covid-19 at the same rate therefore vaccinated people should not be exempt from testing. There should be ONE mandate for EVERYONE.
Kristie Hensley	No
Brittany	As a parent I don't believe students should have mandatory Covid tests. I do believe they should receive daily temperature checks and I do believe staff should be required to have mandatory Covid

	tests regardless of vaccination status, as well as daily temperature checks. CDC reports show that although children are able to transmit the virus, most school breakouts occur from infected staff. Additionally, vaccination status is somewhat irrelevant to spreading since those vaccinated can still carry and transmit the virus. Fortunately the vaccine protects the vaccinated individual, but offers little protection to those around. Lastly, studies show that children are most likely to develop a fever, so a daily temperature check should be adequate in detecting Covid or any other transmissible virus. Weekly Covid tests both miss cases that occur within each test window (daily is better) and exclude flu and other viruses. If a face mask and temperature check is sufficient for entry to my Dr's office, it should be sufficient and most beneficial for the classroom.
Molly Zurflueh	This is NOT in our students' best interests. I have a young daughter and subjecting her to testing, a medical procedure, in order to be permitted to attend school is unconscionable. I vehemently oppose this proposed mandate and I will fight it with every fiber of my being. Children are not a vector of transmission and they deserve in person education, without onerous testing as a prerequisite. I implore you to think very carefully about what you have proposed. You will lose even more students to home and private school and disenfranchise even more residents. We deserve a school board that represents the interests of all Laguna Parents and children-not just your own personal views and opinions.
Greg Carpenter	For a school who is supposed to be fostering learning and looking out for the best interest of the students, forcing mandatory testing on young children is tantamount to torture. Young children are not the premier transmission method for COVID, nor has it been shown that they are even a minor contributor. Forcing kids to now undergo torturous testing when you have already mandated masks, social distancing and a VERY minimum of school hours is truly outrageous. Your district will undoubtedly lose students, and therefore funding if the egregious misuse of power continues in this district. Someone needs to stand up and stop the insanity. The knee-jerk reactions and the attempted rule making with no

	direct input by in-person parents at a school board meeting are precisely what communism is all about. You may think that is an overstatement, but your clearly planned last-minute notification for this meeting at a time when most parents are working (1:30pm) and specifically excluding in-person attendance is a blatant attempt at pushing something through unnoticed or unvetted by any parent. You truly should be ashamed of yourselves, regardless.
April oswald	I am not ok with mandatory testing for my 6 year old child.
Jacqueline Mohajerian	Yes
Heidi Draper	I agree with mandatory testing. However, I am very concerned with this year's lack of support available to the students who test positive and cannot attend campus. Why are we no longer providing an on-line option for students who test positive for Covid? Why would families support testing if they know that there is not support from the school to keep their quarantined students caught up on schoolwork during their 10-14 day release from campus.I feel that this is a missing component to the covid testing mandate. Thank you.
Ashly Frasso	No Testing. If you are sick or have symptoms stay home. Where is the budget and man power to support this? How can this budget and man power be redirected to support our children to succeed? Is the school or school district receiving a monetary value for positive test results?
Dillon Francis	Yes. I want to voice my support for this.
Dustin Beutin	Our family writes to voice strong support for mandatory covid 19 testing of all lbusd students on a regular basis. In a year with many variables that could risk the health, safety, and effective education of our children, mandatory testing would allow the district to operate in a manner that provides the best odds of consistent, safe learning for all students throughout the year; while best respecting the choices of families regarding both vaccination and activities outside of school. We encourage the board to vote in favor of mandatory covid 19 testing.
Amanda	I strongly disagree with mandatory student testing. Besides being

Stannard	logistically challenging, there is risk of false positives that could push entire classes back into zoom. We moved here from Oakland this summer where they require testing. Dozens of students there received false positive results which resulted in many entire classrooms being shut down/kids quarantined - until it was discovered they were false positives. https://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2021/08/24/covid-false-positive -rapid-tests-wreak-havoc-on-ousd-students-parents-faculty/. Our kids don't deserve any more needless school interruption after 18 months of disrupted learning. I'm all for teachers being vaccinated, but please don't put any more burden on our kids, who've already paid dearly with remote school for 18+ months. Additionally, recurring testing of all students would be incredibly expensive - I'm guessing in the hundreds of thousands. Any available district resources should be directed to help kids catch up on lost learning. I have a child who desperately needs more resources to "catch up" after 18 months of virtual school. I've yet to hear about any new resources available for this purpose. If it's so easy to come up with this substantial amount for testing, then why hasn't this money already been allocated for supplemental classes, more counselors, etc? Lastly, if testing is implemented, then parents should have the ability to opt their kids out.
Carole Reagan	Mandatory testing for students is a great idea and long overdue. Frequent testing (along with vaccines, masks, and ventilation) is a well-established, key part of limiting transmission that has been overlooked to date. Testing will allow us to identify cases before they can spread and thus allow us to keep schools safely open -- everyone's goal. Testing should be rapid, free and weekly. There is no downside and no reason not to implement it immediately. Testing should include those who are vaccinated in light of recent data regarding increased incidence of breakthrough cases. Thank you!
Andrea Gaulin	I am absolutely against mandatory testing for all students. Student needs to be able to have access to school without being

	constantly tested. School is not a hospital or the army. We need our kids to have easy access to their education without having to pick up tests kits every week! I am against it, and if this measure passes, I will reconsider my child's placement at LBUSD.
Laura Sewell	I am concerned about mandatory weekly testing of elementary students. It would be a big undertaking which would take a lot of time each week, and could be uncomfortable for young children leading to a negative association with going to school. Also, if we do test, the tests should be rapid because 2-3 day results won't be effective in identifying cases before they spread. Thank you.
Jennifer Stockert	I am concerned about the extra time the testing and reporting will take as well as the kids being uncomfortable due to the manner of testing. It can be very uncomfortable for kids and could case anxiety in some. I am comfortable with the covid protocols instituted by the district and feel like the extra step is unnecessary.
	1. Covid test are very evasive and uncomfortable for children at best. 2. The amount of time to give students weekly tests will be taking away from time they should be learning. And I'm sure that time will be considerable. 3. The cost of these tests will be taking away from school budget which should be spent on the children's academia. 4. There are no vaccines approved for children under the age of 12. The vaccines for 12 and up have only received emergency application status. 5. Temperature checks worked fine last year there were no outbreaks. 6. There are studies out that show you start being contagious from .7 days to 2.3 days after being infected. So weekly Covid testing is not a great preventative measure.
Matthew Elblonk	1. Support for regular random testing of the entire school regardless of vaccine status to ensure that any cases are caught early and before they are allowed to spread. 2. Required testing every 2-3 days for people eligible for vaccine that have not gotten the vaccine to ensure they do not spread the virus to the children that are not yet eligible for vaccination.

	3. Report any time there is a positive case for either (I) someone in your child's classroom, (II) staff or students your child interacts with (including outside and K buddies), (III) someone that was outside with your child (particularly since there is no mask requirement for outside activities that often involve sports- a known virus spreading activity). This helps arm parents with the knowledge to know that an exposure, even if slight, occurred and allows the parent to make the right choice for their family given their family's underlying health issues to get their child tested at the earliest possible moment to prevent spread to more vulnerable family members. In NY random testing was done at all schools of staff and students and was very successful at finding cases early and preventing super spreader events. In NY you also received reports anytime children or staff were positive and a quick sentence on the potential risk exposure to others. These were very helpful and again, helped provide the information that families need so that they can make the right choices to protect high-risk family members.
	I do not support mandatory testing for kids!
Matthew Elblonk	Can we please get a public report showing the percentage of teachers and staff who are vaccinated and the percentage of those who are unvaccinated? No names, just numbers. There is nothing in HIPPA nor in the Americans With Disabilities Act that would preclude such a document from being created and it would be another tool for parents in assessing their child's risk factor, especially for those who are at high risk or who have high-risk family members at home.
Sara	Agree