

LASD and BCS

Understanding the Basics

4 June 2019

Who are we and what will we cover?

Sponsors:

- LAWC
- LACF
- LATC
- Los Altos Library
- AAUW

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Members of CACF for the last 14 years

www.LosAltosWomensCaucus.org/

Agenda

- Governance
- Finances
- Student Demographics
- Prop 39
- Education Code
- Legislation to Watch

4 breaks for a clarification or two before the end

Governance



Governing Boards

What is structure? Board of trustees, superintendent, principal

LASD

- i) 5-member board elected by LASD residents
- ii) 4-year terms; no term limits
- iii) All members represent the entire district: LA, LAH, Mtn View, PA

BCS

- i) 9-member board
 - nominating committee and process followed by board vote
- ii) 3-year terms; no term limits
- iii) Bullis Charter School (BCS)
 - is a public charter school authorized by the [Santa Clara County Board of Education](#) (SCCBOE) and subject to the fiscal and programmatic oversight of the [Charter Schools Office](#) in the [Santa Clara County Office of Education](#) (SCCOE).
- i) Authorization Date by SCCBOE: 2003; Opened: 2004; Renewal(s): 2007, 2016; Current Charter Term: 2017-2022

Budget Oversight

Budgets

- a) BCS: Charter schools are required to submit to the **authorizer** (SCCOE) for review the following items:
 - i. Adopted budget, 1st and 2nd Interim Reports
 - ii. Charters: Monthly financial [and attendance] reports
 - iii. Unaudited actuals
 - iv. Annual independent audit
- b) LASD
 - i) Submits to SCCOE, who forwards to state
 - ii) Attendance reports only required 3 times per year

What oversight does Santa Clara County Board of Education provide?

- a) <https://www.sccoe.org/supoffice/charter-schools-office/Pages/faq-3.aspx> (Governance & Oversight)
- b) 7-member board elected by Santa Clara Resident
- c) Financial, e.g., adopted budget, monthly financials, 1st & 2nd interim reports, unaudited/annual independent audit.
- d) Recruitment & Enrollment, e.g., annual review of plans and practices to achieve student balance, admission requirements, and programs to respond to diverse student needs
- e) Available on BCS website: LCAP (18-19), SARC (17-18), SCOE Oversight Report (1-26-17)

All schools/districts must

- a) LCAP - Local Control and Accountability Plan
- b) Budgets must show 3% reserves

Where is public information

LASD

- i) Subject to Brown Act, public records request
- ii) In-depth financial information on website
- iii) Materials from Board meetings published on website
- iv) Board meetings videoed

BCS

- i) Not exempt from laws that apply to public agencies, including requirement to hold opening meetings
- ii) Agendas are online
- iii) Available on BCS website: LCAP (18-19), SARC (17-18), SCOE Oversight Report (1-26-17)
- iv) Note: SB126 (effective 1-1-20) requires charter schools to comply with the Brown Act, board members to disclose conflicts of interest and public records request.

Not a big difference - but accounting standards: government agency vs non-profit

Clarifications?

Finances



LASD Revenue

Where does LASD money come from?

(These \$ are NET after transfer of ~ \$7.7M from LASD to BCS)

- 1) LASD Revenue (18-19) \$63.8m
- 2) Revenue Limit/ Basic Aid Concept
 - a) LASD benefits by \$4.5m in excess of the state guarantee
- 3) Parcel taxes
 - a) \$597 not shared
 - b) \$223 shared by % of students (average ADA ~ enrollment)

LASD Revenue	2018-19	
Property Tax LCFF/Revenue Limit	\$37,411,222	65.5%
Property Tax Basic Aid Benefit	\$4,399,213	
Federal Sources	\$1,131,416	1.8%
Other State Sources	\$4,384,270	6.9%
Other Local Sources	\$13,405,802	21.0%
LAEF fundraising	\$3,100,000	4.9%
Total Revenue	\$63,831,923	
Per student...	4243	\$15,044

A little bit about \$8,000 and reimbursements

The state guarantees BCS an amount through LCFF Local Control Funding Formula, now about \$8,000, per student (ADA)

LASD, as a basic-aid district, is the deliverer of those dollars to BCS.

- A. For an in-district BCS student, LASD covers the cost, no reimbursement
- B. For students from other basic-aid districts (Mtn View, Sunnyvale), LASD covers the cost, no reimbursement (35)
- C. For students from revenue limit districts (Cupertino), CA reimburses 70%
- D. Under a special deal, Palo Alto will reimburse LASD for 100%

Bullis Charter Revenue

Where does BCS money come from?

- a) Biggest source
 - i) LCFF from LASD 55-60%
Approx \$8,000 per ADA
- a) Parcel tax sharing
 - i) About 15% of the \$223/parcel
Now about \$450K
- b) Fundraising
 - i) 30-40% of the budget

BCS Revenue	2018-19	
LCFF Entitlement	\$7,348,616	56.3%
Federal Revenue	\$0	0.0%
Other State Revenues	\$377,952	2.9%
Local Revenues	\$1,035,742	7.9%
Fundraising and grants	\$4,284,000	32.8%
Total Revenue	\$13,046,310	
Per student...	912	\$14,305

Local Fundraising and Facility Money

Foundations

LAEF has a \$1,200 ask; not all give the maximum; aim for high participation
Raised \$3.1M in 2018-19

BCS has a \$5,000 ask; not all give the maximum; aim for high participation
This year ? ~ \$4M
Target 40% of budget ~ \$5.0M

Facility money

LASD Developer fees -> capital fund; but it's not enough, so general (operating) fund dollars are used for maintenance and upkeep

Operating costs are shared on a pro-rata basis, currently about \$230K from Bullis to LASD - basic maintenance.

Major maintenance is a building capital expense covered by LASD (for LASD provided facilities)

Need Clarifications?

Where to find other data

Budgets

LCAP

Students



LASD Student Eligibility and Selection

Eligible

LASD: age, LASD residency and vaccinations;
Residency or children of school staff

The Los Altos School District (LASD) accepts interdistrict transfers for all grades TK - 8 at any time throughout the school year.

LASD does not anticipate accepting students who do not live within the district boundaries (Interdistrict Transfer) during the 2019-20 school year. Los Altos Hills students eligible under the [memorandum of understanding with Palo Alto Unified School District](#) will be treated as LASD residents. (MOU covers Gardner Bullis Elementary area of LAH)

LASD Attendance: - all eligible students.

LASD School selection:

IF A SCHOOL HAS A WAITING LIST AT A SPECIFIC GRADE LEVEL, new students registering for that grade will be added to the waiting list in the order their completed applications are received and will be placed at a school within the district. When space becomes available at the school of residence, the student will have the opportunity to either remain at their current school or return to their school of residence.

BCS Student Eligibility and Selection

Eligible

BCS: age, California residency, vaccinations

There are > 1,000 students on the wait list.

91% of BCS students (2018-19) are in LASD District. This is moving to 96% next year.

Lottery - for each grade

Hierarchy (for each grade)

- 1) Siblings of current students who are LASD residents
- 2) Bullis Purissima Elementary area (up to 50% of a grade) - can negotiate this to decline
- 3) Children of staff members who are LASD residents
- 4) Other LASD residents
- 5) Siblings of current students who are not LASD residents (must be CA)
- 6) Children of staff members who are not LASD residents (must be CA)
- 7) Other CA residents

Note: students of families who move out of LASD area are not automatically bumped out.

Student Demographics

LASD: 4243
IDTs 148, of those 53 are not children of staff

BCS: 838 in district.
Total 912 > 91% moving to 96% in 2019-20

Why are these numbers important?

LASD has 15% unduplicated count of free/reduced-price meals, English learners & foster youth.

And 10% of LASD requires special education.

BCS has 10.5% unduplicated count of free/reduced-price meals, English learners & foster youth.

BCS had 6.9% (45) students in special ed in 2017-18 SARC School Accountability Report Card

Need Clarifications?

Prop 39 and Facilities



Prop 39 passed on Nov 7, 2000

The main effect of Proposition 39 was to amend [Proposition 13](#) by lowering the required [supermajority](#) vote necessary for voters to approve [local school bonds](#), from two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast, to fifty-five percent (55%) of the votes cast.

Voter approved school bonds under Proposition 39 are paid off by raising property taxes above the one percent (1%) property tax rate limit established by [Proposition 13](#) in 1978.

Proposition 39 lowered, as it relates to school bonds, the local voter approval requirement to incur debt from a two-thirds (2/3) vote to fifty-five percent (55%). The two-thirds vote requirement to incur debt is separate from the property tax limits of [Proposition 13](#), and had previously been part of the [California Constitution](#) since 1879.

(a) Updated October 2019

Proposition 39 further included statutory provisions relating to [charter school](#) facilities (a).

= Ensures that public school facilities are “shared fairly among public school pupils, including those in charter schools”
= requires districts to make “**reasonably equivalent**” facilities available to charters Facilities offered under Prop. 39 must be:
• minimal number of sites • similarly furnished and equipped • located near the area in which the charter wishes to locate

Charter schools must make their Prop. 39 facilities requests by November 1

The process is **prescriptive**: Request for facilities due Nov 1 must include a preferred geographic location and may include a specific school site.. Response due by date...

But the process still involves **negotiation** over acceptability.

Facilities request, repair, and maintenance

5 year facilities agreement between LASD and BCS signed 2014 - expiring, so.

2019 is first Prop 39 Facilities Request since 2014

Signed 2-year agreement to use Egan and Blach and cap charter enrollment at 1,111

LASD hired a facilitator to work through this year to manage a public process to negotiate a long-term agreement with BCS

School districts are allowed to charge charter schools for use of district facilities under Prop. 39. Prop. 39 provides two alternatives for the district to charge charter schools annually for the use of facilities: a pro rata share charge or an increased oversight fee.

- LASD charges fees for facility maintenance a pro rata share, which is for upkeep of the facilities provided (determined as a pro rata share of all buildings/facilities owned by LASD) -
- fixed at \$245,833 in 2019-20, +3% 2020-21

Major repairs are handled by LASD as capital expenses

Questions?

Education Code

—

Curriculum and Classes

Curriculum - I've found no significant differences
Both prepare LCAP: Local Control Accountability Plans

Meet the individual learning needs of all students. All learners benefit from a highly individualized method of teaching.

The implementation of state board adopted academic content and performance standards for all students, which are:

- a. English Language Arts – Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts
- b. Mathematics – CCSS for Mathematics
- c. English Language Development (ELD)
- d. Career Technical Education
- e. Health Education Content Standards
- f. History-Social Science
- g. Model School Library Standards
- h. Physical Education Model Content Standards
- i. Next Generation Science Standards
- j. Visual and Performing Arts
- k. World Language

Class size

LASD 2018-19

K-3: 23

4-6: 24

7-8: 25

BCS 2017-18:

K-3: 21

4-6: 26

Santa Clara County average: 26.1

California average: 25.4

School Day

Didn't get data

LASD days & hours are negotiated

Teachers Qualifications, Compensation, Tenure and Pension

Qualifications

- LASD experience: 2017-18:
 - average 9 years in district:
 - 1st/2nd year teachers: $17+14/259 = 12\%$
- BCS experience: 2017-18:
 - average 5 years in district:
 - 1st/2nd year teachers: $0+2/48 = 4\%$
- BCS all teachers have full credentials required (from 2018-19 LCAP)
- Both schools have in-service teacher training days
- Both schools have new teacher training
- All teachers are in CAL-STRS (state teacher's retirement system)
- LASD teachers have 2-yr track to tenure and are members of LATA union
- BCS teachers are on 1-yr contracts and may unionize if they wish; they have a 2-yr induction process
- LASD Avg teacher salary \$84,417 (2016-17) from <https://www.ed-data.org/>
 - LATA union
- BCS Avg teacher salary \$71,121 (2016-17) from SCCOE [Annual Charter School Data Book](#) Printed 2018 for 2016-17
 - Charter uses some funds for teacher housing subsidy to help retention

Future

Legislation

Note: California Laws on Charter Schools have not changed significantly since origination in 1992
However, there are an increasing number of bills under consideration this year

- SB 126 (effective 1-1-2020)
 - Charter Schools subject to Brown Act, board members to disclose conflicts of interest and subject to public information records act.
- AB 1505 -- allows districts to consider the “potential negative impact” on the district (new applications)
- AB 1506 -- Statewide ceiling on # of charter schools based on # 1-1-20 (shelved)
- AB 1507 -- (obscure) allows a charter to find a location in another district in the same county
- AB 1508 -- new application--district can consider impact on neighborhood schools
- SB 756 -- only local schools districts can approve charters and can consider financial, academic and facilities impacts

And legislation has been considered that would make building additional housing in the district easier - outside local planning (SB 50).

Questions and Clarifications?

Last chance

Fill out cards and tell us:

- Should we do more events like this?
- What questions and topics would you like to understand?
- Questions on cards will be sent to the two school boards.

Thank you



Bibliography and Resources

Data on schools

- <https://www.caschooldashboard.org> CA Schools Dashboard
- <https://www.ed-data.org> Ed-Data
- <https://caaspp.cde.ca.gov> Student Achievement Assessments
- <https://www.cde.ca.gov/> California Department of Education
- <https://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/> Local Control Funding Formula

Proposition 39 Resources

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2000_California_Proposition_39
- <http://www.smartvoter.org/2000/11/07/ca/state/prop/39/>
- [https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_39_Supermajority_of_55%25_for_School_Bond_Votes_\(2000\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_39_Supermajority_of_55%25_for_School_Bond_Votes_(2000))
- http://library.ccsa.org/blog/FactSheet_Prop_39.pdf
- <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/ch/cf.asp> Guidance on obligations, Prop 39

Charter Schools in California

- <https://www.ccsa.org/> California Charter Schools Association
- <https://www.edchoice.org/school-choice/school-choice-in-america/#map-overlay>

Legislation Search

- <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>
- The Assembly bills are:
 - AB 1505
 - AB 1506
 - AB 1507
- The Senate bill is
 - SB 756