LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The LAUSD School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC) is authorized by the California Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 [Education Codes 15264 - 15288] and the LAUSD BOC Charter and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee Regular Meeting
LAUSD HQ – Board Room
333 S. Beaudry Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Thursday, August 13, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Please see the archived video of the meeting for all discussions/questions:
https://lausdca.new.swagit.com/videos/396241 (English)
https://lausdca.new.swagit.com/videos/396244 (Spanish)

Committee Members Present (14): Neelura Bell, Robert Campbell, Monica Carlos (alternate to Mellina Lathe), Michael Hamner, Ashley Kaiser, Aleigh Lewis, Charlotte Lerchenmuller, Patrick MacFarlane, Jennifer McDowell, Scott Pansky, Jason Peterson (alternate to Chad Boggio), Tamar Poladian-Perron, Dr. Samantha Rowles, Brendan Sullivan (alternate to Dr. Bevin Ashenmiller).

Vacancy: (1) CA Tax Reform Association

00:00:02 Call to Order

Mr. Robert Campbell, BOC Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. and welcomed all to the first regular meeting of the 2026-2027 school year.

00:00:25 Mr. Campbell read the mission statement from the BOC Charter and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) stating that it establishes a shared vision between the Committee and the District to build, modernize, and maintain schools that support the full development of a child, are educationally and environmentally sound, serve as community hubs, and use land efficiently. He added that the MOU also states the BOC has a duty to recommend *against* bond fund expenditures when the District fails to provide sufficient oversight information or when a project does not appear permissible or prudent.

Mr. Campbell stated that one BOC member was participating remotely in compliance with the Brown Act. He also thanked the KLCS Staff for their production work, Information Technology Services Staff for their technical support, Spanish Interpretation Staff for their work in translating and other District staff for their assistance in broadcasting the hybrid BOC meeting.

Introductory Remarks

00:01:45 Mr. Campbell asked Dr. Rowles, Secretary, to provide additional remarks.

Dr. Rowles announced that the BOC website could be found at https://www.bondoversight.lausd.org. She also indicated that meeting materials and live stream in both English and Spanish were located under the tab *Upcoming Meetings*. She added that upcoming meeting dates would be published on the BOC website. He also stated that the BOC website provides previously approved project resolutions and a wealth of information regarding the bond program.

Dr. Rowles explained that public speakers were asked to sign up using a hyperlink to a Google form included on the meeting agenda. He stated that in-person speakers would be asked to step up to the podium to be heard.

00:03:02 Mr. Campbell made the following announcements:

Mr. Campbell and BOC members recognized Ms. Neelura Bell for completing the maximum term of six years on the BOC and extended best wishes following her tenure. Ms. Bell provided farewell remarks.

00:09:11 Agenda Item 1. Public Comment

There were three public speakers, who provided comments on various agenda items.

00:28:50 Agenda Item 2. Consent Calendar – August 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Kaiser made a motion to move the Consent Calendar for approval.

Mr. Sullivan seconded.

00:29:03 Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Buchman to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 13 – Ms. Bell, Ms. Carlos, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Kaiser, Ms. Lerchenmuller, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Pansky, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Poladian-Perron, Dr. Rowles, Mr. Sullivan.
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 1 – Ms. McDowell.
Absences: 0

The Consent Calendar was approved.

00:30:20 Agenda Item 3. BOC Planning Meeting (Discussion)
Presenter: Michael Hamner, BOC Chair

Vice-Chair Campbell initiated the discussion of the BOC Planning Meeting by referencing a memorandum from the BOC Chair and BOC Staff in the meeting materials, which summarized a recent planning session with the BOC Executive Committee reviewing last year's meeting metrics, ongoing concerns and outlining priorities for this fiscal year.

BOC Chair Hamner stated that the intent of discussing the Planning Meeting at the regular BOC meeting was to bring the full 15-member committee up to speed on the discussion and ensure that all members have an equal stake in establishing priorities and addressing matters of importance. The BOC's work over the past year was highlighted as evidence of the BOC's effectiveness and its continued commitment to serving as responsible stewards of voters. Of 39 "projects" considered by the BOC in FY25, 38 received recommendations for approval. He also noted that BOC members rejected the District's proposed revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and agreed at its May 28, 2026 BOC regular meeting to allow the new administration to become established before beginning further discussions.

Mr. Hamner reported that he had recently had a meeting with Superintendent Chait, who will address the BOC on September 3 to introduce himself. He said that the Superintendent expressed willingness to work collaboratively with the BOC on the MOU, which is expected to remain a priority. Mr. Hamner also reported that Mr. Campbell had met with CFO Bravo-Karimi and Inspector General Hoffman as part of the BOC's efforts to establish improved relationships with executive District staff.

BOC Executive Committee member MacFarlane emphasized how valuable public comment is to the committee's work noting that members of the public often bring a perspective and information that the BOC may not have, and that their input helps BOC members be more effective in their roles. He welcomed invitations to parent groups for BOC members' participation to strengthen the relationship between the committee and the wider community.

00:37:12 **Agenda Item 4. A Project to Purchase Electric School Buses, and Amend the Transportation Services Branch's Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein**
Presenter: Daniel Kang, Director of Transportation, TSB

Daniel Kang, Director of Transportation, presented a Project to Purchase Electric School Buses, and Amend the Transportation Services Branch's Strategic Execution Plan. He proposed allocating $5.5M from Measure RR bond funds to support the purchase of 50 electric school buses. He explained that the $5.5M in local bond funding would be combined with a $19.75M grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a total of $25.25M to purchase the 50 buses.

Mr. Kang informed the Committee that the purchase was in support of a 2019 Board of Education resolution Transitioning Los Angeles Unified School District to 100% Clean, Renewable Energy Resulting in Healthier Students and More Sustainable, Equitable Communities (Res-018-19/20). The Board policy directed that the District transition to 100 percent clean and renewable energy by 2040 to improve air quality and student health. He explained that the proposed 50 buses were intended to replace aging diesel vehicles currently operating out of Sun Valley Bus Yard. He said that the anticipated timeline for receiving the buses would be spring 2028 with a lead time of 15 to 18 months. The completion of the charging infrastructure at the Sun Valley site is expected in early 2027.

There were BOC member questions related to whether the drivers require special training to operate electric buses, concern about effective use of buses due to staff challenges, decline in bus service options such as consolidated routes, bus overcrowding, stops being moved farther from student home locations, actual range of electric buses, and the high cost of electric buses versus diesel buses.

BOC Member Sullivan asked about the cause of the fire incident involving an electric bus last winter and whether the District would be purchasing buses from the same manufacturer. Mr. Kang responded that the fire report was still under legal review but confirmed the District had already altered its electric bus purchase specifications to a different model. Mr. Sullivan also questioned if it was "too soon" to invest in this type of technology.

There were additional questions about the use of bond funds versus general funds for bus purchases, the fiscal prudence of paying five times the cost of a traditional bus for an electric bus, the life cycle for bus batteries, a suggestion to improve communication between the District and student families by putting bus forms in the student enrollment packets, and use of smaller vehicles such as vans for routes with fewer students.

Vice-Chair Campbell raised a legal permissibility concern by citing the applicability of California Education Code, Title 1 General Education Code Provisions, Division 1 – General Education Code Provisions, Part 10 – School Bonds, Chapter 1 – Bonds of School Districts and Community College Districts, Article 1 – Purposes for Authorizing Bonds Section 15100 (a)(9). The provision as he read it would require that school buses purchased with bond funds must have a useful life of at least 20 years. He pointed out that Mr. Kang stated that the electric buses proposed for purchase had a 10-year useful life and a manufacturer's warranty of eight years. Mr. Campbell wondered whether the Ed Code requirement would therefore be prohibitive of the bus purchase using bond funds. He also questioned the prudence of purchasing buses that have a limited driving range compared to other types of buses that would make them impracticable for District use. Mr. Kang acknowledged the 10-year life cycle per manufacturer estimate but noted that the Office of the General Counsel had reviewed the proposal and allowed it to proceed to the BOC. He also added that the District is using a "phased approach" to introducing the electric fleet into its route planning by assigning combustion engine buses for long trips while using electric buses for shorter daily routes.

BOC Chair Hamner recognized the environmental responsibility and the potential long-term value of electric buses. But he expressed concern that the District would be spending money to help develop and test an industry that is still evolving. He said that the District should not be part of the "experiment," especially when electric bus mileage and infrastructure do not yet meet school transportation needs.

All questions were answered by Mr. Kang.

Ms. Kaiser made a motion to move the draft resolution recorded as Resolution 2026-19.

Mr. Sullivan seconded.

01:30:06 Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Buchman to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 2 – Ms. McDowell, Dr. Rowles.
Nays: 11 – Ms. Bell, Ms. Carlos, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Kaiser, Ms. Lerchenmuller, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Poladian-Perron, Mr. Sullivan.
Abstentions: 1 – Mr. Pansky.
Absences: 0

Resolution 2026-19 did not pass.

01:32:30 Agenda Item 5**. The Definition of Two Projects and the Redefinition of a Project to Provide Critical Replacements and Upgrades of School Building/Site Systems and Components and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein**
Presenter: Mark Cho, Deputy Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations, FSD

Mr. Cho presented Two Projects and the Redefinition of a Project to Provide Critical Replacements and Upgrades of School Building/Site Systems and Components and an Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan. He provided a brief project description, budget, and construction schedule for each proposed project. The total combined budget for all projects was $12.88M for turf replacement and field lighting at Marshall HS and roofing replacements at Hazeltine ES and Mission Continuation HS.

There were questions related to use of roof contractors or District roofing personnel, roofing cost for Mission Continuation High School, budget for mitigation in the project cost for the roofing project at Mission Continuation High School, synthetic turf fields, clarification on the proposed project at Marshall High School, synthetic turf study and maintenance, whether the Proposition K grant of $3.5M was guaranteed to be provided through a contract or agreement, concerns about the safety and environmental risks of synthetic turf fields as well as long-term impact on the use of the field, upfront grant money versus long-term replacement costs, and whether future grant money could be set aside to pay for field maintenance.

Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive, explained that a previous Board Resolution directed District staff to study synthetic turf versus natural grass as part of its climate resiliency efforts. She said that the study was currently underway and would be presented to the Board and shared with the BOC when completed. She emphasized projects that had already been approved, such as the field at Marshall HS, would continue but future field replacements would wait until the study is completed and the BOE makes a decision on the matter.

All questions were answered by Ms. Tokes and Mr. Cho.

Mr. Pansky made a motion to move the draft resolution document recorded as Resolution 2026-17.

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Ms. Bell seconded.

02:00:05 Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Buchman to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 13 – Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Hamner, Ms. Kaiser, Ms. Lerchenmuller, Ms. Lewis, Mr. MacFarlane, Ms. McDowell, Mr. Pansky, Mr. Peterson, Ms. Poladian-Perron, Dr. Rowles, Mr. Sullivan.
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 1 - Ms. Carlos
Absences: 0

Resolution 2026-17 passed.

02:01:45 **<u>Agenda Item 6</u>. 14 Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein**
Presenter: Mark Cho, Deputy Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations, FSD

[BOC Member Lerchenmuller left meeting at 12:13 p.m.]
[BOC Member Lewis left meeting at 12:13 p.m.]
[BOC Member Pansky left meeting at 12:13 p.m.]

Mr. Cho presented 14 Board District Priority and Region Priority Projects and an Amendment to the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan. He provided a brief project description, budget, and construction schedule for each proposed project. The total combined budget for all projects was $768,793. The projects included four fencing-related projects, seven furniture projects, one electronic marquee, one secure entry system, and one project for interactive displays. Please refer to Board Report No. 003-26/27 for further detailed information.

There were no questions for Mr. Cho.

Mr. Sullivan made a motion to move Resolution 2026-18.

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Ms. Poladian-Perron seconded.

02:03:24 Mr. Campbell asked Mr. Buchman to conduct a roll call vote.

Ayes: 11 – Ms. Bell, Mr. Campbell, Ms. Carlos Mr. Hamner, Ms. Kaiser, Mr. MacFarlane, Ms. McDowell. Mr. Peterson, Ms. Poladian-Perron, Dr. Rowles, Mr. Sullivan.
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0
Absences: 3 - Mr. Pansky, Ms. Lerchenmuller, Ms. Lewis.

Resolution 2026-18 passed.

02:04:54 **<u>Agenda Item 7</u>. Chief Facilities Executive's Report (Information Only)**
Presenter: Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive, FSD

[BOC Member McDowell left meeting at 12:33 p.m.]

Ms. Krisztina Tokes, Chief Facilities Executive, began her presentation reporting that 365 projects valued at approximately

$787M were completed in the 2025-2026 school year. She stated that these projects included comprehensive modernizations such as the completion of 92nd Street Elementary School, Huntington Park High School, and Grant High School as well as a science lab at Verdugo Hills High School, outdoor learning environments, roofing, plumbing, and HVAC replacements, accessibility improvements, secure entrances, and expanded greening and Nature Explorer outdoor classrooms. She added that over the summer, additional work reached completion or substantial completion.

Ms. Tokes shared a lookahead to 2026-2027 expecting to begin more than 350 projects at approximately $2.5B. She indicated that the three Palisades schools remain in the DSA approval process with groundbreaking anticipated for the end of the year. She reported that major modernization projects will also begin at Sylmar Charter High School, Garfield High School, Fairfax High School, 32nd Street/USC Magnets, and additional upcoming projects including classroom replacements at the East Los Angeles Occupational Center, wellness centers, classroom upgrades, ADA improvements, and expanded early education outdoor learning spaces.

Ms. Tokes highlighted that a key priority was to ensure that sufficient contractor capacity is available to deliver projects for approximately $1B in work expected over the next 12 months. She reported that the District would need participation from qualified general contractors and continued collaboration with the construction industry to successfully deliver this volume of work.

There were questions and comments related to the difference between a comprehensive modernization project and a major modernization project, how teachers, students, parents, and neighbors are kept informed, whether these stakeholders have opportunities to provide feedback and influence project decisions, student and teacher input for projects such as green schoolyards to identify needs and priorities from those who use the campus, a comment that community engagement and communication should be a consistent responsibility of FSD rather than relying primarily on school principals, a question about where BOC members and the public can access information about how many contractors are qualified and actively bidding on District work in specific areas, how can projects be monitored by the public, whether FSD is on target to complete the bus yard for electric school buses and clarification on the current cost of the Hamilton High School project approaching approximately $600M.

02:22:08 Agenda Item 8. ITS BOC Quarterly Program Status Report Q1 2026 (April 1 – June 30, 2026) (Information Only)
Presenter: Monica Nolen, Director of IT Project Management, ITS

Monica Nolen, Director of IT Project Management, presented the Q1 2026 BOC Quarterly Report covering April 1 through June 30, 2026. She provided updates on three key projects as follows:

Intelligent School Network Controls Project: Ms. Nolen stated this project will allow smart, internet-enabled educational and operational devices to connect quickly and securely to K-12 school networks. Ms. Nolen reported that, in Q2, 2026, the IT team made substantial progress completing configuration of 729 sties for wireless controllers and switches across several network types (infrastructure internet of things (IIoT) and e-sports VLANs), deployed a device registration portal, and finished deploying the device profiling and automation solution with a plan for Q3 to stabilize the environment and project close-out.

Network Infrastructure Modernization Project: This project will modernize the District's network infrastructure by replacing end-of-support equipment that connects schools and offices to the District data center and the internet. She shared that the project was also approved in December 2025, and the team began procurement in the fourth quarter of 2025 with an expected completion in the first quarter of 2026. She noted that the project team continued configuration of the first set of new equipment. However, two major issues significantly affected the schedule: the loss of a key project engineer and dependency on the School Network Alternative Connectivity Pilot.

School Network Alternative Connectivity Pilot: This project will implement a "dark fiber" ring across 44 school sites to provide redundant internet connectivity and reduce reliance on a single point of failure. She shared that the project was also approved in December 2025, and the team began procurement in the fourth quarter of 2025 with an expected completion in the first quarter of 2026. She reported a procurement delay slowing the finalization of the WAN and core network design resulting in an extension of the project completion date to Q3 2027.

There were questions related to clarification of whether both, the Intelligent School Network Controls and the Network Infrastructure Modernization covered the workforce manager systems for maintenance and operations, and concerns about potential procurement impacts due to increased memory prices and a chip shortage, which might affect the availability of funds and project delivery within budget.

All questions were answered by Ms. Nolen and Interim CIO Douglas Le.

02:30:02 Agenda Item 9. Discussion of Non-Agenda Matters

There were no non-agenda matters.

BOC Vice Chair Campbell adjourned meeting at 12:43 p.m.

Minutes of August 13, 2026, approved per School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee.

/Dr. Samantha Rowles/
Dr. Samantha Rowles, Secretary