

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS
UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS: LASD and BCS
June 4, 2019

Audience members at the above-titled program submitted the following questions. We are working on the answers which will be posted once the research is complete.

Special Education

What is the breakdown of spending on Special Education for LASD and BCS? There are 12 different categories of special education, and they cost different amounts to educate.

Who determines the “special ed” designation? Does BCS self-report which students are special ed, and are there any benchmarks for determining a student as special ed? There is a big spread within special Ed so it would be good to know what designation BCS’ special Ed students have.

Why does BCS have (7%) fewer special ed students if acceptance is based on a lottery (is 10% at LASD)?

Are special needs students (assuming they are LASD residents) put into the BCS lottery the same as everyone else?

Finances

Are there enrollment verifications after initial registration? If a student moves out in later years to a revenue limit district there is a financial impact.

Isn’t the amount LASD is paying BCS for out-of-district students from Basic Aid districts close to 500k (sic)?

How much of the LASD budget is spent on retired teacher pensions (teachers no longer working)? Is that included in the per student cost? Same question for BCS budget.

Why does the state only reimburse LASD 30% of the \$8K given to BCS for out-of-district revenue restricted students?

What percentage of the BCS budget goes to English Language Learners, special needs and disabled?

What is the respective PTAs funding (not foundation) between BCS and LASD?

What is the equivalent funding (federal, state or otherwise) to help offset special education cost at BCS?

How is average cost per student impacted by the imbalance of low income, special needs and severely disabled between the schools?

Where can we find out who donates fundraising money to BCS? In other words, does BCS disclose who their donors other than parents are, and if so, where do we find this info?

What percentage of the BCS parents donate the \$5000/year? What percentage of LASD parents donate \$1000/year. What is the average donation/student for both funds?

Governance

How does the Santa Clara County School Board oversee the BCS? Particularly, do they attend board meetings? Come to the site every year?

Does BCS follow the Brown Act completely or partially? Are BCS board members required to file Form 700? (financial disclosures)

Does SB 126 change how BCS operates? To what extent did BCS already follow the required practices?

What is the process for LASD to become the sponsor of BCS? (Sam Harding, 650-464-5147)

Why were recent BCS LASD negotiations held in secret?

How much input do BCS parents have in choosing board members for BCS?

Do BCS board members get paid for their services and if so, how much? What about LASD board members?

Why during the talk (on June 4) did the speaker refer to BCS as a district?

Student Population

What is the current percentage preference that BCS gives to students residing within the Bullis-Purissima boundaries?

What is the yearly residence check (or is there any) done by BCS?

What % of each district/BCS are low income ELL?

Facilities/Prop 39

If BCS does not specify a site in making a Prop 39 request are they are giving up certain rights?

Why did BCS name a specific site (Egan) instead of a general location in their 2018 Prop 39 request?

Curriculum and Program

Within LASD who made the decision to eliminate grades, eliminate tracts of math at Egan, move most 8th graders into geometry?

What is the measured educational impact/value of K-8 at a single site?

The 1996 federal legislation enabling-establishing charter schools envisioned that charters would be established in under-performing school districts and would serve as lab schools introducing educational innovation improving student success, that this innovation would be shared with the public schools. To what extent is this happening with BCS & LASD?