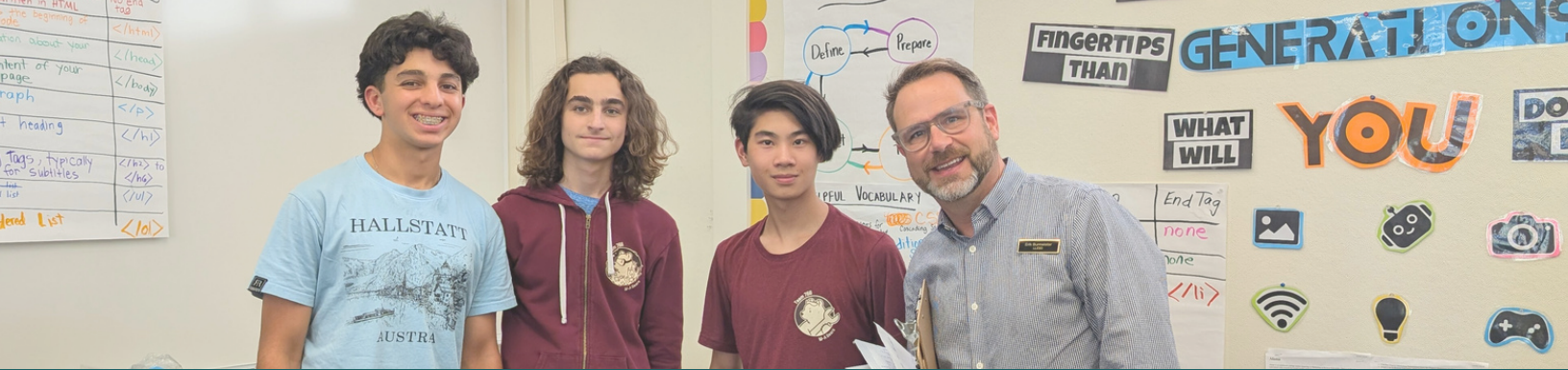




ISSUE NO.3

LAS LOMITAS ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

OCTOBER 2025

## SUPERINTENDENT NEWSLETTER

### A Message from Mr. B

LLESD is on the move. You can feel it in our classrooms, our playgrounds, and in the way we come together as a community to shape our future. Momentum is building, and it's exciting to watch.

As we move into fall, I want to highlight two ways we're investing in our students. First, **Apple For The Classroom** is back—the first \$200 of every LLEF donation now goes directly to grade-level funds for innovative teacher-driven projects.

Second, our design teams are bringing people together to imagine, test, and refine new solutions to complex challenges (unlike committees, which manage ongoing responsibilities). Our **Literacy and Math Pathways** teams are exploring long-term student success; the **La Entrada Schedule Design Team** is rethinking how we use time; and **MTSS, SEL/Wellness**, and **Great Place to Work** teams continue moving forward.

We still have a few parent spots available on some design teams—if interested, please reach out. And I invite you to review this newsletter and look forward to one each month, each chock-full of insight into the important work happening across LLESD.

With gratitude,

*Erik*

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# Message from the Board President



**This represents an important step forward in our commitment to transparency, accountability, and excellence.**

Dear Las Lomitas Elementary School District community,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I'm pleased to share the six strategic goals we have developed with Superintendent Burmeister for the upcoming year, which you can find on page 3 of this newsletter.

To ensure accountability, the Board established a standing item for superintendent evaluation in each monthly closed-session meeting. This allows us to regularly review progress and maintain alignment with district priorities.

The Board approaches this work with renewed confidence and enthusiasm. We are eager to partner with you to build on our community's strengths and ensure an exceptional educational experience for every student. We are confident that with our shared efforts, the future of the Las Lomitas Elementary School District is brighter than ever.

Sincerely,  
Paige Winikoff  
Board President, Las Lomitas Elementary School District

## Board Approves New Structure for Budget Transparency

At its September meeting, the Board of Trustees approved transitioning the Board Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) into the Superintendent's Budget Advisory Committee (SBAC).

This shift creates a more streamlined process for open conversations and information sharing. Because district staff bring budget recommendations to the Board, the SBAC will serve as a forum for expanded input before recommendations are formally presented.

All current Budget Advisory Committee members will be invited to serve as founding members, with additional parent, staff, and community representatives appointed for balanced participation. Meetings will follow the district's budget calendar and remain open to the public. SBAC input will directly inform the Superintendent's recommendations to the Board.

To serve on the SBAC, contact Superintendent Erik Burmeister at [eburmeister@llesd.org](mailto:eburmeister@llesd.org)



# Superintendent Goals

## Shared Work, Shared Excitement

At our September meeting, the Board of Trustees and I reviewed and aligned on the Superintendent Goals for the 2025–26 school year.

While these carry the Superintendent’s title, they are truly our goals. They grew directly out of the feedback you shared with the Board during the hiring process, the dozens of community conversations held from May through July, and the ongoing input I continue to receive from families, staff, and neighbors across our district.

The energy around these goals is real. They reflect both our community’s aspirations and the practical work needed to ensure that LLESD thrives—educationally, financially, and organizationally. The work ahead is significant, but I couldn’t be more excited to move forward together.

These six goals provide a clear roadmap for the year ahead. They represent the hopes of our community, the priorities of our staff, and the responsibility we all share for our students’ success. They are ambitious, but together, we can achieve them.

We have a lot of work to do—and even more to look forward to.

01.

**Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment:** Deliver rigorous, engaging learning through aligned outcomes, exemplary teaching, and data-driven assessment.

02.

**Long-Term Financial Sustainability:** Stabilize finances by addressing the structural deficit and exploring new funding opportunities.

03.

**Communication, Engagement, and Transparency:** Build trust through clear communication, stronger partnerships, and celebrating district successes.

04.

**Effective Systems, Staffing, and Resource Use:** Streamline operations and resource allocation to maintain focus on students and families.

05.

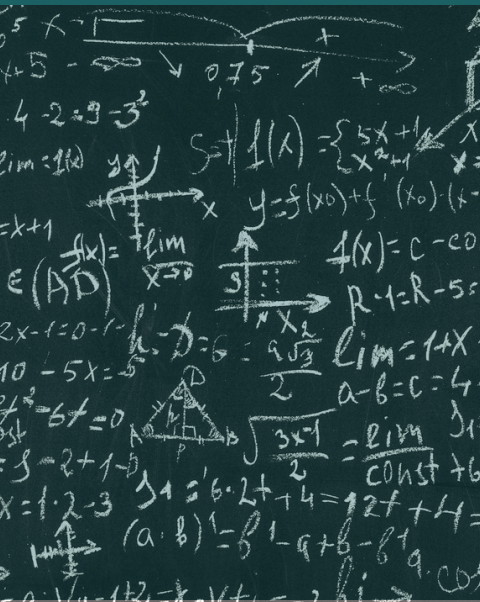
**Talent Strategy – Recruitment, Retention, and Respect:** Attract and retain excellent staff through investment in growth and maintaining a positive workplace.

06.

**High-Priority Board Policy Revisions:** Update key policies to strengthen governance and support effective decision-making.

# New After-School Math Drop-In Center

*All LE students are welcome*



## Days

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

## Time

3:15-4:00pm

## Location

Room 41

## Math Support

Which includes but not limited to: receiving support for completing student homework, reteaching of a lesson, completing missed or late work with support, test corrections, completing tests/quizzes, retaking of tests/quizzes—or anything math related at all!

## Volunteer Opportunity

Do you love math? Do you want to support student love of math? We welcome volunteer math tutors to support the Math Support Drop-In Center. Email [aanagnostou@llesd.org](mailto:aanagnostou@llesd.org) if interested.

We need volunteers!



# Updates

## LLEF Launches Annual Campaign

The Las Lomitas Education Foundation officially kicked off its 2025-26 Annual Campaign at the community Pancake Breakfast and Carnival on September 27.



Families from Las Lomitas and La Entrada gathered for food, games, bounce houses, and a magic show—all while learning about this year's funding priorities.

The event brought our community together to celebrate what makes LLESD exceptional and to invest in the programs that sustain it.



## Literacy Design Team

The Literacy Design Team held its kickoff meeting on Wednesday, September 10, alongside all other district design teams and committees. Facilitators Alain and Val led relationship-building activities, established shared agreements, and explored team members' goals for the process.

This design team is focused on creating a comprehensive literacy program for TK-8 that will build strong foundational reading skills while fostering a lifelong love of reading in our students. Our work aligns with state literacy standards and mandates to ensure the best outcomes for our children.

## State Assessment Results

Our California state assessment results will be publicly released on **October 9, 2025**. We will present and discuss these results at our board meeting on **October 15, 2025**. We look forward to sharing our students' progress with you and discussing how we continue to support their academic growth.

# Investing in Excellence

## *LLEF Brings Back Apple For The Classroom 3.0 and Introduces the Five Pillars*

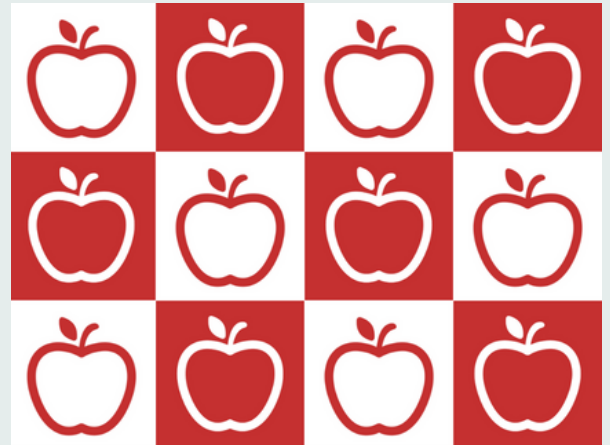
For 40 years, Las Lomitas and La Entrada families have invested in our children's success. Property taxes fund most of our spending, but there is a gap of \$2,500 per student between tax revenue and spending on education. We need community investment to bridge this gap and enable continued excellence in our schools.

The Annual Campaign supports both teacher innovation and systematic excellence—sustaining the programs that make our schools exceptional.

This year's campaign focuses on five pillars of educational excellence:

- Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)
- Arts, Languages & Libraries
- Student Well-being
- Small Class Size
- Teacher Professional Development

*Which pillars are most important to you?  
Please tell us at [llef.org/pillars-survey](https://llef.org/pillars-survey)*



## Apple For The Classroom

We're bringing back a beloved tradition!

**The first \$200 of every LLEF donation** (per child, made by October 31) goes directly to your child's grade level for teacher-driven projects and classroom innovations that enhance learning experiences.

See teacher wish lists and more at [llef.org/apple](https://llef.org/apple)

## Support Our Schools

The requested investment is \$2,500 per student, but all participation is important.

Invest before **October 31** and the first \$200 goes directly to your student's grade level through Apple For The Classroom.

[llef.org/invest](https://llef.org/invest)

# A Day in the Life of a Superintendent

*By Joshua P. (8th grade), Jeremy P. (6th grade), and Jonathan P. (4th grade)*

We won the chance to be “Superintendents for the Day” — an opportunity to step into the superintendent’s job and see how our whole district runs. We visited schools, attended real meetings, and met with Board members, police, and firefighters to learn how major decisions are made.

We got this chance because it was an auction item at the Rodeo last spring. That means our day also helped the Las Lomas Education Foundation, which supports STEM, arts, libraries, languages, mental health, and great teaching and learning.

## And here’s what we learned:

Joshua, an 8th grader, shared, “I learned that being a superintendent is harder than it seems. The job of a superintendent is to run multiple schools with the help of the school board. Some things that are fun are that you get to meet with the firefighters and police to make sure the district is safe and running well. But in the end, being a superintendent is a wonderful job.”



Jeremy, a 6th grader, explained, “As the superintendent, I learned I’m the only employee of the school board, and the Board chooses another board member for the council if one leaves. They must also be chosen by the majority to be appointed to the board and become a member. As all the teachers are my employees, it is like an hourglass.”

Jonathan, a 4th grader, added, “At the fire station, I learned that they visit schools to ensure that all the school’s fire alarms and fire extinguishers are in working order. I also learned that they each have their own dorms and have a very big gym. Also, being a superintendent is hard work.”

After a full day, we left with a new respect for everyone who helps our schools. Being a superintendent is tough—but it matters, and we’re glad we had the opportunity to try it.



# Stay Connected

## Important Dates

### **Tuesday, October 7**

LLII (Inclusion Initiative)

Info Session: LLESD Student Services  
Panel

Time: 6:30–8:00 pm

Location: Cano Hall, Las Lomitas

### **Thursday, October 9**

California assessment results released

### **Monday, October 13**

Teacher/staff workday (no students)

### **Wednesday, October 15**

Board meeting

Time: 6:30 – 9:30 pm

Location: La Entrada Middle School

### **Friday, October 31**

Apple for the Classroom deadline:

<https://www.llef.org/apple>

## Resources

### **District Website**

<https://www.llesd.org>

### **Las Lomitas PTA**

<https://www.laslomitaspta.org>

### **La Entrada PTA**

<https://www.laentradapt.org>

### **Las Lomitas Education Fund**

<https://www.llef.org>

## Get Involved



We have a few spots left for interested parents on some of our design teams and committees:

- Literacy
- Math Pathways
- La Entrada Schedule Design Team
- Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)/Wellness
- Great Place to Work
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Advisory Committee
- Arts, Languages, and Libraries (ALL) Advisory Committee
- Superintendent Budget Advisory Committee

Contact [eburmeister@llesd.org](mailto:eburmeister@llesd.org)

Interested in volunteering at our brand new after-school math center?

Email [aanagnostou@llesd.org](mailto:aanagnostou@llesd.org)



**Las Lomitas  
Elementary  
School District**

Inclusive. Engaging. Inspiring.