July 12, 2017

The Honorable Charles Margines
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701


To the Honorable Charles Margines:

In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Orange County Grand Jury has requested that the Laguna Beach Unified School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2016-17 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled, “Ouch! – Now That Didn’t Hurt: The Implementation of the Vaccination Bill SB 277 in Orange County Schools.”

Finding 1: The impact of SB 277 on school districts in Orange County was minimal. Districts were prepared and staffed with well trained personnel.

Response to Finding 1: The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees with this finding. The Laguna Beach Unified School District was aware of the impact of SB 277 before it took effect and trained its staff in preparation for the implementation of SB 277.

Finding 2: There were very few problems that arose with medical exemptions for vaccinations. Health clerks and school nurses were able to handle any discrepancies.

Response to Finding 2: The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees with this finding. The District school nurse reported very few problems with medical exemptions for vaccinations. Each health clerk at each school site and the District school nurse were able to handle any discrepancies. Compliance has not been problematic at any school site due to the District’s clear communication via individualized telephone calls, website information, email, mailed letters, verbal face-to-face communication, and education at time of school registration.

Finding 3: Personal belief exemptions that were grandfathered in are professionally tracked with timely notifications to parents as to when vaccinations are due to be completed.
Response to Finding 3: The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees with this finding. Prior to the first day of school, lists are made at each of the school sites by the health clerks. These lists include the name of the student, vaccinations not yet received and dates that missing doses are due. Each month, the list is evaluated by the District school nurse and parents are notified by telephone and email of upcoming due dates.

Finding 4: Orange County school districts made every effort to make vaccination information available using social media, direct mailings, and links on school websites to clinics in the area.

Response to Finding 4: The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees with this finding. The Laguna Beach Unified School District utilized social media, direct mailings, and links on school websites to provide information to parents on vaccinations.

Finding 5: School nurses, LVNs, and health clerks directly notified the parents of students with vaccination lapses and those requiring boosters for pre-K, kindergarten, and 7th grade well in advance of the due dates.

Response to Finding 5: The Laguna Beach Unified School District agrees with this finding. The District school nurse and health clerks directly notified the parents of students with vaccination lapses well in advance of the due dates. In most cases, the parents of these students completed the vaccination process.

Recommendation 1: School districts should continue to track students with grandfathered personal belief exemptions to ensure these students have the required vaccinations before they reach the next reporting levels.

Response to Recommendation 1: The Laguna Beach Unified School District has implemented this recommendation. The Laguna Beach Unified School District will continue to track students with grandfathered personal belief exemptions to ensure these students have the required vaccinations before they reach the next reporting levels. The Laguna Beach Unified School District has systems in place to track these students.

Recommendation 2: Districts should continue to monitor student vaccination percentages to maintain the threshold defined by the CDPH (California Department of Public Health).

Response to Recommendation 2: The Laguna Beach Unified School District has implemented this recommendation. The Laguna Beach Unified School District will continue to monitor student vaccination percentages to make every attempt to maintain the threshold defined by the California Department of Public Health.

Sincerely,

Jason Viloria, Ed.D.
District Superintendent

C: Orange County Grand Jury
   Ronald D. Wenkart, General Counsel, OCDE