October 23, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court – C1
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Judge Wieben Stock:

Re: Responses to “Orange County School Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen?”

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 933 and 933.05, the Anaheim City School District is providing responses below to Finding F-1 and Recommendation R-1 of the Orange County Grand Jury report.

Finding F-1
The overall quality of the 18 Orange County school districts and their individual school’s emergency preparedness plans are in need of much improvement.

Response to Finding F-1
The Anaheim City School District cannot agree with the Finding F-1 of the Orange County Grand Jury as it is not familiar with the overall quality of the emergency preparedness plans of the other Orange County school districts and their individual schools. As such, it is not in a position to assess same.

Anaheim City School District’s emergency preparedness plan is in compliance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and is recognized as such in the 2006-2007 Orange County Grand Jury report.

Recommendation R-1
Orange County school districts should make sure that they and their individual schools have a SEMS equivalent plan and these should be submitted to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review.

Response to Recommendation R-1
The Anaheim City School District does not feel that the recommendation to submit plans to the Orange County Department of Education is warranted. It is the responsibility of each school district to review its own school safety plans as mandated by California Education Code Section 32281 and 32288. The Anaheim City School District will continue to have a SEMS equivalent plan in place and will work with Orange County Emergency Managers Organization (OCEMO) and the Orange County Department of Education to ensure compliance to any changes to the SEMS mandate.

Sincerely,

Sandra Barry
Superintendent

cc: Rose Multari, Phyllis Reed