September 17, 2007

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

Re: Amended Response to "Orange County School Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen"

Dear Judge Wieben-Stock:

All Orange County School Districts have been requested to respond to the Findings and Recommendations F1 and R1 of the "Orange County School Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen" study conducted by the Orange County Grand Jury.

Response to Finding F-1
The Huntington Beach City School District partially disagrees with this finding. Some work, as opposed to much work, remains to be done on our emergency preparedness plans. The Comprehensive School Safety Plans of the Huntington Beach City School District and its schools are in compliance with Government Code §8607 and 19 CCR §§2400 et. seq., and accordingly were given an "E" rating by the Orange County Grand Jury. We currently are updating the plans pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directives 5 and 8. HSPD 5 and 8 establish the National Incident Management System (NIMS), which is a nationwide standardized approach to incident management and response. We are using this school year to train our Leadership Staff in NIMS.

Response to Recommendation R-1
Following correspondence and with an agreement from the Orange County Department of Education, the Huntington Beach City School District will continue to review its schools' Comprehensive School Safety Plans as required by California Education Code §§ 32281 and 32288 instead of submitting them to the Orange County Department of Education for review unless they request that we do so. Therefore, we feel this recommendation is not warranted and it will not be implemented. The Orange County Department of Education has agreed to provide the District with advice and assistance in updating our plans as needed, and the District has and will continue to attend OCDE seminars and workshops regarding developments that affect school safety plans.

Sincerely,

Michael Curran
Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services

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