

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

10055 Slater Avenue | Fountain Valley, CA 92708 | (714) 843-3200 www fysd us

From the Office of the Superintendent

December 12, 2018

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

RE: 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury Report

Safer Schools - What Can We Do?

Supplemental Response of Fountain Valley School District

To the Honorable Charles Margines:

In accordance with California Penal Code Section 933.05(b), the Orange County Grand Jury, through the Honorable Charles Margines, has requested that Fountain Valley School District provide a timeline to R2 and R8 in response to the 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled: "Safer Schools – What Can We Do?"

Please note that the original follow-up letter received was dated November 8, 2018, but was not postmarked until November 28, 2018 and was officially received by the Superintendent's Office on November 30, 2018. A scanned copy of the letter and the envelope has been included in the District's response.

In Fountain Valley School District's original response to the 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled: "Safer Schools – What Can We Do?," the following response was provided to R2.

R.2.: School districts should re-evaluate the lack of secure fencing on all school campuses and present a report to their respective boards by December 31, 2018, outlining their plans to make campuses more secure. (F.2, F.3)

Response to R.2.: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. Specifically, the Fountain Valley School District has evaluated the lack of fencing on school campuses. The District's Board of Trustees is aware that not all schools within the District have secure fencing. In light of this recommendation, the District will present a report to the Board of Trustees detailing each school's status with respect to secure fencing by December 31, 2018. The District will also convene a School Safety Task Force ("SSTF") in fall of 2018. Based upon the findings and recommendations of the SSTF, as well as a study of potential funding sources, a detailed report on school safety and a proposal to make campuses more secure, including an evaluation of the addition of secure fencing, will be presented to the Board of Trustees by June 2019.

Response to R2 – **Updated:** With regard to a timeline missing in the District's response to R2, we respectfully disagree. In the District's original response, it was indicated that staff would examine fencing on all school campuses and that it would present a report to the Board of Trustees by December 31, 2018.

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At our next regularly scheduled Board Meeting on December 13, 2018, Assistant Superintendent of Business, Mrs. Christine Fullerton, will provide a report to the Board of Trustees regarding the status of school fencing at each school. In addition, she will present information on the progress made with the Safe Schools Task Force (SSTF), in studying all aspects of school safety in Fountain Valley School District. As part of the District's original response to R2, it also shared that the SSTF was convened to help the District make thoughtful decisions regarding school safety, with fencing included in those conversations. To date, the SSTF has met on two separate dates, November 7, 2018 and December 5, 2018. During the two first meetings, the SSTF has established the scope and purpose of their work, and researched the topics of School Climate and Mental Health, as they relate to improving the safety at all ten of the District's schools. The SSTF will meet again on January 16, February 27, March 27, May 8, and June 5, 2019. Moreover, there are working subcommittees that are studying each category of School Climate/Mental school safety, which include: Health, Emergency Communication, External Relationships and Physical Environments – including school fencing. One of the goals of the SSTF is to provide staff with recommendations regarding the District's next steps in school safety, which will be used to develop a prioritized list with potential funding options for the Board to consider by June 30, 2019.

In Fountain Valley School District's original response to the 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled: "Safer Schools – What Can We Do?," the following response was provided to R8.

R.8.: School districts should consider requiring that all campus incidents of unauthorized access be recorded, tracked, and reported to the district office on a quarterly basis. All districts should share these reports with the Orange County Department of Education. (F.8.)

Response to R.8.: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. Specifically, Fountain Valley School District, through its School Safety Task Force, discussed above, will be reviewing methods by which to document all campus incidents of unauthorized access. At this time, we do not have an identified system by which to document the above incidences. Visitors are required to sign-in when visiting each campus. Sign-in occurs in the main office, with the exception of program events, for which no sign-in is required. The District is not aware of any specific campus security incident as a result of unauthorized access.

Response to R8 – Updated: Fountain Valley School District has convened a Safe Schools Task Force (SSTF) to examine all aspects of school safety, including Communication. As part of this topic, the District is analyzing the best ways to track all incidents of unauthorized access on its ten school campuses. As shared in the original response, there is currently no identified system for tracking these incidents. We have implemented the Raptor Visitor Management System at all ten schools, and all staff members, volunteers, and visitors are required to wear a form of identification at all times. Until the SSTF is able to make a recommendation regarding internal tracking and the best practices associated with this process, the District will implement an internally developed document to track all unauthorized access on its campuses. This change will be implemented by August 30, 2019. With regard to sharing our reports with the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), the District is willing to provide this information to the OCDE.

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Sincerely,

Mark Johnson, Ed.D.

Superintendent

cc: Orange County Grand Jury 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701



ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY

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November 8, 2018

Mark Johnson, Ed. D., Superintendent Fountain Valley School District 10055 Slater Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92646

RE: 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury Report: "Safer Schools-What Can We Do"

Dear Dr. Johnson:

With regard to the responses to the Recommendations, the District's responses are deficient pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05(b) as it applies to missing time frame compliance for: R2, R8.

Please provide your further response compliant with Penal Code to Charles Margines, Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, 700 Civic Center Drive West, Santa Ana, CA 92701, with a separate copy emailed to grandjurysupport@occourts.org, within 15 days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Birgit Sale, Foreperson

2018-2019 Orange County Grand Jury

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