

Orange County Department of Education
Response to the
2005-2006 Orange County Grand Jury Report
“Are Schools Feeding or Fighting Obesity”

FINDINGS

Grand Jury Finding 6.1

Most school district food service directors do not have control over all food and beverages sold on school campuses. Most often excluded are competitive foods, *i.e.*, food and beverages sold through vending machines, student stores, and fund raising events.

Response to Finding 6.1

The Orange County Department of Education Food Services Manager exercises control over all foods and beverages sold on its’ campuses. There are no competitive foods sold on Department of Education campuses.

Grand Jury Finding 6.2

Responding Orange County food service directors indicated their school districts are either in compliance with or will be in compliance with recently enacted federal and state laws addressing child wellness and obesity.

Response to Finding 6.2

The Orange County Department of Education is in compliance with recently enacted federal and state laws addressing child wellness and obesity.

Grand Jury Finding 6.3

Some Orange County schools have developed creative nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation to fight obesity.

Response to Finding 6.3

The Orange County Department of Education is looking at ways to further reduce the fat and sodium content in the foods sold on its’ campuses.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Grand Jury Recommendation 7.1

Orange County school districts should consider granting food service directors more control over sales of all food and beverages on district campuses.

Response to Recommendation 7.1

The Orange County Department of Education provides its food service director control over the sale of all food and beverages on its' campuses.

Grand Jury Recommendation 7.2

School districts should ensure compliance with legislated actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity.

Response to Recommendation 7.2

The Orange County Department of Education is compliant with legislated actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity.

Grand Jury Recommendation 7.3

To fight obesity, Orange County schools should consider researching and developing nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation.

Response to Recommendation 7.3

The Orange County Department of Education is a collaborative member of The Healthy Orange County Coalition. The mission of this coalition is to create shared responsibility in advocating healthy and safe environments where children live, work, and play. To this end, in 2005-2006 the Coalition provided technical assistance to over 80% of the local school districts in developing their Local Wellness Policies. The goal of the Coalition for 2006-2007 is to help local school districts in implementing the Local Wellness Policies, as well as help local districts create School Health Councils that will continue to expand health, nutrition, and physical education services.