



October 28, 2014

**ORANGE COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT  
OF EDUCATION**

200 KALMUS DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 9050  
COSTA MESA, CA  
92628-9050

(714) 966-4000

FAX (714) 432-1916

[www.ocde.us](http://www.ocde.us)

**AL MIJARES, Ph.D.**  
County Superintendent  
of Schools

Honorable Glenda Sanders  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Judge Sanders:

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Orange County Grand Jury's Annual Report on Jails and Juvenile Detention Facilities prepared by the 2013-14 Grand Jury. The Orange County Probation Department and the Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) have developed a cohesive and collaborative relationship to support our mutual areas of interest in providing services, care and education to juveniles in detention facilities.

We apologize for the late response to this request but we did not receive a copy of the report until Mr. Nindy Mahal called our office.

As the Associate Superintendent of Alternative Education for OCDE, I appreciate the time and energy taken by the Orange County Grand Jury to research, investigate and analyze the educational delivery programs provided by the Orange County Department of Education. The report required responses to the areas of Findings F.4, and Recommendation R.4, to which we have complied below.

Findings:

F.4. There is a need at the Joplin Youth Center for a full-time school administrator to enhance communication and collaboration between probation and the school.

Response:

The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding.

Probation and education staff collaborate and communicate in matters pertaining to the school regularly. The program administrator consults daily with probation and education staff on site.

Recommendations:

R.4. The Probation Department should add a full-time school administrator at the Joplin Youth Center (F.4.)

**ORANGE COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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Response:

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or reasonable.

Currently, a program administrator and vice principal share the responsibility of administering educational administrative functions at the Joplin site. The program administrator is on-site a minimum of three days per week and the assistant principal is on-call as needed. Due to the decreasing number of juveniles housed at Joplin, it is not economically feasible to assign a full-time administrator.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to respond to this report and we look forward to our continued collaborative efforts to support our at-risk juveniles.

Sincerely,



Nina Boyd  
Associate Superintendent  
Alternative Education, ACCESS

NB:pd

cc: Orange County Grand Jury  
Orange County Board of Supervisors  
Al Mijares, Ph.D., County Superintendent of Schools  
Chief Steve Sentman, Orange County Probation Department