

July 9, 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?
Response of Anaheim Union High School District

To the Honorable Charles Margines:

In accordance with California Penal Code section 933.05, the Orange County Grand Jury has requested that Anaheim Union High School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2017-2018 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled: "*Safer Schools – What Can We Do?*"

FINDINGS

F. 1. School safety and security are priorities in every school district in the Orange County public school system.

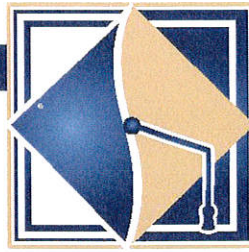
Response to F.1.: The Anaheim Union High School District agrees with this finding. School safety and security are a priority in Anaheim Union High School District.

F.2. The implementation of security measures for schools, in many cases, is limited by funding.

Response to F.2.: The Anaheim Union High School District agrees with this finding. The extent to which our schools can implement the type and extent of security measures is often dependent on funding.

F.3. Many Orange County school campuses were constructed to reflect an "open and inviting" atmosphere but are now faced with physical and philosophical security issues that challenge this thinking.

Response to F.3.: The Anaheim Union High School District partially agrees with this finding as we believe that schools can be secured yet still inviting. Of the schools within our District,



Anaheim High School, Cypress High School, Kennedy High School, Magnolia High School, Savannah High School, Western High School, Ball Junior High School, Dale Junior High School, Lexington High School, Orangeview Junior High School, South Junior High School, Sycamore Junior High School, and Walker Junior High School can currently be considered to reflect an “open and inviting” atmosphere. We strongly believe that schools can continue to be inviting with strategic implementation of security fencing. In response to the support of our community in keeping our schools safe, Measure H Bond funds will be used to install security fencing at all of our schools. The majority of schools are scheduled to have security fencing completed between 2018 and 2020.

F.4. While every Orange County school district reported the use of a campus visitor sign-in process, there is a lack of procedural consistency among school campuses.

Response to F.4.: Anaheim Union High School District disagrees with this finding as it pertains to our schools. Anaheim Union High School District does have a campus visitor sign-in process which is consistency used by school staff. The challenge is the compliance by visitors to follow the process because of the lack of security fencing on the sites. Campus safety personnel are consistent in re-directing visitors to the office to follow the campus visitor sign-in process. This lack of compliance by visitors will be remedied as security fencing is installed.

F.5.: Many districts or school campuses do not require all teachers, staff, and volunteers to wear ID badges while on campus, making identification of authorized personnel difficult for substitute teachers, student teachers, visitors, volunteers, and first responders.

Response to F.5.: Anaheim Union High School District agrees with this finding. All employees are provided with ID badges upon being hired. There has not been consistency in all employees wearing the ID badges. With increased security measures being implemented, this practice will be implemented with fidelity.

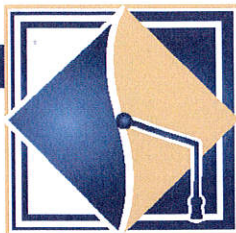
F.6.: Currently, student ID badges, which could easily distinguish students from non-students of similar age, are not required to be worn by Orange County middle and high school students.

Response to F.6.: Anaheim Union High School District agrees with this finding.

F.7. Campus personnel and volunteers, while on duty outside the classroom, have an inconsistent usage or availability of communication devices for emergency situations.

Response to F.7.: The Anaheim Union High School District disagrees with this finding. All staff that is responsible for supervision of students outside the classroom have communication devices for emergency situations.

F.8.: There is no documentation or reporting protocol within the districts of individual security incidents, making it difficult to track, analyze, and summarize such incidents.



Response to F.8.: The Anaheim Union High School District disagrees with this finding. Anaheim Union High School District maintains a AUHSD Emergency Notification Protocol that schools follow for individual security incidents.

F.9.: While every Orange County school develops a school safety plan, few schools have used an individual school security assessment to identify deficiencies or to develop the required plan.

Response to F.9.: The Anaheim Union High School District disagrees with this finding. As it pertains to our schools, we have done individual school security assessments with our local police departments, Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center, and are in the process of having Keenan and Associates conduct an additional school security assessment. Additionally, as we are working with a company to strategically install security cameras the company is providing us feedback on school security.

RECOMMENDATIONS

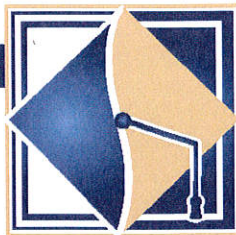
R.1.: School districts should explore all possible funding resources that may be available in order to implement desired security measures. (F.2.)

Response to R.1.: The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action. Anaheim Union High School District has multiple committees that work to address school safety and security needs. As the committees review the results of school security assessments and individual security incidents, recommendations are made to improve or increase safety on sites. Once these recommendations are made, funding is allocated, and a timeline is developed, for the implementation. Currently funding used includes Measure H bond funds, Routine Restricted Maintenance funds, General funds, and One-time funding from the state.

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.: As a part of our June 7, 2018 Facilities Study Session the Anaheim Union High School District Board of Trustees was provided with information regarding the current status of security fencing at each of our sites as well as a timeline for the estimated dates for implementation of security fencing at the schools.

R.3.: School districts should implement procedures to ensure that all campuses maintain a complete, daily log (electronic or manual) of every visitor and volunteer entering and exiting the campus, excluding program events such as awards ceremonies or stage or musical productions. (F.4.)



Response to R.3.: Anaheim Union High School District maintains a manual complete, daily log of every visitor entering the campus.

R.4.: School districts should implement procedures to ensure that photo identification is required of all campus visitors and volunteers before a visitor's badge is issued. (F.4, F.5.)

Response to R.4.: Anaheim Union High School District is in the process of implementing the benefits and limitations of implementing an electronic program that requires photo identification of all visitors and volunteers.

R.5.: School districts should implement procedures to ensure that all faculty and staff are required to wear visible photo ID badges while on campus. (F.5.)

Response to R.5.: As we are implementing a variety of layers for security this process will be evaluated for implementation.

R.6.: All school districts with middle or high school campuses should consider using student ID cards in a format to be worn as student ID badges while on campus. (F.6.)

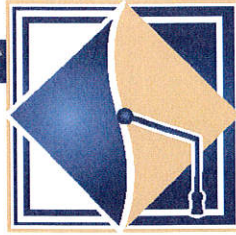
Response to R.6.: Anaheim Union High School District requires that all students carry their student ID card on campus at all times. It is our belief this is sufficient at this time.

R.7.: School districts should evaluate available communication devices and ensure that custodial and supervisory personnel, as well as safety resource officers, playground supervisors and coaches, have two-way radios or equivalent communication devices with them at all times, enabling instant two-way communication with the office. (F.7.)

Response to R.7.: Anaheim Union High School District provides communication devices to custodians, supervisory personnel, campus safety aides, and P.E. teachers. Our Student Services Department will evaluate the need for coaches to have communication devices.

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.: When unauthorized access is identified, the staff member redirects the person to the school office to follow the designated procedure. If a person were to refuse to follow the authorized procedure and continue onto campus the school site would complete the AUHSD Emergency Notification Protocol for unauthorized access to a site. These forms are sent to the office of the Director of Student Services who ensures appropriate follow up actions are taken. The number of unauthorized access has been insignificant and therefore we have not identified a reason to send these reports on to the Orange County Department of Education.



R.9.: School districts should evaluate requiring each school to perform a school security assessment to evaluate their current school safety plan. (F.9)

Response to R.9.: Anaheim Union High School District has performed school security assessments with local police departments and Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center for all of our sites. Additionally, we have currently contracted with Keenan and Associates who will be completing a security assessment for all of our sites.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Matsuda
Superintendent
Anaheim Union High School District

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