



**Learning Today...
Leading Tomorrow**

BUENA PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Administration:

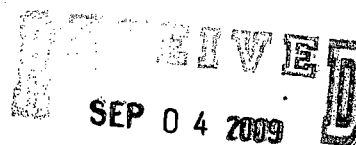
Mr. Greg Magnuson, Superintendent
Dr. Bonnie Bell, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Dr. Deanna Glenn, Executive Director, Administrative Services (CBO)

Governing Board:

Samuel Van Hamblen, President
Jerry Kong, Clerk/President Pro Tem
Elizabeth Swift, Ed.D., Member
Barbara Michel, Member
L. Carole Jensen, Member

March 18, 2009

Kim Dunning
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana CA 92701



The Honorable Kim Dunning:

**RESPONSE TO THE ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
EDUCATION OF PARENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES
TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF GANGS**

I have reviewed the Orange County Grand Jury Report and have responded to the findings and recommendations as requested in accordance with California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05(a)(b)(f).

FINDINGS

F.1 The early gang prevention and intervention efforts provided by the Probation Department, the district Attorney's Office, and such collaborative efforts as the Pio Pico Collaboration are extremely cost effective when compared to the growth of gangs in Orange County and the subsequent cost of prosecution and incarceration of gang members.

Response: Agreed

F.2 The most effective way to prevent children from joining gangs in most cases is to work with parents of young children to teach them to spot the danger signs for gang activity and to help them develop effective strategies to keep their children from joining gangs.

Response: Agreed

F.3 The most effective time to begin gang prevention efforts is when children are in elementary school.

Response: Agreed

F.4 The most effective gang prevention and intervention programs are done by a collaboration of government agencies and private organizations and it is important for governmental entities to support such collaborations.

Response: Agreed

F.8 The Pio Pico Collaboration needs to gain certification so that it may be used as a model program for other cities and school districts throughout Orange County.

Response: Agreed

RECOMMENDATIONS

R.5. Recommend that school districts with high numbers of at-risk children join forces and exchange information on how to begin gang prevention and intervention programs, how to expand existing programs by working cooperatively, and how to export proven practices to other districts that would benefit from them.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. Throughout the year District staff meet with local police to exchange information concerning gang activity, gang prevention and intervention. The District Superintendent has recently met with the Buena Park Police Department to review and consider implementation of the GRIP program.

Sincerely,



Greg Magnuson
Superintendent