



**PLACENTIA-YORBA LINDA
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

1301 E. Orangethorpe Avenue
Placentia, CA 92870
www.pylusd.org

Alex Cherniss, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Board of Education
Marilyn Anderson
Leandra Blades
Carrie Buck
Todd Frazier
Shawn Youngblood

July 20, 2023

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District's Response to the 2022-23 Orange County Grand Jury Report on "Russian Roulette: Fentanyl In Orange County"

To the Honorable Maria D. Hernandez:

In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Orange County Grand Jury has requested that the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District respond to findings and recommendations in the 2022-2023 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled: "Russian Roulette: Fentanyl In Orange County," published on June 21, 2023. Below are the responses of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District.

Finding 2: Illicit fentanyl is a pervasive problem in Orange County.

Response to Finding 2:

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District agrees with this finding.

Finding 7: Orange County will benefit by establishing a chartered multi-agency Task Force to address the fentanyl crisis in Orange County.

Response to Finding 7:

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District agrees with this finding.

Finding 8: As long as there is a demand, producers will find ways to supply drugs. Orange County cannot law enforce its way out of the fentanyl crisis. Education, prevention, and treatment are critical to reducing demand.

Response to Finding 8:

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District agrees with this finding.

Finding 9: There is a need to increase public awareness and acknowledgement of the risks of illicit fentanyl.

Response to Finding 9:

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District agrees with this finding.

Finding 10: Some educational institutions are not participating in available educational and preventive fentanyl/drug programs.

Response to Finding 10:

The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District agrees with this finding.

Recommendation 1: By January 1, 2024, the Orange County Board of Supervisors should charter a multi-agency Task Force to address the fentanyl crisis. (F2, F7, F8, F9)

Response to Recommendation 1:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, pending approval of the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

Recommendation 5: By January 1, 2024, the Orange County Department of Education should develop a model fentanyl/opioid prevention educational program to be offered to all K-12 school districts in Orange County. (F2, F8, F9, F10)

Response to Recommendation 5:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, pending approval of the Orange County Department of Education.

Recommendation 6: By October 1, 2023, the Orange County Department of Education should promote the use of currently established and in-place fentanyl and drug-related educational programs offered by OC agencies such as Health Care Agency, OC Sheriff's Department, and non-governmental organizations to all K-12 school districts in Orange County. (F2, F8, F9, F10)

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Response to Recommendation 6:

The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, pending approval of the Orange County Department of Education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard McAlindin", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard McAlindin
Assistant Superintendent, Executive Services