



Memorandum

TO: ABEL BARBOSA, GRAND JURY MEMBER
FROM: TIM HARVEY, SUPERINTENDENT
DATE: JANUARY 10, 2005
RE: RESPONSES TO FINDINGS OF GRAND JURY STUDY ON OBESITY

Grand Jury Responses re: Adolescent and Childhood Obesity

Responses to Findings:

1. We concur with the findings of the Grand Jury.
2. We agree with the findings of the Grand Jury.
3. We agree with the findings of the Grand Jury.
5. We agree with the findings of the Grand Jury.
6. In Brea, we have continued to fund the K-12 Physical Education support we have provided for the past 15 years.
7. Our Food Services Director has conducted an extensive analysis of the menu items provided to students in an effort to comply with Federal mandates of the Food Services Program.
8. We concur with the findings of the Grand Jury.

A response to Finding 4 is requested from the Superintendent of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District.

A response to Finding 9 is requested from the Superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with *California Penal Code* §933 and §933.5, each recommendation must be responded to by the government entity to which it is addressed. These responses are to be submitted to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. Based on the findings, the 2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that:

1. Each Orange County school district establish a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee to help coordinate functions and activities that address students' obesity problems. (Finding 1) **Committees were established.**
2. School districts in Orange County continue to ensure that food and beverages served on school campuses meet federal and state requirements. (Finding 2) **Absolutely, meet all standards.**
3. Orange County school districts appoint nutrition and physical education specialists who can train classroom teachers in the essentials of their specialties. (Finding 3) **Staff Development Specialist in Physical Education and Nutrition.**
4. Newport-Mesa Unified School District continue to offer healthful school meals that are appealing and appetizing to the student population, and offer guidance on menu planning to other school districts that request assistance. (Finding 4)
5. Orange County school districts apply for state and federal grants available for improving physical education and nutrition programs. (Finding 5) **School breakfast enhancement \$17,000.**
6. Orange County school districts make available their playgrounds and outdoor facilities before and after school hours for their students under the supervision of interested faculty members and parents. (Finding 6) **Yes**
7. Orange County school districts ensure that either food items sold on their campuses be labeled with the caloric values and nutritional composition or that such information be posted in the food-serving areas. (Finding 7) **Yes**

8. Orange County school districts incorporate instruction on the Body Mass Index into the nutrition and physical education programs and encourage students to share this information with their families. (Finding 8) **Secondary Physical Education**
9. Santa Ana Unified School District expand its nutrition counseling and education program to all grades, and offer guidance on replicating this program to other school districts that request assistance. (Finding 9)

Responses to Recommendations 1, 2, 3 and 5 through 8 are requested from the Superintendents of Schools of all school districts in Orange County.

A response to Recommendation 4 is requested from the Superintendent of the Newport-Mesa Unified School District.

A response to Recommendation 9 is requested from the Superintendent of the Santa Ana Unified School District.

COMMENDATION

The Orange County Grand Jury commends the Ocean View and Newport-Mesa Unified school districts for their outstanding physical education programs for which they received the Physical Education for Progress federal grant. The Grand Jury also recognizes Newport-Mesa Unified for establishing a Nutrition Advisory Committee that makes recommendations to the School Board for promoting healthful lifestyles.