



BUENA PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Barbara Michel, Member

September 16, 2004

Orange County Grand Jury
T.W. Staple, M.D., Foreman
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana CA 92701

Dear Grand Jury:

Re: Orange County Grand Jury Report on Obesity

The Buena Park School District is pleased to provide the following responses to findings & recommendations contained in the Orange County Grand Jury's report "Childhood and Adolescent Obesity: Making the Orange County Schools Part of the Solution". This information is provided in response to correspondence received by our office from the Orange County Grand Jury, dated June 1, 2004.

Finding #1

The Buena Park School District recognizes recent statutory changes to the California Childhood Obesity Prevention Act.

Finding #2

The Buena Park School District recognizes state and federal regulations for food and beverages served on school campuses. The district participates in the National School Lunch Program and provides breakfast for all students at no cost, that wish to receive it, prior to the start of each school day. All foods and beverages served by the Buena Park School District are compliant with State and Federal requirements.

Finding #3

Prior to receipt of the Grand Jury's report, the Buena Park School District was not aware of the Poway study as so referenced.

Finding #5

The Buena Park School District recognizes that various government grants are available to help finance and improve the schools' nutrition and physical education programs.

Finding #8

The Buena Park School District recognizes that Body Mass Index is not fully utilized as an assessment tool by schools' nutrition and physical education programs, but may be used by school nurses for clinical programs.

Recommendation #1

The Buena Park School District has adopted policy consistent with Senate Bill 19 which includes provisions to establish a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee. At this time the District does not have a date certain for establishing a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee.

Recommendation #2

Through monthly menu planning activities, the Buena Park School District Child Nutrition Department shall continue to ensure that food and beverages served on campus meet federal and state requirements.

Recommendation #3

Currently, the Buena Park School District meets state requirements for the instruction of physical education classes. Physical Education classes are conducted by trained and certificated physical education instructors. Physical education instructors are supervised by their respective school site administrator. At this time, the Buena Park School District does not employ a Physical Education Specialist and due to fiscal constraints does not expect to employ such a position.

Recommendation #5

When available and fiscally prudent, the Buena Park School District shall apply for grants and implement programs for improving physical education and nutrition programs.

Recommendation #8

The Buena Park School District will review opportunities to include Body Mass Index information into its nutrition and physical education programs in the coming school year.

Sincerely,



Lew Becker
Superintendent