



# Centralia School District

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July 8, 2004

The Honorable Frederick P. Horn, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CS 92701

Re: Centralia School District's Response to the Orange County Grand Jury Report  
"Childhood and Adolescent Obesity: Make the Orange County Schools Part of the  
Solution"

Dear Judge Horn:

In response to a letter from Dr. T.W. Staple, Foreman of the 2003/04 Orange County Grand Jury, following are the Centralia School District's responses to the recommendations made in the above report.

**Recommendation #1:** Each Orange County school district establish a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee to coordinate functions and activities that address students' obesity problems.

**District Response:** Within our Special Services Division, we have a leadership committee that addresses child nutrition and physical activity within the scope of all health and welfare related issues.

**Recommendation #2:** School districts in Orange County continue to ensure that food and beverages served on school campuses meet federal and state requirements.

**District Response:** We do ensure such.

**Recommendation #3** Orange County school districts appoint nutrition and physical education specialists who can train classroom teachers in the essentials of their specialties.

**District Response:** Our District nurses provide these services as appropriate. Consultants also provide such services as may be appropriate.

**Recommendation #4** Not applicable to our District.

Recommendation #5 Orange County school districts apply for state and federal grants available for improving physical education and nutrition programs.

District Response: We have applied for and are enjoying the awards of several such grants.

Recommendation #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.

District Response: Normally, we do so to the extent that employee contracts and exposure to liability allows. Currently, however, all nine of our elementary schools are limited in access due to modernization of our facilities.

Recommendation #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 servicing areas.

District Response: As a smaller district, serving elementary age students only, this is not a practical procedure for us to follow at this time. The issue of practicality relates to value of the practice with students ages 5-12 compared to the resources we have to implement such a suggestion.

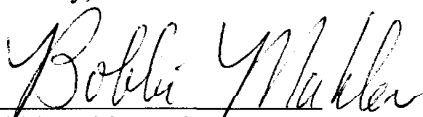
Recommendation #8: Orange County school districts incorporate instruction on the Body Mass Index into the nutrition and physical education programs and encourage students to share the information with their families.

District Response: We will consider this suggestion as we review our health education programs.

Recommendation #9: Not applicable to our District.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (714) 228-3131.

Sincerely,



Bobbi Mahler, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

BM:rmc

c. Orange County Grant Jury

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