

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

17210 Oak Street • Fountain Valley, CA 92708 • (714) 843-3255 • www.fvdsd.k12.ca.us

Dr. Robert J. Gagnier, Superintendent

September 28, 2004

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

Dear Judge Horn:

While the Fountain Valley School District wishes to be cooperative with the Orange County Grand Jury and respond to its finding, the Fountain Valley School District believes that the Grand Jury lacks jurisdiction over the issues of truancy and obesity as indicated by the California Attorney General in a 1995 opinion. (*78 Ops. Cal. Atty. Gen. 290(1995)*).

Following are the responses of the Fountain Valley School District concerning the Grand Jury Report, "*Childhood and Adolescent Obesity-Making Orange County Schools Part of the Solution.*"

Finding 1:

The Fountain Valley School District follows the state standards regarding physical activity. Our school nurses, physical education and science teachers address the area of proper nutrition and obesity.

Finding 2:

All food and beverages prepared by school Food Services in the Fountain Valley School District are regulated by federal and state requirements.

Finding 3:

The Fountain Valley School District currently does not have the funding to support a Physical Education Specialist. We have been very successful functioning without one.

Finding 5:

The Fountain Valley School District does apply for government grants that would improve nutrition and physical education programs.

Finding 6:

All students in the Fountain Valley School District have 200 minutes of physical education every two weeks. In addition, our playgrounds and outdoor facilities are available before and after school hours for students under the supervision of staff.

Finding 7:

Presently the Fountain Valley School District is striving to ensure that food items sold on campuses are posted in the lunchroom with the caloric values and nutritional composition.

Finding 8:

The Fountain Valley School District is working on incorporating instruction on Body Mass Index into our nutrition and physical education programs. We will encourage students to share this information with their families.

Recommendation 1:

Our school nurses work well with students and families in counseling and recommending methods to combat obesity in such students. The District shall consider the formation of a Child Nutrition and Physical Activity Committee by first discussing this topic with some principals and school nurses.

Recommendation 2:

All food and beverages served by school Food Services in the Fountain Valley School District or provided by outside vendors are regulated by federal and state requirements.

Recommendation 3:

The Fountain Valley School District currently does not have the funding to support a Physical Education Specialist.

Recommendation 5:

The Fountain Valley School District does apply for government grants that would improve nutrition and physical education programs.

Recommendation 6:

The Fountain Valley School District playgrounds and outdoor facilities are available before and after school hours for students under the supervision of staff. Our Extended School Program, a before and after-school childcare program, provides staffing for indoor programs as well as supervised outside exercise on the playground.

Recommendation 7

Presently the Fountain Valley School District does not post caloric and nutritional values in the food service areas. This recommendation will be discussed with the Director of Food Services for possible future implementation. Some pre-packaged foods and fruit drinks which are available for students do include nutritional and caloric information.

Recommendation 8:

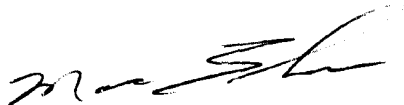
The Fountain Valley School District is working on incorporating instruction on Body Mass Index into our nutrition and physical education programs. We will encourage students to share this information with their families.

*The Honorable Frederick P. Horn
Grant Jury responses: Childhood Obesity*

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If any further response is needed, you may contact me.

Sincerely,



Marc Ecker, Ph.D., Superintendent
Fountain Valley School District
(714) 843-3255

/srg

*c: Orange County Grand Jury
Rosemary Eadie, Assistant Superintendent, Instruction, FVSD*