

Craig Haugen, Ed.D. Superintendent

June 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,

With regards to the 2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury report, "Combating Truancy in Orange County," attached is the Anaheim Union High School District Response to Recommendations.

If there are any questions, please direct them to AUHSD Safe Schools Director, Dr. Ray Chips (714-999-5655).

Sincerely,

Superintendent/

augen, E

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2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury Report "Combating Truancy in Orange County" Anaheim Union High School District Response to Recommendations June 28, 2004

Responses to Findings 8, 15, and 19 are required from the Superintendents of Schools of all 27 local school districts.

8. In 2002-03 only 10 of the 27 school districts were represented on the County (Department of Education) SAR Board. In 2003-04 that number has increased by one to 11. Membership on the County SAR Board is open to all county school districts, and all school districts – even those without SAR Boards – would benefit by their participation.

The Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) was represented on the County SAR Board during both the 2002-03 and 2003-04 school years by Mrs. Martha C. Payne, a counselor at one of our junior high schools. Additionally, Dr. Don Baumeister, Supervising Social Worker for our school district, has been asked to chair County SAR Board meetings in the last few years. The AUHSD intends to continue its close affiliation with the County SAR Board in future years.

15. School districts that limit or curtail their participation on the County SAR Board because of budgetary constraints may not be aware of the opportunity for reimbursement, through State or federal funding, afforded by Education Code Section 48323.

The AUHSD has never limited or curtailed participation on the County SAR Board because of financial considerations. On the contrary, we have sought and utilized various State and federal categorical funding to support both our local SAR Board, and our participation on the County SAR Board.

19. Periodic training of school administrators in preparing SARB-referral documentation packages would be beneficial.

The AUHSD created a computerized referral process for school administrators to access for referring students and their parents to SARB. New administrators receive separate training on this procedure, and veteran administrators are updated each year.

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Responses to Recommendation 14 are required from the Superintendents of Schools of all 27 local school districts.

Based on the findings, the 2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury recommends that:

14. All Orange County school districts become aware of the opportunity for reimbursement through State or federal funding, afforded by California Education Code Section 48323, for participation on the County SAR Board. (Finding 15)

The AUHSD, as mentioned previously, has never limited or curtailed participation on the County SAR Board because of financial considerations. On the contrary, we have sought and utilized various State and federal categorical funding to support both our local SAR Board, and our participation on the County SAR Board.