

# FOUNTAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

John W. Gentry, 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 findings, 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, "*Combating Truancy in Orange County.*"

Finding 2:

The Fountain Valley School District agrees with the Grand Jury's recommendation to upgrade the school district's Web site with respect to expectations for student attendance. We will discuss with our Information Technology department ways in which to upgrade our web site within our limited resources. We will also look into whether federal or state grant funds may be available for this purpose.

Finding 8:

The Fountain Valley School District has their own SARB. This process works very well for our school district.

Finding 15:

The Fountain Valley School District is very satisfied with their present SAR Board. They will look into the possibility of participating in the County SAR Board if budgetary constraints allow it.

Finding 19:

Fountain Valley School District administrators are trained at Principals' Meetings in preparing SARB referral documentation packages. District administrators and site administrators have been trained on the Truancy Response Project.

*The Honorable Frederick P. Horn  
Grant Jury responses: Truancy*

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Recommendation 2:

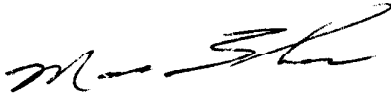
We will discuss with our Information Technology department how to best include statements of attendance expectations on the District web site. We will also look into whether federal or state grant funds may be available for this purpose. Timeline goal: As a goal, this additional information shall be added to the website by September 2005.

Recommendation 20:

Fountain Valley School District administrators and site administrators have been trained on the Truancy Response Project. Principals, in their principal newsletters and/or via a district automated phone message that reaches all families, continually remind parents of the importance of daily attendance for their child. Incidents of truancy within the Fountain Valley School District, a K-8 elementary district, are rare.

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*