



# ORANGE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Education Center

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## Superintendent

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*Serving the  
Communities of the  
Orange Unified School  
District for over Fifty Years  
— Unified July 1953 —*

August 13, 2004

The Grand Jury  
The Orange County Superior Court  
700 Civic Center Drive West, Room A100  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: "COMBATING TRUANCY IN ORANGE COUNTY" JUNE 3, 2004

Dear Members of the Orange County Grand Jury,

As you are aware, the Orange Unified School District cooperated fully with the efforts of the Orange County Grand Jury in their efforts to prepare the report "Combating Truancy in Orange County", which was released on June 3, 2004. Below you will find our district's responses as requested.

**(Finding #3):** We appreciate the Grand Jury's commendation of our district's website with respect to attendance expectations. Other districts in Orange County are welcome to review our website or seek assistance in upgrading their website. In addition, our district is currently expanding our district's website to communicate via the secured portal to communicate direct attendance information with parents on daily basis.

**(Finding #8):** The Orange Unified School District's Office of Child Welfare and Attendance has regularly attended the meetings of the Orange County School Attendance Review Board since its origination in 1974 and our current Director has attended the County SARB meetings for the past seventeen years. Our district's Director reports that much of our district's success is directly related to the material, contacts and interaction generated at the Orange County SARB meetings through the efforts of Ms. Georgiann Boyd, Orange County Department of Education, Coordinator of Student Services.

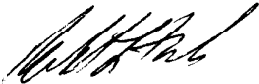
**(Finding #15):** While it is true that our district, as well as all school districts in the state, has made serious budget cuts, there have been no restrictions that would have limited our district's participation on the Orange County School Attendance Review Board. Of course, we are always interested in seeking new sources of revenue and into the possibility of additional state or federal funding to assist with our local and County SARB activities.

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**(Finding 19):** The Orange Unified School District's Office of Child Welfare and Attendance regularly meets and provides training throughout the district. This is especially important to ensure that the cases submitted to the Orange County Probation and District Attorney's Offices are court worthy. We understand that the Orange County SARB is planning a future workshop to "Combat Truancy in Orange County". Our district will be in attendance and we will support the efforts of the Orange County SARB.

We trust that this response has been well received and in the event of any questions, please call me at (714) 628-4040

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. French".

Robert L. French, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

RLF/vw