



"Equity and
Excellence"

Ocean View School District

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District Superintendent
James R. Tarwater, Ed. D.

Board of Trustees
Barbara Boskovich, President
Carolee Focht, Clerk
Sharon Holland, Member
Pam Ogdon, Member
Tracy Pellman, Member

July 19, 2004

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

Dear Judge Horn:

On May 26, 2004, the Ocean View School District received from the Orange County Grand Jury, the results of the "Combating Truancy in Orange County" report with findings and recommendations. The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to each of the findings and recommendations of the report.

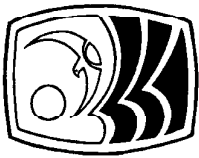
I hope this information proves helpful in addressing the reported recommendations.

Sincerely,

James R. Tarwater, Ed.D.
Superintendent

enclosures

c: Orange County Grand Jury - T.W. Staple, M.D., Foreman



OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT
Huntington Beach, CA



Response to 2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury Report
"Combating Truancy in Orange County"

| Findings | Recommendations | Implementation Status | Implementation Timeline |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Finding 2 No statement of expectation for district-wide attendance</p> | <p>Add statement of attendance expectations for the district</p> | <p>The recommendation has been implemented. Revise website (www.ovsd.org) to communicate attendance expectations for district. Primary attendance goal at 96%, and secondary goal at 98%.</p> | <p>Fall 2004 Monitor monthly</p> |
| <p>Finding 4 The Ocean View School District (OVSD) has recognized that school districts that reward and celebrate good attendance demonstrate improvements in Average Daily Attendance (ADA) that more than make up for the expenses of awards and public relations. Ocean View has adopted an outstanding Attendance Incentive Plan, approved by its Board of Trustees, that has separate lists of incentives in place at the district and at the school level.</p> | <p>OVSD continue to use its Attendance Incentive Plan (AIP) to reward and celebrate good attendance. Will mentor other interested school districts with implementation of plan. See enclosed copy of "Attendance Incentive Plan" memo. Board approved on October 21, 2003.</p> | <p>The recommendation has been implemented. The district average attendance rate for 2002-2003 was 95.78% and for 2003-2004 was 96.18%. See enclosed copy of OVSD "Percentage of Actual Attendance Chart."</p> | <p>Continue AIP for 2004-2005 school year</p> |
| <p>Finding 8 In 2002-2003, only 10 of the 27 school districts were represented on the County Department of Education SAR Board. In 2003-2004, 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.</p> | <p>Appoint a representative to the County SAR Board and to participate more fully in County SAR Board activities.</p> | <p>The recommendation has been implemented. Appoint administrative representative to attend monthly County SAR Board meetings</p> | <p>Provide opportunities for administrator to participate in monthly County SAR Board activities commencing September 2004.</p> |



OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT
Huntington Beach, CA

Response to 2003-2004 Orange County Grand Jury Report
"Combating Truancy in Orange County"

| Findings | Recommendations | Implementation Status | Implementation Timeline |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <p>Finding 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 <i>California Education Code</i> § 48323.</p> | <p>Recommendation 14 All Orange County school districts become aware of the opportunity for reimbursement through State or federal funding, afforded by <i>California Education Code</i> § 48323, for participating on the County SAR Board.</p> | <p>The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented. Review <i>California Education Code</i> § 48323 and work with County SAR Board representative to increase awareness of reimbursement opportunities.</p> | <p>Fall 2004</p> |
| <p>Finding 19 Periodic training of school administrators in preparing SARB-referral documentation packages would be beneficial.</p> | <p>The District Attorney provide for the periodic training of school administrators in preparing SARB-referral documentation packages.</p> | <p>The recommendation has been implemented. Contact District Attorney for training dates</p> | <p>Fall 2004</p> |

OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT
Huntington Beach, California

(Action)

October 21, 2003

TO: James R. Tarwater, Ed.D., District Superintendent

FROM: Mary Lou Beckmann, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE PLAN FOR 2003-2004

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As District staff developed the budget last spring, every attempt was made to identify areas for reducing costs or expanding revenue. Improved student attendance was recognized as an area in which the budget could be enhanced, while simultaneously supporting the instructional goals of the District. A typical Ocean View School District student misses about eight days a year. The District is paid by the state on the basis of average daily attendance and receives no money for each day a student is absent. The revenue limit dollar loss averages approximately \$25 per day per student absence, regardless of the reason for that absence.

Although our schools have high attendance rates of over 95% annually, if the number of student absences were reduced by three days for each child, the District would receive an additional \$668,790 (Exhibit A).

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS:

In August 2003, District Administration met to create a District incentive plan for implementation commencing with the 2003-04 school year. As part of this plan, schools will be asked to create site incentive programs. Principals will be given a menu of ideas they may use in addition to the ideas generated at the school site (Exhibit B). Within the context of general District guidelines, 50% of the funds produced from an increase in attendance will be returned to the school site to be used as an incentive as defined in the school's plan.

An increase in student attendance will enhance the District budget while reinforcing student learning. This agenda item presents the Attendance Incentive Plan to the Board of Trustees for information (Exhibit B).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Schools will share funds resulting from improved attendance at their sites. A calculation will be made for each site at the end of the year by comparing attendance rates from the 2002-03 and 2003-04 school years, and 50% of the additional revenue limit generated from a higher attendance rate will be added to the school's carryover into the 2004-05 year. The remaining 50% will become part of the District's reserves.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is respectfully requested that the Superintendent recommend that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Attendance Incentive Plan for 2003-2004. Mary Lou Beckmann, Chief Financial Officer, will be available to respond to questions.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION:

It is respectfully recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the proposed Attendance Incentive Plan for 2003-2004. Mary Lou Beckmann, Chief Financial Officer, will be available to respond to questions.

**OCEAN VIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT
ATTENDANCE INCENTIVE PLAN
2003-2004**

DISTRICT PLAN

- ☐ Financial Incentive: Schools will receive 50% of overall monetary gains produced by improved attendance.
- ☐ Principals to:
 - Communicate with parents
 - Back to School Night
 - ListServe once a month
 - PACE messages before holidays (Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Winter Break, President's Holiday, etc.)
 - Letters to parents of students with excessive (10 days or more) absences and/or truancies
 - School newsletter articles
 - School Web site articles
 - Presentations at PTA/PTSA/PTO meetings
 - Create a site plan through site-based committee.
 - Recognize and reward staff and students with excellence attendance.
 - Send students with excessive absences through SARB process.
- ☐ Annual District wide poster and essay contests.
- ☐ Banners: (Example) "Every Day Counts!!"

SUGGESTIONS OF ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES FOR SCHOOL SITE PLANS

- ☐ Lunch with the principal.
- ☐ Monthly/quarterly drawings for prizes
- ☐ Monthly awards/certificates.
- ☐ Perfect attendance lists published in school's monthly newsletters
- ☐ Perfect attendance assemblies, dances, discounts on yearbooks, etc.
- ☐ Home room spirit points.
- ☐ Home room or grade level competitions for pizza/ice cream parties.
- ☐ Monthly perfect attendance awards.
- ☐ Mentoring program for chronically absent students - pair with a teacher to whom they report twice weekly.
- ☐ Plan assemblies, test, quizzes, or fun things on Mondays and Fridays.
- ☐ Call home from school staff after three absences.
- ☐ Involve students and parents in creating the incentives and disincentives to create support and buy-in.

Percentage of Actual Absences

Actual Data

| SCHOOL | MO 1 | MO 2 | MO 3 | MO 4 | MO 5 | MO 6 | MO 7 | MO 8 | MO 9 | MO 10 | YTD | ADA from IS |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-------------|
| CIRCLE | 98.41% | 97.50% | 97.45% | 94.08% | 95.54% | 95.75% | 96.04% | 95.76% | 96.47% | 95.96% | 96.30% | 0.18 |
| COLLEGE | 97.39% | 96.92% | 96.01% | 93.30% | 95.38% | 95.29% | 96.42% | 96.03% | 96.14% | 95.91% | 95.88% | 0.84 |
| GOLDEN | 97.82% | 96.90% | 96.14% | 91.56% | 96.50% | 95.68% | 96.53% | 95.97% | 97.18% | 96.21% | 96.05% | 0.47 |
| HARBOUR | 97.15% | 96.87% | 96.27% | 93.18% | 96.68% | 96.02% | 96.47% | 96.06% | 96.58% | 95.31% | 96.06% | 0.00 |
| HOPE | 98.40% | 97.28% | 96.86% | 93.87% | 96.30% | 96.15% | 96.44% | 96.36% | 96.77% | 95.93% | 96.44% | 1.27 |
| LAKE | 98.04% | 97.26% | 96.50% | 93.46% | 95.36% | 94.10% | 96.79% | 96.59% | 96.13% | 94.70% | 95.89% | 0.11 |
| MARINE | 97.86% | 96.12% | 96.61% | 92.17% | 95.63% | 95.59% | 95.46% | 94.93% | 95.64% | 94.41% | 95.44% | 0.51 |
| MESA | 97.88% | 96.61% | 96.53% | 92.47% | 95.83% | 95.51% | 96.14% | 95.02% | 95.47% | 95.11% | 95.66% | 0.24 |
| OAK | 98.07% | 97.76% | 97.57% | 93.86% | 97.40% | 96.80% | 97.64% | 96.70% | 97.48% | 96.56% | 96.98% | 0.00 |
| SPRING | 98.23% | 96.59% | 96.76% | 92.97% | 95.52% | 95.49% | 95.86% | 95.41% | 96.42% | 94.85% | 95.81% | 0.50 |
| STAR | 98.53% | 98.46% | 97.77% | 94.65% | 96.40% | 96.86% | 97.48% | 97.01% | 97.67% | 97.46% | 97.23% | 0.19 |
| SUN | 98.14% | 96.62% | 97.11% | 93.74% | 96.04% | 96.09% | 96.71% | 96.15% | 96.19% | 95.78% | 96.26% | 0.59 |
| VILLAGE | 98.17% | 97.62% | 96.63% | 93.61% | 96.43% | 95.97% | 96.00% | 96.53% | 96.95% | 95.62% | 96.35% | 1.48 |
| VISTA | 98.35% | 97.47% | 97.00% | 93.18% | 95.91% | 95.65% | 96.76% | 95.95% | 95.88% | 94.37% | 96.05% | 0.09 |
| WESTMONT | 98.13% | 97.14% | 97.24% | 93.17% | 96.02% | 96.26% | 96.18% | 96.12% | 97.10% | 95.66% | 96.30% | 0.26 |
| District Average | 98.01% | 97.14% | 96.83% | 93.28% | 96.05% | 95.91% | 95.45% | 96.04% | 96.54% | 95.59% | | 6.73 |

Percentages include Independent Study days

Month 04 reflects loss of ADA on Friday, December 12, 2003 due to protest against the repeal of illegal immigrants' licenses