



BUENA PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Jerry Kong, Member

August 20, 2007

Nancy Wieben Stock
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, Ca 92701

Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, Ca 92701

Re: Response to Orange County Grand Jury Report: "Orange County Schools Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen?"

Pursuant to the May 17, 2007 request of Mike Penn, Foreperson, 2006-07 Orange County Grand Jury, the following responses are provided on behalf of the Buena Park School District concerning the subject report findings and recommendations:

Finding F-1: The over-all quality of the 28 Orange County School Districts and their individual school's emergency preparedness plans are in need of much improvement.

District Response: Based on the information provided in the Grand Jury report we concur that there is a need for improvement with school emergency preparedness plans.

Recommendation R-1: Orange County school districts should make sure that they and their individual schools have a SEMS equivalent plan, and these should be submitted to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review.

District Response: Although current laws does not specify that emergency preparedness plans be specifically "SEMS equivalent", we recognize that standardized plans, integrated with local, county and State agencies is a desirable objective. We, however, do not believe that local plans should be submitted to the Orange County Department of Education/Superintendent of Schools for review. Current law provides for local plan development and review, as well as notification to State authorities where and when such plans are not made available by individual school sites on an annual basis.

Should you have further question regarding the above, you may contact Mr. Greg Magnuson, Deputy Superintendent at (714) 736-4262.

Sincerely,

Lew Becker
Superintendent