June 19, 2007

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

Dear Honorable Judge Wieben Stock:

The following is the District's response to the findings of the Grand Jury's report, "Orange County Schools Disaster Plans: A Disaster Waiting to Happen?"

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.

Response:

a. (2) The respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reason therefore.

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- Centralia School District's plans are not in need of much improvement as the plans met the Grand Jury's expectations at the site level as well as the District level. We review and update our plans regularly to improve them and adapt them to changing needs and information. One of our goals is to pursue grant funding to hire a graphic designer to enhance their readability.
- b. (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action.
 - Centralia School District plans are in place at the District and the site level.
- 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.

Response to findings:

a. (2) The respondent disagrees partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefore.

Centralia School District's emergency response plans are SEMS compliant and are updated as needed to comply with modifications such as those arising from NIMS regulations and procedures. We work closely with the Orange County Department of Education to receive guidance and share information, but the disagreement arises in that the County Superintendent of Schools is not responsible to review District plans. We will however, continue to consult with the Orange County Department of Education and request their input on our plans.

b. (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeline for implementation.

We will request input on our plans from the Orange County Department of Education by October 2007.

Sincerely.

Diane Scheerhorn, Ph.D.

Superintendent

cc Marc Forgy, Deputy Superintendent, Centralia School District Linda Matlock, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent, Student Services, Centralia School District

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