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RICHARD A. HERMANN, Ed.D., Superintendent SUSAN BELENARDO, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent

Date: October 17, 2006

To: Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, Orange County

From: La Habra City School District

Tim Catlin, CWA Administrator and Wellness Chairman. 😞

Re: Response to findings and recommendations of the Orange County

Grand Jury 2005-06.

6.1 <u>Control over competitive foods</u>: Most school district food service directors do not have control over all food and beverages sold on school campuses. Most often excluded are competitive foods, *i.e.*, food and beverages sold through vending machines, student stores, and fund raising events.

Response

In the past the La Habra City School District food service director did not have control over all food and beverages that are sold on school campuses. However in compliance with our district wide "Wellness Policy" (Board Approved on 6/30/2006) our food service director does give recommendations to the school principals and district administration on food and beverage sales within the district in order to meet compliance with those policies. As we implement the policies, recommendations will eventually become mandatory at all school sites.

6.2 Compliance with federal and state laws: Responding Orange County food service directors indicated their school districts are either in compliance with or will be in compliance with recently enacted federal and state laws addressing child wellness and obesity.

Response:

As of June 30, 2006, we have a board approved comprehensive district wide school wellness policy. This policy is currently being implemented as a comprehensive plan and will be revised annually.

6.3 <u>School nutrition programs:</u> Some Orange County schools have developed creative nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation to fight obesity.

Response:

The La Habra City School District has developed and is implementing creative nutritious programs that go beyond state and federal legislation to fight obesity. We are a part of the nutrition network coalition that is funded by the USDA. Some examples of our efforts are: Food taste testing, Family nights on nutrition and physical activity, "STEPS to Healthy Living", A Parent Education Series on Nutrition, Chefs in the Classroom, and implementing a nutrition Curriculum developed by the Dairy Council. This outreach involves classroom education, teacher education, parent education, and community education. The La Habra City School District has recently been nominated for an award by The Healthy O.C. Summit honoring our efforts to promote good nutrition and physical activity.

7.1 <u>Control over competitive foods</u>: Orange County School Districts should consider granting food service directors more control over sales of all food and beverages on district campuses.

Response:

In response to this recommendation the La Habra City School District is granting the food service director more control over the sales of food and beverages in accordance to our district wellness policy. (See response to 6.1)

7.2 <u>Compliance with federal and state laws</u>: School districts should ensure compliance with legislated actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity.

Response:

In response to this recommendation the La Habra City School District has ensured compliance and will continue to monitor on a regular basis legislative actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity. (See response to 6.2)

7.3 <u>School nutrition programs:</u> To fight obesity, Orange County schools should consider researching and developing nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation.

Response:

In response to this recommendation the La Habra City School District is taking an active role to promote a healthy lifestyle in our children as well as in our community. (See response to 6.3)

Please feel free to contact me at (562) 690-2392 with any additional questions you may have regarding our efforts to fight obesity in school.