



NEWPORT-MESA Unified School District

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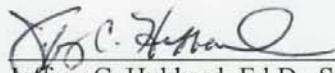
August 21, 2006

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

Dear Judge Wieben Stock:

Enclosed is Newport-Mesa Unified School District's response to the findings and recommendations of the 2005-2006 Grand Jury report, "Are Schools Feeding or Fighting Obesity?"

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey C. Hubbard, Ed.D., Superintendent

cc: Bette Flick, Foreperson
Orange County Grand Jury
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

SUPERINTENDENT

Response to Findings and Recommendations

2005-2006 Orange County Grand Jury Report

“Are Schools Feeding or Fighting Obesity?”

August 21, 2006

Newport-Mesa Unified School District
Jeffrey C. Hubbard, Ed. D., Superintendent
2985 – A Bear Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Finding #6.1

Control over competitive foods: 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.

Recommendation #6.1

Orange County school districts should consider granting food service directors more control over sales of all food and beverages on district campuses.

Response

Newport-Mesa Unified School District agrees with the finding as stated and has fully implemented the recommendation to grant the Nutrition Services Director more control over sales of all food and beverages on district campuses.

In May of 2005, the board of education adopted a Wellness Policy that empowers the Director of Nutrition Services to coordinate district wide efforts to promote healthy lifestyles in the community. Chief among these efforts is the selection of foods and beverages to be sold on school campuses that meet or exceed recently legislated menu requirements.

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#### Finding #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.

#### Recommendation #6.2

School Districts should ensure compliance with legislated actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity.

#### Response

Newport-Mesa Unified School District agrees with the finding as stated and has fully implemented the recommendation to ensure compliance with legislated actions and dates addressing child wellness and obesity.

In May of 2006, the board of education adopted rules and regulations pertaining to the Wellness Policy that ensure compliance with all federal and state laws regarding nutrition and childhood obesity.

### Finding #6.3

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

### Recommendation #6.3

To fight obesity, Orange County schools should consider researching and developing nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation.

### Response

Newport-Mesa Unified School District agrees with the finding as stated and has fully implemented the recommendation to consider researching and developing nutrition programs that go beyond state and federal legislation.

Newport-Mesa Unified School District's Nutrition Services Director chairs the California State Board of Education's Child Nutrition Advisory Council. This council provides input to the state board regarding the implementation of new programs designed to improve child nutrition programs and combat childhood obesity. Additionally, the district has begun implementation of an elementary school physical activity program designed to assist classroom teachers as they engage students while meeting state mandated instructional minutes for physical education in the k-6 grade levels. The CATCH Program, (Coordinated Approach to Child Health) includes physical education, physical activity, and nutrition curriculum; and is now implemented in several elementary schools in the district. Newport-Mesa is also collaborating with the Orange County Department of Education to develop a county wide implementation plan for CATCH by modeling the program for other districts.