

Anaheim Union High School District
501 N. Crescent Way
Anaheim, CA 92801
Attn: Adam Hernandez

August 23, 2023

The Honorable Maria Hernandez
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Anaheim Union High School District’s Response to the 2022-23 Orange County Grand Jury Report on *The School Shooting: How Prepared are Orange County Public Schools*.

To: The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez:

The Anaheim Union High School District (District) commends the Grand Jury for its time and attention devoted to studying this very important issue and publishing the Grand Jury Report dated May 25, 2023 entitled: *School Shooting: How Prepared are Orange County Public Schools* (Report).

The District has thoroughly reviewed and considered the Findings and Recommendations in the Report. In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Grand Jury has requested that the District respond to Findings and Recommendations made in the Report. The District responds to the Grand Jury’s Findings and Recommendations with the following:

F #	Finding	Agree/ Disagree	Response and Explanation (if Required)
F1	Law enforcement, first responders, and other stakeholders have demonstrated a strong interest in working cooperatively with Orange County public schools to mitigate the risk of an active shooter incident; establishment of MOUs between law enforcement and school districts would strengthen this cooperation.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	AUHSD currently has MOUs with all of their partner Police Departments, which includes La Palma PD, Cypress PD, and Anaheim PD.
F2	All Orange County public schools studied by the Grand Jury stated that they conducted or have scheduled drills within the current school year on emergency procedures addressing	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or	All sites in AUHSD are required to conduct Level 3 Lockdown Drills at minimum one time per year in addition to disaster preparedness drills.

	intruders on campus, but not all have done so specifically regarding armed assailants.	partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	
F3	While all districts prioritize the safety of students and staff, the attention and resources devoted to active shooter preparedness and response vary from district to district.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	Although all sites in AUHSD are required to conduct Level 3 Lockdown Drills, AUHSD is currently working on additional resources devoted to active shooter preparedness with students and staff i.e. live active shooter simulations, parent education/awareness, School Resource Officer community meetings, etc.
F4	Safety and security plans for on-campus before and after-school programs are not adequately addressed by school districts.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	AUHSD has measures in place for after school programs that include staffing and law enforcement.
F5	While many Orange County public schools have installed fences, cameras, and other methods to address the issue of active shooters on a campus, there are still opportunities for improvement.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	AUHSD currently has an MOU with Orange County Public Safety for additional campus security. AUHSD also has an MOU with The Sobel Group, Inc., which provides digital mapping to support law enforcement agencies during active shooter scenarios and/or safety threats on campus.
F6	Not all schools utilize a system for monitoring campus visitors.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	In AUHSD, any visitors must be screened through the Raptor technologies system, which screens and tracks visitors and volunteers.
F7	While there is an increased awareness of the benefits of mental health counseling, not all school districts have implemented these	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees	AUHSD employs a Director of Mental Health and Wellness, along with three Lead Clinical Social Workers that help



	programs in all schools.	wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	support AUHSD sites. In addition, every site in AUHSD has a Licensed Clinical Social Worker for students. Each site has a system for referring a student to mental health services (i.e. Counselor, Clinical Social Worker, outside resources, etc.)
F8	School Resource Officers (SROs) are a valuable asset for school safety, yet many cities/districts do not allocate sufficient funds to hire needed officers.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	AUHSD currently has School Resource Officers with Cypress PD, La Palma PD, and Anaheim PD. The City of Anaheim has allocated funding in partnership with AUHSD to support 6 School Resource Officers to cover 12 schools.
F9	Not all classrooms have window shades, tinted glass, or film to obstruct the interior view from the outside.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	AUHSD agrees with findings as there are classrooms with shades. However the district's infrastructure plan includes working with our Risk Management Department and Maintenance to install one-way coverings where needed.
F10	The camera surveillance systems utilized on many campuses require repairs, replacement, or additions.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	AUHSD recently made upgrades to their security camera system that includes: Upgrade to Video Management System, which increased the capacity to 3PB raw space and upgraded UPS unity; added 260 cameras (840 views; some of the cameras have multiple lenses or views) to existing 1,247 cameras (1,247 views).
F11	Many schools do not have perimeter fencing completely enclosing their campus.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	19 out of 20 sites in AUHSD have perimeter fencing completely enclosing their campus
F12	A number of school districts have school site administrative offices that remain unlocked on a daily basis.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees	All AUHSD administrative offices are secure and locked after hours. AUHSD contracts Orange County

		wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	Public Safety for overnight and weekend security
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Please see below for the responses to each required Recommendation as requested in the Orange County Grand Jury report and attached cover letter dated June 14, 2023.

R #	Recommendation	Implementation	Response And Explanation (if Required)
R1	Each Orange County school district should arrange for local law enforcement to do an annual safety inspection of each school. The written safety checklist should include an audit of the integrity of site boundaries and a review of safety plans and policies. This annual safety audit should commence with the 2023-24 school year by October 1, 2023, and annually thereafter.	Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	AUHSD will work with each site's School Resource Officer to do an annual safety inspection by October 1, 2023.
R2	All Orange County school districts should establish a threat identification and assessment system for all school sites to monitor social media, screen for messages of concern, and manage information received in coordination with local law enforcement using MOUs, if necessary, by July 1, 2024.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD Administration site teams present student expectations to students at the sites and the expectation of reporting any student concerns to an adult to help with student safety. AUHSD currently uses the Stopit application for students to be able to unanimously report any student concerns that include threats to a site and/or to self. In addition, AUHSD also uses sysCLOUD Backup and Security to monitor any student communication/work on all google content (i.e. gmail, google Drive, google docs, etc.) for any potential threats. AUHSD also works closely with law enforcement agencies to determine if a threat is credible. AUHSD implemented the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)

			model, which includes training for social workers, school psychologists, counselors, administrators, and staff.
R3	Each Orange County school district, in conjunction with law enforcement, should develop and implement tabletop exercises to be conducted in district schools by December 31, 2023, and annually thereafter.	Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	AUHSD in conjunction with law enforcement, will develop protocols within emergency responses that include active shooter lockdowns and implement tabletop exercises at sites by December 31, 2023, and annually thereafter
R4	Each Orange County school district should work with local law enforcement to plan and conduct a district-wide active shooter drill by July 1, 2024, and at least every other year thereafter.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD will work with local law enforcement to plan and conduct a district-wide active shooter drill by July 1, 2024 and every year thereafter.
R5	All Orange County school districts should develop a casualty care training program for each school in their district, to be in place by the end of the first semester of the 2023-24 school year and provided annually thereafter.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD has implemented a Critical Incident Response to support all schools and staff with psychological first aid, crisis response, and support services.
R6	Safety and security plans for on-campus before and after-school programs need to be addressed more thoroughly by school districts, by July 1, 2024.	Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	AUHSD will have each site evaluate its Safety Plan to include safety and security plans for on-campus before and after-school programs by July 1, 2024.
R7	Each Orange County school district should obtain and incorporate perimeter camera systems in all district schools by July 1, 2024, or earlier if financially able to do so, and investigate the potential use of cameras that incorporate Artificial Intelligence to enhance threat detection and prevention.	Recommendation has been implemented	In AUHSD, every site has a surveillance camera system that includes perimeter surveillance cameras.
R8	All Orange County school districts should review entry procedures on all campuses with an eye toward the use of perimeter fencing, the use of single point entry, and the use of a buzzer and camera system	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD annually reviews all points of entry and all campuses have perimeter fencing.

	for entry into the main/administrative offices.		
R9	Each Orange County school district should identify and implement a parent and visitor management system for each school site within the school district. This is to include identified access points, badges, or a similar identification procedure to be implemented by July 1, 2024.	Recommendation has been implemented	In AUHSD, any visitors must be screened through the Raptor technologies system, which screens and tracks visitors and volunteers.
R10	Each Orange County school district should implement training for all staff to identify threat-related behaviors and provide a procedure for reporting the behavior by the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD implemented the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) model, which includes training for social workers, school psychologists, counselors, administrators, and staff. This includes a process for identification, assessment, and follow-up for both general education and special education students.
R11	All Orange County school districts should develop a plan to implement or enhance mental health counseling for all schools by December 31, 2024.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD has a comprehensive school based mental program with Licensed Clinical Social Workers at each school.
R12	Each Orange County school district should assess the need for SROs or additional SROs, reaching out to appropriate community partners to facilitate funding by July 1, 2024.	Recommendation has been implemented	AUHSD currently has School Resource Officers with Cypress Police Department, La Palma Police Department, and Anaheim Police Department. The City of Anaheim has allocated funding in partnership with AUHSD to support 6 School Resource Officers to cover 12 schools.
R13	All Orange County school districts should investigate and consider bullet resistant or tinted film covering for school windows by December 31, 2023.	Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	AUHSD will investigate and consider bullet resistant or tinted film covering for school windows by December 31, 2023.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you.

UNLIMITED YOU



501 NORTH CRESCENT WAY, ANAHEIM, CA 92801
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Sincerely,

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