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 Director of Safety and Student Services

August 25, 2023

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

The Los Alamitos Unified 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 June 14, 2023, entitled: *School Shooting: How Prepared are Orange County Public Schools?* (Report). The District is dedicated to ensuring secure school environments for everyone who sets foot on our campuses. We recognize the importance of consistently reviewing, evaluating, and refining all safety protocols on a continuous basis.

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.

Please see below for the responses to each required Finding as requested in the Orange County Grand Jury report and attached cover letter dated June 9, 2023.

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)	Los AI Unified has strong collaborative relationships with all local law enforcement agencies within District boundaries. Although there are no established MOUs, our partnerships are strong.
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 intruders on campus, but not all have done so specifically regarding armed assailants.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	While Los AI Unified can't speak for other districts, Los AI Unified offers training to all staff members, specifically designed on how to respond to a violent intruder. Schools conduct drills throughout the school year on how to respond should a violent intruder enter the campus or classroom.

<b>F3</b>	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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
<b>F4</b>	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)	While Los AI Unified can't speak for other districts, Los AI Unified has had multiple discussions regarding safety at before and after-school programs. However, there is still a need for more dialogue and plans.
<b>F5</b>	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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	Reviewing, evaluating, and refining all safety protocols on a continuous basis is essential.
<b>F6</b>	Not all schools utilize a system for monitoring campus visitors.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	While Los AI Unified can't speak for other districts, all schools within the Los AI Unified school district use the Raptor system to monitor visitors on campus.
<b>F7</b>	While there is an increased awareness of the benefits of mental health counseling, not all school districts have implemented these programs in all schools.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	While Los AI Unified can't speak for other districts, Los AI Unified has implemented many supports and resources to support mental health. All schools have a full-time school psychologist, all schools have WellSpaces, and all schools have either parttime or fulltime mental health counselors. Additionally, we have partnered with the military to provide counseling services to our schools with the highest numbers of students in families of Armed Forces members.
<b>F8</b>	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)	In partnership with Los AI PD, Los AI Unified has a fulltime SRO that supports four of our schools. Orange County Sheriff provides an SRO who supports four of our schools in Rossmoor. Seal Beach PD provides ongoing support with many officers. That being stated, additional time/staff would be beneficial to help form strong relationships with students and staff, as well as to provide support as needed.

<b>F9</b>	Not all classrooms have window shades, tinted glass, or film to obstruct the interior view from the outside.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	Los AI Unified has installed mylar film in the windows of all classrooms. Additionally, all classrooms have window coverings that can be used to prevent individuals from seeing inside classrooms.
<b>F10</b>	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)	Los AI Unified recently installed new cameras at multiple sites, so there are now surveillance cameras at every school site. Additionally, maintenance contracts are in place to ensure cameras are working properly and serviced on a regular basis.
<b>F11</b>	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)	Los AI Unified has perimeter fencing that encloses every campus.
<b>F12</b>	A number of school districts have school site administrative offices that remain unlocked on a daily basis.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the finding (see right for explanation)	Outsiders cannot enter the Administrative Office, or Main Office, without ringing a bell and being "buzzed" in. However, once inside the Main Office, there are multiple administrative offices that remain unlocked.

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 9, 2023.

<b>R #</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>Response And Explanation (if Required)</b>
<b>R1</b>	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)	Los AI Unified has been in communication with all local law enforcement agencies within District boundaries. Because of our unique boundaries, we partner with three different agencies - Los AI PD, OC Sheriff, and Seal Beach PD. Safety inspections and checklists will be completed by October 1, 2023, and annually thereafter
<b>R2</b>	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	Los AI Unified has multiple means of monitoring social media, internet searches, and screening of messages of concern. The District uses Securely, SysCloud, internet filtering through OCDE, and the Say Something Anonymous Reporting System.

<b>R3</b>	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 been implemented	During last school year, Los AI Unified held a tabletop exercise for Rossmoor schools, an Active Shooter drill with Los AI PD and surrounding agencies for Los AI schools, and several Active Shooter Drills with the Seal Beach PD at McGaugh Elementary School. The District will do this annually.
<b>R4</b>	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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	Active Shooter Drills are scheduled for the 2023-2024 school year.
<b>R5</b>	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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	Los AI Unified will work with local law enforcement agencies to identify a casualty care program by the end of the first semester.
<b>R6</b>	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 been implemented	Los AI Unified requires camera/buzz-in gates in order to access before and after-school programs. Additionally, each elementary school has a Campus Supervisor assigned when after-school programs are in session. Los AI Unified will continue to collaborate with before and after-school program providers to identify areas in need of improvement.
<b>R7</b>	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	All schools in Los AI Unified have perimeter camera systems. The Director of Safety and Student Services will explore the potential use of Artificial Intelligence to enhance threat detections and prevention.
<b>R8</b>	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 for entry into the main/administrative offices.	Recommendation has been implemented	All schools in Los AI Unified already have perimeter fencing, a single point of entry, and buzzer and camera systems.
<b>R9</b>	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	All schools in Los AI Unified use the Raptor Visitor Management system.

<b>R10</b>	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	Yearly training is offered to all staff regarding how to respond to a violent intruder. That training includes how to identify threat-related behaviors and procedures for reporting suspicious behaviors.
<b>R11</b>	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	Los AI Unified has added school psychologists and mental health counselors to support student needs.
<b>R12</b>	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	By July 1, 2024, Los AI Unified will collaborate with local law enforcement agencies to identify ways to provide additional SRO support for all sites.
<b>R13</b>	All Orange County school districts should investigate and consider bullet resistant or tinted film covering for school windows by December 31, 2023.	Recommendation has been implemented	All school sites have mylar film installed on all windows.

Please accept the information provided herein as the District's responses to the Orange County Grand Jury's Factual Findings and Recommendations in the Report. Once again, we appreciate the time and attention that the Grand Jury devoted to this very important issue.

Sincerely,



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