GARDEN GROVE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

10331 Stanford Avenue • Garden Grove, California 92840-6353 Phone: (714) 663-6000 • Fax: (714) 663-6100

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September 7, 2023

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge **Orange County Superior Court** 700 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Judge,

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 14, 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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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)	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, our schools conduct scheduled drills annually (fire, earthquake, disasters, shelter in place, lockdowns and active shooter).
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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, we review safety protocols

		finding (see right for explanation)	for how all should respond/react anytime they are on campus.
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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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)	We have systems in place such as protocols and procedures for checking in all visitors at the front office. Some schools use an electronic system such as Raptor & Lobbytrack.
F7	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)	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, we have counselors, school psychologists, social workers, mental health specialists and wellness centers on many of our campuses.
F8	School Resource Officers (SROs) are a valuable asset for school safety, yet man cities/districts do not allocate sufficient funds to hire needed officers.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
F9	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)	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. Our classroom windows have window shades, tinted glass or film.
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)	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, all sites and district facilities are monitored by cameras. We have upgraded as well as added cameras over the past 3 years. Our IT department repairs and replaces cameras when needed. GGPD & WPD have access to the district cameras to increase monitoring.
F11	Many schools do not have perimeter fencing completely enclosing their campus.	Disagree. The Respondent disagrees wholly or partially with the	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, all of our schools have perimeter fencing.

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		finding (see right for explanation)	
F12	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)	GGUSD cannot attest to what other districts are doing or not doing. In GGUSD, the front door to the administration building is unlocked on a daily basis during office hours.

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 been implemented	
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	
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)	This is in progress as we continue to coordinate ongoing training and collaboration with GGPD and other local agencies. We will also set up a training schedule for the 23-24 school year for school teams to get training which will include tabletop exercises.
R4	Each Orange County school district should work with local law enforcement to plan and conduct a district-wide active shooter drill by	Recommendation has been implemented	

	July 1, 2024, and at least every other 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 requires further analysis (see right for explanation of scope, parameters, and 6 month timeline of analysis)	In our drills and training with first responders, they usually cover the casualty care part and school sites have "first aid" teams to assist before first responders arrive. We will need more information on what entails a "casualty care team" before we can create a training program.
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 been implemented	
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	
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 for entry into the main/administrative offices.	Recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	Our campuses have a single point of entry, perimeter fencing and camera systems. We will investigate and consider the use of a buzzer 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	
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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	This topic will be included in the upcoming School Team Trainings planned for the 2023- 24 school year.

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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	~
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	,
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 been implemented	

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gabriela Mafi, Ed.D. Superintendent

Garden Grove Unified School District

gmafi@ggusd.us 714-663-6111