



Newport-Mesa
Unified School District

BOARD OF EDUCATION
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September 12, 2023

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

Dear Judge Hernandez,

Please see below for the responses to each required Finding as requested in the Orange County Grand Jury report: School Shootings: How Prepared are OC Public Schools, 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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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	

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F4	Safety and security plans for on-campus before and after-school programs are not adequately addressed by school districts.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
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.	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.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
F10	The camera surveillance systems utilized on many campuses require repairs, replacement, or additions.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
F11	Many schools do not have perimeter fencing completely enclosing their campus.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	
F12	A number of school districts have school site administrative offices that remain unlocked on a daily basis.	Agree. The Respondent agrees with the finding	

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Please see below for the responses to each required Recommendation as requested in the Orange County Grand Jury report: School Shootings: How Prepared are OC Public Schools, 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	The Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) conducted safety assessments of each NMUSD school and administrative building prior to the 2023-24 school year. Local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD) will be conducting annual safety assessments in future years.
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	NMUSD works closely with local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD) to closely monitor any messages of concern that are reported. There is a strong partnership with the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) who is actively monitoring social media. We also have a partnership with WeTip 2.0 for all Secondary Schools, which allows for the anonymous reporting of any concerning behavior, messages, and/or online activity.
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)	NMUSD in conjunction with local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD) will develop and conduct a tabletop exercise at a district school prior to December 31, 2023.
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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	NMUSD conducts lockdown drills at all of our schools which will include local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD) participation during the 2023-24 school year. Additionally, the Newport-Mesa Unified School District will collaborate with local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD) to plan and conduct a district-wide active shooter drill by July 1, 2024.

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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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	A casualty care training program will be in place by the end of the first semester 2023-24 school year to train site administrators and health staff. We will work closely with our Human Resources Department and labor groups to incorporate the casualty care training program into annual training thereafter.
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)	The work in this area has been started but needs to be more closely coordinated. The District has already started requiring all before- and after-school staff to check in through Raptor, our visitor management system and will look at additional areas of safety and security. The appropriate Directors from each department will work together to refine the plan by the required timeline.
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 not yet been implemented but will be in the future (see right for timeline)	NMUSD completed camera installation in several elementary, intermediate, and high schools over the summer. Additional camera installation at all school sites will be prioritized in coordination with recommendations from the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC) safety assessment report and finalization of district security standards.
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)	NMUSD has reviewed entry procedures on all campuses with the assistance of the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC). The district is currently installing lobby security systems at each of our schools and several administrative sites that include single point controlled entry through the use of a camera, intercom, and buzzer system.
R9	Each Orange County school district should identify and implement a parent and visitor management system for each school site within the school district.	Recommendation has been implemented	NMUSD has re-established the protocols for all staff and parents in check-in to all District facilities via Raptor, our visitor management

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	This is to include identified access points, badges, or a similar identification procedure to be implemented by July 1, 2024.		system. These protocols have been shared with office staff and are currently being implemented. We are addressing lobby security as well by installing secure lobby equipment at each site.
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)	NMUSD site administration and mental health staff were trained in the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG) in the Spring of 2023. Ongoing training is provided as a refresher and for new staff. An abbreviated version of the training, which includes how to identify threat-related behaviors, will be made available to site leaders and mental health staff to use at their sites. The District also abides by the motto of "See Something, Say Something." At the elementary schools, reports of threat-related behavior is to go directly to the site administration. At the secondary schools, this can happen either directly to site administration or anonymously through WeTip 2.0.
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	NMUSD has invested in full time elementary counselors at all elementary schools, to add to the already existing mental health support structure in-place. Secondary schools have been staffed with school counselors for a number of years. Additionally, at the elementary and secondary sites, there is staffing of either a full or part time school psychologist. Behavior Specialists (school psychologists) are also placed strategically throughout the District as are School Social Workers. We also continue to collaborate closely with our community partners who support our mental health work, including area hospitals and the Orange County Department of Education.

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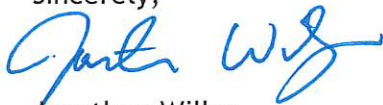
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R12	Each Orange County school district should assess the need for SROs or additional SROs, reaching out to appropriate community partners to facilitate funding by July 1, 2024.	Recommendation has been implemented	The partnership with local law enforcement (CMPD and NBPD started in 2001, with the assignment of SROs to the NMUSD. Each department has now allocated three officers assigned as School Resource Officers. In Newport Beach, a SRO is assigned to Corona del Mar Middle/High School, one SRO is assigned to Newport Harbor High School, and a third SRO is assigned to Ensign Middle School and covers the elementary schools in the City as needed. In Costa Mesa, a SRO is assigned to Costa Mesa MS/HS, one is assigned to Estancia High School and TeWinkle, and one is assigned to Back Bay High School, and coverage for the elementary schools is distributed to all three. The need for additional resources is reviewed on a continuous basis.
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)	Classroom physical security in each NMUSD school was assessed in the safety assessments conducted by the Orange County Intelligence Assessment Center (OCIAC). Bullet resistant and tinted films were discussed as part of the assessments and will be considered upon receipt of the final report.

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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