



August 30, 2024

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

Re: Laguna Beach Unified School District's (LBUSD) Response to the 2023-24 Orange County Grand Jury Report on *Use of Artificial Intelligence in Public Schools (K-12)*

To the Honorable Maria D. Hernandez:

The Laguna Beach 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 12, 2024, entitled: *Use of Artificial Intelligence in Public Schools (K-12)* (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:

Finding 1

Orange County's K-12 public schools have implemented policies and/or guidelines around the use of different AI platforms in varying and inconsistent ways. Some prohibit AI's use; others allow it: and some don't have policies or guidelines governing AI at all.

The District cannot comment on other districts' policies and/or guidelines around the use of AI platforms. As it pertains to LBUSD, we deployed AI to our teachers using products that comply with state and federal guidelines for safety. LBUSD has policies that are being that are in the approval process about AI. LBUSD has several Board Policies that reference AI that have been drafted and are going to be reviewed.

Board Policy 5131.9 - Academic Honesty Board Policy 6154 - Homework/Makeup Work Board Policy 6162.5 - Student Assessment Board Policy 6163.4 - Student Use of Technology will go for a first reading on September 12, 2024

Finding 2

Superintendents provide varying levels of support in implementing AI policies and/or guidelines in their respective school districts.

The District partially disagrees in that it cannot comment on the superintendent's level of support in implementing AI policies and/or guidelines in other districts. As it pertains to LBUSD, the Superintendent has recommended and approved training, policies, and guidelines. These trainings include AI for staff efficiency, during class usage as a learning tool, and students using AI.

Finding 3

There are many resources to guide educators in using AI. Several Are available at the local level through the Orange County Department of Education, Orange County Board of Education, CEO Leadership Alliance Orange County, and Orange Unified School District Technology Department, to name a few. However, utilization and even awareness of the availability of such resources is highly variable across school districts.

The District partially disagrees with the finding. The District does not have firsthand information regarding the utilization and awareness of the availability of the AI resources across school districts. As it pertains to LBUSD, we are aware of these resources and participate in them as time permits.

Recommendation 1

By June 30, 2025 Orange County's K-12 schools should implement policies and guidelines regarding the appropriate use of AI. These may be provided at the district level or within individual schools through the adoption of an Acceptable Use Policy, Code of Ethics, or other written directives addressing the use of AI.

The District is working on implementing this recommendation and will meet the recommended timeline proposed by the Grand Jury.

Recommendation 2

Superintendents should ensure that their schools have policies that cover, at a minimum: the scope, guiding principles, and training regarding the responsible use of AI tools by students and teachers; any prohibited uses of special considerations regarding AI tools; and related security, privacy, and safety considerations.

The recommendation has not yet fully been implemented but will be implemented in the future.

Recommendation 3

K-12 students should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.

LBUSD has purchased several systems that are approved with the Student Data Privacy agreement that have teacher monitored access to AI tools. As students use these services the teacher will guide them on appropriate usage as well as monitor their use of the AI tool. LBUSD is in the process of building a citation tool for AI usage so there is transparency between teachers and students.

Recommendation 4

K-12 teachers should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.

The recommendation has been implemented.

Recommendation 5

Schools and educators should be encouraged to collaborate with the various available AI consortiums and think tanks, such as OCDE and CLAOC, to effectively implement AI and establish basic tenets for its use.

The recommendation has been implemented.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Jason Viloria Superintendent jviloria@lbusd.org