

Board of Education

EMILY PRUITT, President SUE PRITCHARD, Ph.D., Clerk/Vice-President ADAM ROGERS, Member JUSTIN RODGERS, Member OFELIA HANSON, Member

MARIO A. CARLOS, Ed.D., Superintendent

September 8, 2024

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

Re: La Habra City School District's 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 La Habra City 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 agrees with the finding.

The District cannot comment on other districts' policies and/or guidelines around the use of AI platforms. As it pertains to the La Habra City School District, we have updated our *Students and Families Responsible Use Policy* and our *Employee Responsible Use Policy*.

Finding 2

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

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge, Orange County Superior Court Date Page 2

The District partially disagrees with the finding.

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 the La Habra City School District, the Superintendent has overseen the implementation of our updated policies. In addition, he has created an Artificial Intelligence Committee and kept us up to date on emerging programs and concerns.

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 the La Habra City School District, we are focused on ensuring that any offered resources are paired with appropriate training for our staff and are age appropriate for our students. Currently, we have not approved a broad range of AI tools and systems that other districts might use.

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 recommendation has been partially implemented and will be fully implemented for the 2025-26 school year.

The District has partially implemented this recommendation but will implement this recommendation by June 30, 2025 with the following action plan: La Habra City School District has updated our *Students and Families Responsible Use Policy* and our *Employee Responsible*

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge, Orange County Superior Court Date Page 3

Use Policy. The district will work to create, refine, and implement Board Policy and Administrative Regulations through our Artificial Intelligence Committee.

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 been partially implemented and will be fully implemented for the 2025-26 school year.

The District has partially implemented this recommendation as follows: La Habra City School District has updated both its *Students and Families Responsible Use Policy* and *Employee Responsible Use Policy* to address AI-related concerns. Additionally, the District has launched an AI Academy for Teachers and provided several professional development opportunities focused on AI for classified staff. The District will create, refine, and implement a comprehensive *Student AI Policy*. Furthermore, LHCSD will offer additional staff training related to data safety and AI use through the ongoing work of its Artificial Intelligence Committee.

Recommendation 3

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

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

The District has partially implemented this recommendation but will implement this recommendation with the following action plan: La Habra City School District will update our student internet safety training to include information on the safe use of Artificial Intelligence for the 2025-26 school year.

Recommendation 4

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

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez Presiding Judge, Orange County Superior Court Date Page 4

The recommendation has been partially implemented.

The District has partially implemented this recommendation. Teachers have had, and will continue to have, opportunities to receive training on the safe and effective use of AI in the classroom.

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 not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.

The District has not yet implemented this recommendation but will implement this recommendation by January 1, 2025, with the following action plan: information regarding consortiums and AI training events held locally by OCDE will be shared with teachers. Teachers will have the opportunity to collaborate and establish basic tenets for AI use.

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,

Mario A. Carlos, Ed.D.

Superintendent