



Acalanes Union High School District

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September 15, 2020

By U.S. Mail & E-Mail: ctadmin@contracosta.courts.ca.gov
Anne N. Granlund, Foreperson
Contra Costa County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553

RE: Response to Grand Jury Report No. 2008

Dear Foreperson:

In response to your letter dated June 10, 2020, the Governing Board of the Acalanes Union High School District (AUHSD) provides this response to the following findings and recommendations in Grand Jury Report No. 2008- Do Our Public Schools Have Adequate Emergency Supplies?, as requested.

Findings:

Finding #1:

The California Education Code does not specify the type of supplies schools should maintain for emergencies.

Response to Finding #1:

The District agrees with the finding.

Finding #2:

Each Contra Costa County school district determines its own emergency preparedness plans (based on California State Education Department guidelines), including the amount and type of emergency supplies to maintain at its schools.

Response to Finding #2:

The District agrees with the finding.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

John T. Nickerson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Aida Glimme
*Associate Superintendent,
Educational Services*

Amy McNamara
*Associate Superintendent,
Administrative Services*

Julie Bautista
Chief Business Official

SCHOOLS

Acalanes Adult Education
Walnut Creek

Acalanes Center for
Independent Study
Walnut Creek

Acalanes High School
Lafayette

Campolindo High School
Moraga

Las Lomas High School
Walnut Creek

Miramonte High School
Orinda

Finding #3:

The Contra Costa County Office of Education posts on its website a recommended list (minimum standard list) of emergency supplies for school districts.

Response to Finding #3:

The District agrees with the finding.

Finding #4:

Some Contra Costa County school districts did not demonstrate that they maintain supplies in conformity with the Contra Costa County Office of Education minimum standard list.

Response to Finding #4:

The District partially disagrees with the finding. The District has not verified whether other school districts maintain supplies in conformity with the County Office of Education's minimum standard list.

Finding #5:

Some Contra Costa County school districts fund purchasing and replenishment of emergency supplies through their annual budgets, but most school districts in Contra Costa County fund them through parent or community donations.

Response to Finding #5:

The District partially disagrees with the finding. The District is not aware of how other school districts in Contra Costa County fund the purchase of emergency supplies.

Finding #6:

Contra Costa County school districts can apply for federal, state, corporate or non-profit organization grants to help pay the cost of acquiring and maintaining school emergency supplies.

Response to Finding #6:

The District agrees with the finding.

Finding #7:

Each Contra Costa County school district has either a designated safety/ resource officer or a school administrator who fills the safety/ resource officer role.

Response to Finding #7:

The District partially disagrees with the finding. The District has not verified the existence of an assigned safety/resource officer or school administrator being assigned to this role in every school district.

Finding #8:

There is no legal requirement that teachers renew CPR and First Aid certification training after teachers initially obtain their teaching credential.

Response to Finding #8:

The District agrees with the finding.

Recommendations:

Recommendation #1:

Each Contra Costa County school district board should consider adopting the Contra Costa County Office of Education Emergency Supplies list (minimum standard list) for its schools and identifying funding sources to purchase the supplies, by December 31, 2020.

Response to Recommendation #1:

This recommendation has been implemented. The supplies have been in place with preparation for emergency and evacuation site. Further evaluation is currently underway and will be completed with all items reviewed and verified in stock by October 31, 2020.

Recommendation #3:

The Contra Costa County school district boards should consider applying for federal, state, corporate, and non-profit organization grants to fund the acquisition of school emergency supplies, by June 30, 2021.

Response to Recommendation #3:

This recommendation requires further analysis. Generally, all schools have complete emergency preparedness supplies. Local funding has provided for most items. The AUHSD will consider applying for grants should district funds and other local funding not provide the necessary funding to purchase any new items or replenishing of expired items. Determination will take place no later than October 31, 2020.

Recommendation #4:

Each Contra Costa County school district board should consider developing a plan to identify organizations that provide CPR and First Aid certification refresher training for district teachers, by December 31, 2020.

Response to Recommendation #4:

This recommendation has been implemented. The AUHSD is familiar with local organizations that can provide training and has individuals within the AUHSD that are trained trainers.

Recommendation #5:

Each Contra Costa County school district board should consider developing a plan to identify funding, if necessary, to provide CPR and First Aid certification refresher training for district teachers, by December 31, 2020.

Response to Recommendation #5:

This recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future. The AUHSD will develop a plan by December 31, 2020, to expand upon the current CPR and First Aid certification refresher training for District teachers.

This completes the District's response. Thank you.

Sincerely,



John Nickerson
Superintendent