



***Knightsen Elementary School District
Business Department***

TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO:
Contra Costa County Civil Grand
Jury

FROM:
Harvey Yurkovich, Superintendent

725 Court Street

DATE:
09/01/2020

Martinez, CA 94553

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
4

PHONE NUMBER:

SENDER'S PHONE NUMBER:
925-626-3310

RE:
Grand Jury Report Index #2008

URGENT

PLEASE RESPOND

FOR REVIEW

FOR SIGNATURE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Please find enclosed Grand Jury Report Index # 2008 completed by the Superintendent.

Thank you.

Knightsen Elementary School District
1923 Delta Road, PO Box 265, Knightsen, CA 94548



Knightsen Elementary School District
1923 Delta Rd – P.O. Box 265
Knightsen, Ca. 94548

Superintendent: Harvey Yurkovich

Board of Trustees
Robin Pastor
Liesel Williams
Thomas Baldocchi
Stefani Provan
Janice Smith

Anne N. Granlund, Foreperson
2019-2020 Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury

August 28, 2020

Regarding: Grand Jury Report Index # 2008, "Do Our Public Schools Have Adequate Emergency Supplies?"

Dear Ms. Granlund,

First, the District wishes to thank the Grand Jury for its work in reviewing these important issues and for their recommendations. In accordance with California Penal Code Section 933 et seq. and per the enclosed letter dated June 10, 2020, please accept this letter as the District's response (underlined) to each finding/recommendation:

- **Findings**

F1. *The California Education Code does not specify the type of supplies schools should maintain for emergencies.*

- The district concurs and agrees to this finding.

F2. *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.*

- The district concurs and agrees to this finding.

F3. *The Contra Costa County Office of Education posts on its website a recommended list (minimum standard list) of emergency supplies for school districts.*

- The district concurs and agrees to this finding.

F4. *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.*

- The district concurs.

F5. *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.*

- The Knightsen Elementary School District uses its general funding source to purchase and replenish its emergency supplies and have not relied on parent or community donations for this specific purpose. Instead, the District has typically relied on parent and community donations to directly fund classrooms.

F6. *Contra Costa County school districts can apply for federal, state, corporate or non-profit organization grants to help pay for the cost of acquiring and maintain school emergency supplies.*

- The district concurs.

F7. *Each Contra Costa County school district has either a designated safety/resource officer or a school administrator who fills the safety/resource officer role.*

- The Knightsen Elementary School District works closely with out local Sheriff's Department. Each of the schools within the District have a principal who oversees school safety.

F8. *There is no legal requirement that teachers renew CPR and First Aid certification training after teachers initially obtain their teaching credential.*

- The district concurs.

Recommendations

R1. *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*

- This recommendation has been implemented...
- The District has already secured funding sources to procure the supplies – COVID-19 state money, CARES Act funds, and or General Funds.

R3. *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, 2020.*

- This recommendation has been implemented. The district is constantly researching external funding sources such as grants to promote instruction, support and safety for the District's students and employees. The District intends to continue to search for funding opportunities including ways to procure emergency supplies.

R4. *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.*

This recommendation has already been implemented. We have a district health clerk who is a certified First Aid and CPR instructor. Likewise, we have dedicated PD time for our teaching and support staff to attend and become certified in both First Aid and CPR.

The District has multiple relevant job descriptions that may require CPR and First Aid training including: special education paraprofessionals, all coaches, school site and district administrators. Education Code 49413 provides that a district **MAY** provide such trainings. The safety of our students and employees is always our top priority. We feel confident we can continue to promote the safety of our students and employees and not require or sponsor CPR and First Aid training for our four hundred plus teachers employed by the District.

Moreover, in accordance with current state laws, teachers and other District employees are required to receive mandated child abuse, sexual harassment and suicide prevention trainings on an ongoing basis. The District fulfills these requirements with fidelity.

R5. Each Contra Cost County school district board should consider developing a plan to identifying, if necessary, to provide CPR and First Aid certification refresher training for district teachers, by December 31, 2020.

This recommendation may not be implemented at this time due to the restrictions on social distancing and mass gatherings. Should the opportunity become available we will provide training for both teaching and support staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury Report. If you have any further questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harvey Yurkovich', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Harvey Yurkovich
Superintendent
Knightsen Elementary School District