



Contra Costa County Office of Education

77 Santa Barbara Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 • (925) 942-3388
Lynn Mackey, Superintendent of Schools

September 10, 2020

Contra Costa County Grand Jury
Attn: Foreperson
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553-0091

RE: Response to Grand Jury Report No. 2008

Dear Foreperson:

In response to your letter dated June 10, 2020, we are providing response to the following findings, 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 County Superintendent 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 County Superintendent agrees with the finding.

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 County Superintendent agrees with the finding.

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 County Superintendent 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 County Superintendent partially agrees with the finding. The existence of an assigned safety/resource officer or school administrator being assigned to this role is not verified by the County Superintendent for all school districts.

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 County Superintendent agrees with the finding.

Recommendations:

Recommendation #2:

The Contra Costa County Office of Education should consider assisting school districts by identifying and applying for federal, state, corporate, and non-profit organization grants that fund the acquisition of school emergency supplies. By June 30, 2021.

Response to Recommendation #2:

The recommendation requires further analysis. The County Board and County Superintendent are separate entities. The County Office of Education will:

1. The County Office of Education will send LEAs notice of grant and partnership applications as they arise.

Recommendation #6:

The Contra Costa County Board of Education and the Contra Costa County Office of Education should consider applying for federal, state, corporate, and non-profit organization grants to fund voluntary CPR and First Aid certification refresher training for teachers, by June 30, 2021.

Response to Recommendation #6:

The recommendation requires further analysis. The County Board and County Superintendent are separate entities. The County Office of Education will provide grant opportunities to LEAs as they become available.

Please feel free to contact me should you need anything further.

Sincerely,



Lynn Mackey
Superintendent of Schools
Contra Costa County

LM:mk

CC: Bill Clark, Deputy Superintendent, Contra Costa County Office of Education
John Hild, Director, General Services, Contra Costa County Office of Education
Vikki J. Chavez, President, Contra Costa County Board of Education