

VIA EMAIL & U.S. MAIL

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BY: *[Signature]*

September 1, 2023

Grand Jury, County of Yolo
P.O. Box 2142
Woodland, CA 95776
GrandJury@yolocounty.org

RE: 2022-2023 YOLO COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
Yolo County Board of Education, Yolo County Office of Education: Responses to
"Safety is in the Eye of the Beholder: Concerns about Yolo High School"

Dear Grand Jury Representatives:

On behalf of the Yolo County Board of Education and the Yolo County Office of Education (collectively "YCOE" or "Respondent"), I want to thank you for the time and effort taken by the Yolo County Grand Jury ("Grand Jury") to conduct its safety analysis of Yolo High School.

YCOE's responses to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations are set forth below in accordance with the response format required by Penal Code section 933.05, which requires YCOE to respond to findings and recommendations as follows:

- (1) YCOE agrees with the finding; or
- (2) YCOE disagrees wholly or partially with the finding, in which case the response shall specify the portion of the finding that is disputed and shall include an explanation of the reasons therefor.

(Penal Code section 933.05(a)(1)-(a)(2).) As to each Grand Jury recommendation, YCOE shall report one of the following actions:

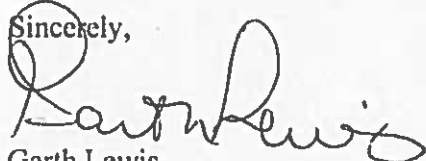
- (1) The recommendation has been implemented, with a summary regarding the implemented action;
- (2) The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, with a timeframe for implementation;
- (3) The recommendation requires further analysis, with an explanation and the scope and parameters of an analysis or study, and a timeframe for the matter to be prepared for discussion by the officer or head of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable; or

(4) The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable, with an explanation therefor.

(Penal Code section 933.05(b)(1)-(b)(4).)

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information.

Sincerely,



Garth Lewis
County Superintendent
Yolo County Office of Education



Tico Zendejas
President
Yolo County Board of Education

Response to Finding

Finding F-4: A significant percentage of Yolo High School students are in what is commonly known as independent study at any given time, thereby unable to attend classes or events on the campus. This isolation prevents them from receiving the full benefit of services provided to attending students.

YCOE disagrees partially with this finding because while some Yolo High School students are enrolled in the Independent Study Program at Yolo High School, YCOE is informed and believes that this amount does not constitute a "significant percentage" of overall Yolo High School students. In particular, the Washington Unified School District's August 2023 response to this same finding states: "At a minimum, 90 percent of Yolo High School students were enrolled in in-person instruction daily."

(See <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZK9pQlIP0uHzn5ZqptaXPpuqABwR9gHb/view>.)


Response to Recommendation

Recommendation R-4: By June 30, 2024, the Yolo County Board of Education should conduct a study of the circumstances under which students are assigned to independent study at Yolo High School. This review should identify whether practices at Yolo High School disproportionately harm victims of bullying or students who need support provided at their schools.

This recommendation will not be implemented by YCOE because it is not warranted and is not reasonable. Specifically, YCOE does not have statutory authority or factual basis to conduct a study of the circumstances under which Washington Unified School District students are assigned to the District's independent study program at Yolo High School, including identifying whether practices at Yolo High School disproportionately harm victims of bullying or students who need support provided at their District schools.

Carol Case

From: Seibert, Yvette <Yvette.Seibert@ycoe.org>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 11:44 AM
To: GrandJury
Cc: Arvizu-Espinoza, Maria; Lewis, Garth
Subject: YCBOE & YCOE Responses to Grand Jury Report
Attachments: YCOE Grand Jury Response.pdf

RECEIVED
SEP 13 2023
BY: 

Good morning,

Attached is YCBOE & YCOE's Response to the 2022-23 Yolo County Grand Jury Report – Safety is in the Eye of the Beholder: Concerns about Yolo High School

Thank you,

**Yvette Seibert, Executive Assistant to
Garth Lewis, Yolo County Superintendent of Schools**
Yolo County Office of Education
1280 Santa Anita Court, Suite 100
Woodland, CA 95776
530-668-3702
www.ycoe.org

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Seibert, Yvette

From: Carol Case <Carol.Case@yolocounty.org>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:40 PM
To: Erika Sembrano Rodine
Cc: GrandJury
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yolo High School, Yolo Office of Education Response to 2022/23 Report

[EXTERNAL MESSAGE]

Good afternoon Ms. Rodine,

Vanessa Pinzon forwarded me your request for the extension for the Yolo County Office of Education to respond by September 15, 2023, to the Yolo High School Grand Jury Report 2022/23. This extension is approved.

In the future, please address all emails to GrandJury@yolocounty.org, or directly to my county email. Mr. Oldham is no longer part of the grand jury's email system.

Thank you,
Carol Case
Foreperson
Yolo County Grand Jury
2023-24
(530)86-6199