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VIA EMAIL (grandjury@yolocounty.org) & U.S. MAIL

February 5, 2024

Yolo County Grand Jury
Hall of Justice
P.O. Box 2142
Woodland, CA 95776

RE: 2022-2023 YOLO COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT
Washington Unified School District's Response to "ARE WE THERE YET? On the Road to School Safety."

Dear Grand Jury Representatives:

The Board of Education ("Board") of the Washington Unified School District ("District") appreciates the time and effort taken by the Yolo County Grand Jury ("Grand Jury") to conduct its safety analysis of the District. The district has given the Grand Jury's findings serious consideration, and this response will identify several UPDATES/ACTIONS that have been implemented consistent with the Grand Jury's recommendations.

The District's responses to the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations are set forth below in accordance with the format required by Penal Code section 933.05.

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

Sincerely,

Cheryl Hildreth, Ed.D., Superintendent
Washington Unified School District

Enclosure: Response to Findings/Response to Recommendations
cc: Honorable Daniel M. Wolk, Judge, Superior Court of California, Yolo County
cc: Honorable Sonia Cortés, Judge, Superior Court of California, Yolo County

Washington Unified School District–Grand Jury Response Update

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-1: The Grand Jury recommends that, before the start of the 2024-25 school year, each school district identify additional hardening approaches and develop a plan to protect further areas of its schools that remain vulnerable.</p>	<p>WUSD responded, "<i>...this will be implemented no later than June 30, 2024.</i>" "<i>The District is working with the West Sacramento PD, the Maintenance, Operations, Transportation Department, and an independent safety consultant to assess campuses for site safety vulnerability.</i></p> <p><i>This assessment will determine hardening approach needs and provide the necessary information to develop a plan to implement before the 24-25 school year starts.</i>"</p>	<p>Although the due date for implementation of this recommendation is not until the beginning of the 2024- 25 school year, the Grand Jury is requesting a status report on what the District has done to date toward implementing this recommendation.</p>	<p>As of January 2024, all WUSD campuses were assessed for site safety vulnerability.</p> <p>Now that the are completed, we are working with our Maintenance & Operations Department to address the recommendations for site hardening measures in preparation for the 24-25 school year.</p>

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-2: Prior to the start of the 2024- 25 school year, each school district should develop a SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and time-bound) plan to encourage all students to complete the <i>California Healthy Kids Survey</i> and similar findings, especially those related to potentially violent actions.</p>	<p>WUSD responded that this recommendation has been implemented.</p>	<p>The Grand Jury requests a copy of the latest survey or a link to the website where the survey results can be viewed if the information is available online.</p>	<p>Links to WUSD’s most recent CHKS survey results are below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://wested.ent.box.com/s/4mm3830qyf6osctajv28d7mfoizq4178 • https://wested.ent.box.com/s/r7pgyfyreyq0nbws3sb8ragrlptlqzqo

Washington Unified School District–Grand Jury Response Update

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-3: Prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year, each school district should evaluate and improve signage for all of its schools, so that visitors can easily find the school’s office to register upon their arrival.</p>	<p>WUSD responded that this recommendation has been implemented, <i>“The District is committed to increasing signage visibility before the start of the 2024- 25 school year to denote the office’s location”</i></p>	<p>Although the due date for implementation of this recommendation is not until the beginning of the 2024- 25 school year, the Grand Jury is requesting a status report as to what the District has done to date towards the implementation of this recommendation.</p>	<p>As site vulnerability assessments are completed, the District is working with our Maintenance & Operations Department to address the recommendations for signage before the start of the 24-25 school year.</p>

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-4 : Prior to the start of the 2024- 25 school year, each school district should require and document that training related to threats of violence is completed by its teachers (regular and substitute), staff and administrators every year.</p>	<p>WUSD responded <i>“This will be implemented no later than November 1, 2023.”</i></p>	<p>The Grand Jury is asking for any documents that show that this recommendation was implemented before November 1, 2023.</p>	<p>All school site staff were trained on threats of violence at school site staff meetings in August 2023.</p> <p>In addition, all staff were trained on the emergency communication system for events related to threats of violence.</p> <p>Sample Agenda is linked below: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_X97n2blg_eC1lgVRrBV9VcZ-CV2EEhgU6sVh2B_NZHo/edit</p>

Washington Unified School District–Grand Jury Response Update

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-5: Prior to the start of the 2024- 25 school year and each subsequent school year, Davis, Washington and Winters school districts should identify and document a statistically reliable method or tool for measuring the effectiveness of school safety training, including an annual survey of teachers, staff and administrators.</p>	<p>WUSD responded that <i>“This will be implemented no later than June 5, 2024, following the District’s review and development of a survey process to evaluate the effectiveness of safety training.”</i></p>	<p>Although the due date for implementation of this recommendation is not until June 5, 2024, the Grand Jury is requesting a status report on what the District has done to date towards implementing this recommendation.</p>	<p>As training is completed, staff feedback is collected.</p> <p>An annual survey of teachers, staff, and administrators is being developed for implementation before June 5, 2024, and each year after that.</p>

Recommendations	Response from WUSD	Requested Information	WUSD Update(s)
<p>R-6: Before the start of the 2024- 25 school year and each subsequent school year, each district should achieve and maintain an emergency notification contact rate of at least 95% with parents or guardians, as verified by their third-party emergency notification providers.</p>	<p>WUSD responded, <i>“This will be implemented no later than June 30, 2024.”</i></p>	<p>Although the due date for implementation of this recommendation is not until June 30, 2024, the Grand Jury is requesting a status report as to what the The district has done to date towards the implementation of this recommendation.</p>	<p>Data Confirmation protocols were implemented on August 28, 2023, and January 8, 2024, to update student emergency contact information to increase our emergency notification contact rate with parents and guardians.</p>

Signed: 

Cheryl Hildreth, Ed.D., Superintendent
Washington Unified School District