

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Administration		(2) MEETING DATE July 18, 2006		(3) CONTACT/PHONE Vincent Morici, Administrative Analyst (805) 781-5020	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve recommended responses to findings and recommendations contained in the Grand Jury report on Community Schools, and to forward the responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.					
(5) SUMMARY OF REQUEST The Grand Jury has prepared a report addressing several issues associated with Community Schools in San Luis Obispo. The report directs that the Board of Supervisors respond to five of the six findings and four of the eight recommendations in the report. The Grand Jury also requires that the County Probation Department to respond to the same findings and recommendations. This item includes the departmental response that is recommended to be the response from the Board of Supervisors to the findings and recommendations. Upon approval, the responses will be forwarded to the Presiding Judge.					
(6) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Board approve the attached responses and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court.					
(7) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A		(8) CURRENT YEAR COST N/A		(9) ANNUAL COST N/A	
(10) BUDGETED? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A					
(11) OTHER AGENCY/ADVISORY GROUP INVOLVEMENT (LIST): The Probation Department was contacted as part of the evaluation of the response to this report.					
(12) WILL REQUEST REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STAFF? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, How Many? _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Permanent _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Limited Term _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Contract _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Help _____					
(13) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) <input type="checkbox"/> 1st, <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd, <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd, <input type="checkbox"/> 4th, <input type="checkbox"/> 5th, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All			(14) LOCATION MAP <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		(15) Maddy Act Appointments Signed-off by Clerk of the Board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
(16) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			(17) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions (Orig + 4 copies) <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts (Orig + 4 copies) <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances (Orig + 4 copies) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
(18) NEED EXTRA EXECUTED COPIES? <input type="checkbox"/> Number: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A			(19) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? <input type="checkbox"/> Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A		
(20) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) _____			(21) W-9 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		(22) Agenda Item History <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date _____
(23) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW					

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County of San Luis Obispo

COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, RM. 370 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408 • (805) 781-5011



DAVID EDGE
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Vince Morici, Administrative Analyst
DATE: July 18, 2006
SUBJECT: Response to the 2005-2006 Grand Jury Interim Report on Community Schools

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors adopt the attached response from the Probation Department as the Board of Supervisors' response to the 2005-2006 Grand Jury report on Community Schools

DISCUSSION

The Grand Jury issued an interim report that addresses issues associated with Community Schools. The Grand Jury has required that the Probation Department and the Board of Supervisors respond to specific findings and recommendations contained in the report.

Staff has evaluated the Grand Jury report and the response prepared by the Probation Department. The responses by Probation provide an adequate response to the Grand Jury. We recommend that your Board adopt the response from the Probation Department as the Board of Supervisor's response to the Grand Jury findings 1 through 5 and Grand Jury recommendations 3, 5, 6 and 7. The recommendations of the Grand Jury primarily relate to Probation Department operations. As such, Probation has responded within the context of their operational capacity and their collaborative efforts with partners who are primarily responsible for the operation of community schools. It is important to note that Community Schools operate under the County Office of Education. Probation is a partner in this system through the enforcement of truancy and case management of those students who are on Probation.

The Probation Department response to the Grand Jury Report is shown as Attachment 1. It is recommended that this be adopted as the Board's response to the Grand Jury Report.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT

The Probation Department was contacted as part of the evaluation of the response to this report.

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FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

No significant expenses are anticipated by adopting the responses by the Probation Department.

RESULTS

Adoption of the findings and recommendations will fulfill the County's obligation to respond to Grand Jury reports as specified in Section 933 of the Penal Code

Attachment 1: Probation Department response

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COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
PROBATION DEPARTMENT

County Government Center Room 400, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5300 FAX: (805) 781-1231

Kim Barrett, Chief Probation Officer
Myron Nalepa, Assistant Chief Probation Officer

To: **VINCE MORICI, ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST**

From: **KIM BARRETT, PROBATION**

Date: **JUNE 19, 2006**

Subject: **RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT ON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**

Attached are the requested responses to **FINDINGS – 1 THROUGH 5 AND RECOMMENDATIONS #3, 5, 6 & 7.**

FINDINGS:

1. Students in Community Schools are high-risk youth and less likely to be college bound.
RESPONSE: We agree with the finding.
2. State academic requirements are the same for Community School students as for regular school district students.
RESPONSE: We agree with the finding.
3. There is a strong need, and a severe lack of funding, for vocational training in Community Schools.
RESPONSE: We agree with the finding.
4. Past communication and collaboration between various agencies in dealing with the Community School population and the need for vocational training was lacking. The roundtable approach to this inquiry has opened new lines of communication and cooperation between various agencies, which can benefit the students in the Community School program.
RESPONSE: Partially disagree with the finding.
Disagree with the finding that past communication and collaboration between various agencies in dealing with the Community School population and the need for vocational training was lacking. The Probation Department and Community Schools have communicated regarding the need for vocational training for community school youth over the years. We collaborated in the opening of Mountain View Community School in the late 1990's, which was a vocational Community School, housed at Camp San Luis. After evaluating the outcomes of this school we determined that the youth were actually worse in terms of completing their education, and staying out of trouble. Since this program was funded with Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act funds, and was contingent on positive outcomes, the County Office of Education and

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the Probation Department jointly decided to close the school last year. The County Office of Education, and the Private Industry Council got together and developed the WORK program earlier this year after receiving a grant.

The Grand Jury did bring forward additional ideas, such as bringing in ROP services, and the idea of utilizing General Service's employees as mentors and work sites. This did bring new people to the table, with new ideas to assist our youth at Community Schools. We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in our county's Community School youth and their special needs. As they said, not all youth are college bound and we, the community, must assist those youth who are not.

5. There is a need for adult mentors to help in introducing WORK program students to job experiences.

RESPONSE: We agree with the finding. It should be noted due to the leadership of Juvenile Court Judge Teresa Estrada Mullaney; over 50 names of professionals from the community were shared as agreeing to be mentors. These are people who live and work in the community and are willing to have youth shadow them in their job. The Probation Department collaborated with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) to implement this job-shadowing program, which is now part of the WORK program. However, these youth will always need mentors. A mentoring program takes staff to screen, orient, and match the mentor to youth, as well as recruit additional mentors. At this time, we do not have the staff available to perform this task.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- #3. COE and Probation should communicate frequently and keep each other informed of problems, progress and needs of the Community Schools WORK program. Roundtable discussions involving the needs and developments in the Community Schools vocational training efforts should continue on a regular basis.

RESPONSE: THIS HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED. The Probation Department and the County Office of Education continue to work together on the WORK program and will begin roundtable discussions in our efforts to develop further vocational training beginning in August of 2006.

- #5. Probation Department should remain involved in efforts to continue and expand the WORK program and should cooperate with COE where and when possible.

RESPONSE: THIS HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED as we continue to discuss expansion efforts of the WORK program and continue to cooperate with the County Office of Education where and when possible.

- #6. COE, Probation, and ROP professionals should work together to develop an approach to the state legislature to propose a pilot program in San Luis Obispo County. The pilot program should be designed to increase the availability of Career Technical Education for Community School students. (Findings 3 & 4)

RESPONSE: THIS HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED. The Probation Department will work with the County Office of Education and the State Legislature in proposing a pilot program for San Luis Obispo County beginning with meetings with our local legislators in September.

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#7. The Probation Department should work with the General Services Department to identify and match students with job opportunities in the General Services Department and provide assistance in placing those students. (Findings 5 & 6)

RESPONSE: THIS HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED. The Probation Department has contacted General Services and is working with staff to place youth in part-time jobs with County General Services on a case-by-case basis.

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