

HUENEME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

205 N. Ventura Road

(805) 488-3588

Port Hueneme, CA 93041-3065

JERRY DANNENBERG, Ed.D.

"UP" TENDENT

DEBORAH DESMETH
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

DEBRA B. REEVES
CHIEF BUSINESS OFFICIAL

RECEIVED

September 2, 2010

SEP 07 2010

Don Cody, Chair
Grand Jury Review Committee
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Robert A. Peskay, Foreman
Ventura County 2010-2011 Grand Jury
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Dear Messrs. Cody and Peskay:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 30, 2010 regarding my response to the Grand Jury final report entitled, *The Half Billion Dollar Elephant in Our Schools' Closets*. Since my July 27, 2010 response to this report, we have taken additional action to respond to Recommendations 07 and 08, which are:

Recommendation 07

First, we have contracted with an accounting firm to update our actuarial projections of future cash to the district.

On August 9, 2010, our Governing Board directed that I share your report with the leadership of our employee unions, in preparation for collective bargaining to take place later this fall.

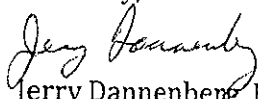
Finally, the Board directed that we address this issue with our unions at the bargaining table, to come up with ways to further limit our liability and, if possible, find a way to pre-fund this liability.

Recommendation 08

A number of years ago, our Board entered into negotiated agreements with our employee unions that limit the number of years an individual can receive these benefits, and placed a hard cap on the cost of these benefits each year. Last year, the hard cap was exceeded, requiring individuals who receive these benefits to pay approximately \$22.00 a month for ten months. This year, each individual will need to contribute approximately \$106.00 a month, for ten months, to maintain this benefit. The employer-provided portion of our retiree plans is already frozen for active employees currently covered.

I hope this additional information will help you to fully accept our response to your report. Should you need anything else, please let me know.

Sincerely,


Jerry Dannenberg, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Copy: Hueneme ESD Board of Education

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

SHALA J. GUDINO, PRESIDENT • DARLENE A. BRUNO, CLERK • DONNA L. BRANSTROM, TRUSTEE • RAFAEL (RALPH) RAMOS, TRUSTEE • SCOTT E. SWENSON, TRUSTEE

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July 27, 2010

JUL 29 2010

H.G. Kelley, Foreman
Ventura County Grand Jury
800 S. Victoria Avenue L #3751
Ventura, CA 93009

VENTURA COUNTY
GRAND JURY

Subject: Grand Jury Report: *The Half Billion Dollar Elephant in Our Schools' Closets*

Dear Foreman Kelly:

The Hueneme Elementary School District staff and Board of Education have reviewed the Grand Jury Report dated June 11, 2010. On July 26, 2010, the Hueneme Elementary School District Board of Education approved our response to your report, *The Half Billion Dollar Elephant in Our Schools' Closets*.

Regarding your requirement, as set forth in Penal Code §933.05(a) through (c), that we state whether we concur, concur in part, or disagree with the Grand Jury's findings and explain the reasons why we disagree in whole or in part with each applicable finding:

Findings: F-01, F-02, F-03, F-04, F-06, F-07, F-08, F-09, F-10, F-11, F-12, F-13, F-14, F-15, F-16, F-17, F-18, F-19, F-20, F-21, F-22, F-23

We have no ability to concur or disagree with these findings, as we are not responsible for these budgets or actuarial studies. However, some of the numbers provided in the report do not make sense. As an example: In one case, you have a district's thirty year cost at the same level as its 2009-10 cost.

Finding: F-05: We concur with the Grand Jury's finding.

Findings: F-24, F-25, F-26, F-27, F-28, F-29, F-30, F-31, F-32, F-33, F-34, F-35, F-36, F-37

We have no ability to concur or disagree with these findings because we are not responsible for the information provided. However, if you make the assumption that the facts are true, we would concur with them.

Regarding your requirement that, for each application Recommendation, we state if it has already been implemented, will be implemented (with expected date of implementation), will not be implemented (with an explanation of the reason), or requires further study:

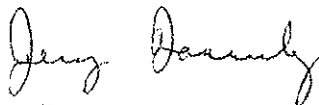
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Recommendations:

- R-01: This will be implemented when the state stops cutting our funding every year.
- R-02: These have been implemented through our participation in the Gold Coast Joint Benefits Trust.
- R-03: These have been implemented through our participation in the Gold Coast Joint Benefits Trust.
- R-04: This has been implemented in that we follow the Standards and Criteria for all of our fiscal reporting requirements.
- R-05: This has been implemented.
- R-06: This has been implemented through the negotiations process.
- R-07: This will require further study.
- R-08: This will require further study.

Respectfully submitted on July 27, 2010 by Jerry Dannenberg, Superintendent of the Hueneme Elementary School District upon the approval of the Hueneme Board of Education



Jerry Dannenberg, Ed.D.

Superintendent and Secretary to the Governing Board

Copied to:

Honorable Kevin J. McGee, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, Ventura County
P.O. Box 6489
Ventura, CA 93006