

**Yolo County Board of Education
1280 Santa Anita Court, Suite #100
Woodland, CA 95776-6127**

Item # 3.3 Handout
9/26/17 YCBE Reg. Mtg

Matt Taylor, President
Cirenio A. Rodriguez, Vice President
Bill Owens
Carol Souza Cole
Shelton B. Yip

530-668-6700
FAX: 530-668-3848

September 26, 2017

The Honorable David W. Reed
Superior Court of California, Yolo County
1000 Main Street
Woodland, CA 95695

Subject: Response to the Grand Jury Report: *Are Yolo County Schools in Compliance with School Safety Plans?*

Dear Judge Reed,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury Report focused on school safety in Yolo County Schools. The Yolo County Board of Education values transparency and communication as an important part of our governance role over the county school systems. As such, we are pleased to have a partner in the Grand Jury who had taken a look at these issues and likewise, as partners with our local school districts, we will work with the districts to assist in their implementation of these findings.

The County Board and the County Superintendent work hand in hand in co-governance over the Yolo County Office of Education. The County Board of Education concurs with the letter the Grand Jury received from Superintendent Ortiz and is in full support of Dr. Ortiz's response. The Board did, however, want to bring the Grand Jury's attention that the Yolo County Office of Education also functions in some ways like a school district and operates its own schools. These schools were not included in the Grand Jury's review, but serve some of our counties most needy students. We operate:

- Greengate School
 - An extraordinary, self-contained educational setting for students with special needs.
- Dan Jacobs school
 - A WASC accredited school offering educational opportunities to students housed in the Yolo County Juvenile Detention Center

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- Cesar Chavez Community Schools
 - Accredited, public high schools located in Woodland and West Sacramento that serve students on formal or informal probation or students who have been expelled from other schools in the county.

The Yolo County Office of Education is extremely proud of these schools and the services they provide to students – including keeping these students safe and learning.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Matt Taylor, President
Yolo County Board of Education

cc: Yolo County Grand Jury
Jesse Ortiz, Ed.D., Yolo County Superintendent of Schools