

RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: Charter Schools: A Matter of Choice

Report Date: February 23, 2007

Response by: Bob Lenz Title: Chief Education Officer, Envision Schools

BOARD: Marin School of Arts & Technology

FINDINGS

- I (we) agree with the findings numbered: 1
- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: 5
We disagree partially with finding #5. We agree that finding a site for Fall 2007 is an acute challenge. We disagree with the finding that MSAT must address issues of budget, budget reporting, and enrollment. These issues have been addressed. Missing from the report were any of MSAT's accomplishments that include:
 - MSAT's first senior class has garnered over \$700,000 in financial aid.
 - More than 50% of MSAT's First Generation College Bound students will be attending a 4-year college or university, compared to 27% statewide.
 - MSAT's senior class can boast a National Merit Scholar and students have been accepted to schools such as Stanford University, UC Berkeley, and UCLA.
 - MSAT was awarded \$250,000 by the California Department of Education (CDE) to disseminate its award winning project-based curriculum as an exemplary best practice for all California high schools; MSAT is only one of two California high schools to receive this award in 2006.
 - MSAT's Watershed Project selected by the George Lucas Educational Foundation as a national example of a "best practice."
 - One hundred percent of MSAT's graduates are eligible for admission to the UC/CSU system, compared to 23% statewide.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations numbered _____ have been implemented.
 - (Attach a summary describing the implemented actions.)
- Recommendations numbered _____ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.
 - (Attach a timeframe for the implementation)
- Recommendations numbered _____ require further analysis.
 - (Attach 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 director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed, including the governing body of the public agency when applicable. This timeframe shall not exceed six months from the date of publication of the grand jury report.)
- Recommendations numbered 2 will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.
 - *EXPLANATION:* Novato Unified School District's current monitoring systems is sufficient. MSAT and NUSD communicate regularly and in a timely manner.

Date: 4-30-07

Signed: _____

Robert King