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June 20, 2019

The Honorable Judge Paul Haakenson
Marin County Superior Court
P.O. Box 4988
San Rafael, CA 94913-4988

Pat Randolph, Foreperson
Marin County Civil Grand Jury
3501 Civic Center Drive, Room #275
San Rafael, CA 94903

Dear Judge Haakenson and Foreperson Randolph:

Please find enclosed the Mill Valley School District Board of Trustee's response to recommendations (R1, R2, R9, R10, and R11) from the report *School Resource Officers Revisited*.

Please know we appreciate your continued interest in and support of our public schools and the safety and well-being of our county's young people.

Sincerely,

Leslie Wachtel, President
Mill Valley School District

Raquel Rose, Interim Superintendent
Mill Valley School District

Mill Valley School District Response
To the 2018-2019 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report
School Resource Officers Revisited

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: SRO Programs in Marin County should be retained or expanded where they now exist. SRO programs should be established to cover those school districts where they do not exist.

Response:

This recommendation has been implemented.

The Mill Valley School District currently works closely with Mill Valley Police Department and Marin County Sheriff's Department to provide the schools in Mill Valley access to an SRO program and we expect these services will be retained.

R2: Municipalities, school districts, and law enforcement agencies in Marin County should make SRO programs a high budgetary priority.

Response:

This recommendation requires further analysis.

The Mill Valley School District considers safety, security and the well-being of our students a top priority in Mill Valley. We work in close collaboration with our local partners to support this priority, although we do not have the direct oversight of our partner agency's budgetary plans. We anticipate that the funding designation for SRO programs will vary based on an agency's budgetary constraints. However, we will, work with the Marin County Office of Education and countywide law enforcement partners to determine if grant funding may be available.

A status report will be provided by November 23, 2019.

R9: School districts should take the lead in working with their city councils and law enforcement agencies to employ and maintain a sufficient number of SRO's.

Response:

This recommendation has been implemented.

Although the Mill Valley School District does not operate or hire the SRO program, we maintain close collaboration with our local law enforcement partners and municipalities regarding school safety and security. The current level of SRO services available are meeting the school district's needs and we are in full support of discussing the possibility of future program expansion as resources become available.

R10: School districts and municipalities should explore funding sources such as grants, bond issues, special taxes and other sources.

Response:

This recommendation has been implemented.

Mill Valley School District fully agrees with the Grand Jury's recommendation to seek additional resources as appropriate. This may include collaborating with our local partners on grants, as well as participating in countywide funding opportunities for school security. We will maintain our close partnership with the Marin County Office of Education to identify and apply for grant funding for school safety and security as it becomes available.

R11: School districts and municipalities should consider sharing the costs and services of SRO Programs.

Response:

This recommendation requires further analysis.

As previously mentioned, the safety, security and well-being of our students is our highest priority. However, we also recognize that this oversight cannot be done alone, thus we always work closely with our local partners to support this priority. At the current time, budget constraints would prevent Mill Valley School District from committing funds to a new SRO program. However, we support working with school districts countywide, the Marin County Office of Education, and law enforcement partners to explore the possibility of new funding.

An update will be provided by November 23, 2019.