August 7, 2019

Dear Judge Haakenson and Foreperson Randolph:

Attached please find the response requested by the 2018-2019 Marin County Civil Grand Jury from the Miller Creek Elementary School District Board of Trustees to the recommendations (R1, R2, R9, R10, R11) from the report School Resource Officers Revisited.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of our public schools and the health and wellness of our county’s young people.

Sincerely,

Brad Honsberger
President Board of Trustees
Miller Creek School District

Becky Rosales
Interim Superintendent
Miller Creek School District
Miller Creek Elementary School District Response to the 
2018-19 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report: 

School Resource Office 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:
A status report will be provided by November 23, 2019.

This recommendation has been implemented.

The Miller Creek School District currently receives SRO services from the Marin County Sheriff’s Office and San Rafael Police Department and expects the services to be retained for the 2019-2020 school year.

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.

Our district understands that the safety and security of our students is our primary responsibility and a very high priority. We are always willing to work with our local partners to support that priority. The designation of funding for a SRO program may not be possible given budget constraints. We will, however, work with the Marin County Office of Education and 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.

The Miller Creek School District currently receives SRO services from the Marin County Sheriff’s Office and San Rafael Police Department and expects the services to be retained for the 2019-2020 school year.

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

Response:

This recommendation requires further analysis.

We agree with the Grand Jury’s recommendation to seek additional resources as appropriate. This could include engaging with our local partners on grants, as well as participating in countywide funding opportunities for school security. We will continue to collaborate with the Marin County Office of Education to identify and consider additional opportunities for grant funding for school safety and security.

An update will be provided by November 23, 2019.

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

Response:

This recommendation requires further analysis.

The safety, health and well-being of our students and staff is a foremost priority for our district and we are always willing to work with our local partners to support that priority. At the current time, budget constraints would prevent us 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 potential for new funding.

An update will be provided by November 23, 2019.