



TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Redwood, San Andreas, Sir Francis Drake, Tamalpais and Tamiscal High Schools

July 16, 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:

Attached, please find the response requested by the 2018-2019 Marin County Civil Grand Jury from the Tamalpais Union High School District Board to the recommendations (R1, R4) 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,

President
District Board of Education

District Superintendent

Tamalpais Union High School District
Response to the 2018-2019 Marin County Civil Grand Jury Report
School Resource Officers Revisited

The Tamalpais Union High School District appreciates the work of the Marin County Civil Grand Jury and the report issued on the importance of school resource officers. Below, we have provided responses to recommendations presented within the 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.

Our district currently has an SRO program with the Central Marin Police Authority and Mill Valley Police Department and expect these programs to 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 safety and security of our students is a primary responsibility and a very high priority for our school district and we are always willing to work with our local partners to support that priority. However, the designation of school district funds for an SRO program may not be possible given our current budgetary constraints. Our district reduced expenditures by nearly \$6 million in the past year, which included laying off several employees. Therefore, we are not in a financial position to create additional expenditures at this time.

We will continue to work with the Marin County Office of Education and law enforcement partners to determine if grant funding may be available to offset the cost of the SRO program.

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.

Our district currently receives SRO services in partnership with the Central Marin Police Authority and Mill Valley Police Department.

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

Response:

This recommendation is being implemented.

We agree with the Grand Jury's recommendation to seek additional resources as appropriate. This could include collaborating with our local partners on potential 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 apply for grant funding opportunities for school safety and security

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 paramount for our district and we are always willing to work with our local partners to support that priority. However, our current budget constraints prevent us from committing funds to an SRO program. We do support working with school districts countywide, the Marin County Office of Education, and law enforcement partners to explore the potential for new funding sources.

An update will be provided by November 23, 2019.

Sincerely,
Leslie Harlander
Board President
Tamalpais Union High School District