August 21, 2008

The Honorable Robert S. Boyd
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
County of Sonoma
600 Administration Drive
Santa Rosa California 95403

RE: Required Responses (CA Penal Code 933c) to Grand Jury

Dear Judge Boyd:

The Sonoma County Superintendent of Schools, as an elected state constitutional officer, has the responsibility, pursuant to Section 914.1 of the California Penal Code, to submit comments within 60 days to the presiding judge of the superior court regarding the Grand Jury Final Report of 2007-2008.

The Final Report reflected the hard work and professional dedication of the members of the County Civil Grand Jury. Additionally, the Report demonstrates the important role of the Grand Jury to provide valued public oversight to ensure the integrity of local governmental agencies. I would like to commend Mr. Dennis O'Reilly, Foreperson of the Grand Jury, on his ability to build the capacity of the diverse Jury team resulting in an investigative process that was thoughtful and respectful.

There are three separate Reports of the Grand Jury that require responses by the County Superintendent of Schools. The first Report, “Disaster Will Strike! Are Schools Ready?” resulted in required responses to Recommendations R3, R4 and R6. The second Report, “Sonoma County Office of Education – Misuse of State Vocational Education Funds” requires responses to Findings F1, F3, F4, F5, F7, F8, F9 and F10 along with Recommendations R1 to R7 inclusive. The final Report, “Sonoma County Office of Education: An Overview” requires a response by the County Superintendent to Recommendations R1 and R2 and the County Board President to Recommendation R3.

Attached please find responses and attachments for findings and recommendations to the three reports: “Disaster Will Strike! Are Schools Ready?”; “Sonoma County Office of Education: Misuse of State Vocational Funds”; and “Sonoma County Office of Education — An Overview.”

Sincerely,

Carl Wong, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

Carl Wong, Ed.D.  Superintendent of Schools
Board of Education  Karen Bosworth, Pat Hummel, Jill Kaufman, John Musilli, Ray Peterson, Kathleen Willbanks, David B. Wolf, Ph.D.