

## RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT

Report Title: "Are High Schools making the Grade at Addressing Mental Health?"

Report Date: June 12, 2023

Response by: Eric Prater Title: Superintendent

### FINDINGS

1. I (we) agree with the findings numbered: #1,2,4,5,6,8,9,10
2. I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the findings numbered: #3,7,11,12  
(Attach a statement specifying any portions of the findings that are disputed; include an explanation of the reasons.)

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendations numbered 1,4,7,8,9,10 have been implemented.  
(Attach a summary describing the implementation actions.)
2. Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.  
(Attach a timeframe for the implementation.)
3. Recommendations numbered 2,3,5,6 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 the publication of the Grand Jury report.)
4. Recommendations numbered \_\_\_\_\_ will not be implemented because they are not warranted or are not reasonable.  
(Attach an explanation.)

Date: 10.23.23

Signed: Eric Prater

Number of pages attached: 1

Findings:

3. While I can agree with what is happening at SLCUSD, I have no comment on what other districts are doing.
7. While I know the staffing at SLCUSD, I have no comment on what other districts are doing.
11. SLCUSD has extensive and wide-ranging reporting methods that are anonymous. I can not commend on what other districts are doing.
12. While I do not dispute this finding, I believe it is a recommendation.

Recommendations that have been implemented:

1. SLCUSD has obtained a grant for wellness centers at Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo High Schools for the 2023/24 school year. This is a one year grant and staff will try to find a way to utilize medical dollars to keep it running. Lack of funds to support mental health programs is an issue.
4. SLCUSD has a variety of programs throughout all of our TK-12 grade levels that promote and support mental health and substance abuse prevention.
7. SLCUSD has increased both counseling and mental health support throughout all of its schools. We have hired staff as well as contracted out mental health services for many years and continue to do so.
8. SLCUSD has Narcan on all campuses and is currently training a variety of staff on its use.
9. SLCUSD has both anonymous tip lines and an anonymous "Bully Button" on our website. It is used frequently by students and parents to report concerns.
10. We annually train our students, teachers and staff on suicide awareness.

Recommendations that require future analysis:

2. Graduation requirements and state required coursework dictate the curriculum and courses offered. While there are psychology and Advanced Placement Psychology courses offered on our campuses, they are only taken by a select few students. We will need to determine how a mental health curriculum beyond the Freshman health class could be implemented.
3. We frequently work with the County Office of Education on a variety of matters. We would welcome such a focus.
5. While training all staff and teachers in Youth Mental Health First Aid sounds like a positive thing to do, what program to use and how to implement it would need analysis.
6. We have a full time SRO at Morro Bay High School and San Luis Obispo High School. But do not have one at Pacific Beach Continuation High School at this time. We would need to find funding to expand our services in this area.

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