



Santa Cruz County
Civil Grand Jury

Santa Cruz Grand Jury <grandjury@scgrandjury.org>

Board of Supervisors response to 2020-2021 Grand Jury Report- Distance Learning

Caitlin Smith <Caitlin.Smith@santacruzcounty.us>

Wed, Sep 8, 2021 at 2:35 PM

Good Afternoon,

Please see attached for the Board of Supervisors response to the 2020-2021 Grand Jury Report "Distance Learning During the Pandemic in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District-Successes, Pitfalls, and Plans for the Future".

Best,

Caitlin C. Smith

County Supervisors' Analyst

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

[701 Ocean Street, Room 500](#)

[Santa Cruz, CA 95060](#)

831-454-3516

caitlin.smith@santacruzcounty.us

To email all five members of the Board of Supervisors at once,
please use: BoardOfSupervisors@santacruzcounty.us

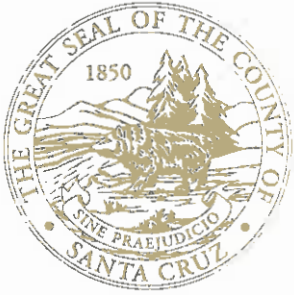
2 attachments



Distance Learning During the Pandemic cover letter.pdf
38K



Board response Distance Learning.pdf
200K



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069
(831) 454-2200 • FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD/TTY - Call 711

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FIFTH DISTRICT

September 3, 2021

The Honorable Syda Cogliati
Santa Cruz Courthouse
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: RESPONSE TO THE 2020-2021 GRAND JURY REPORT
"DISTANCE LEARNING DURING THE PANDEMIC IN THE PAJARO
VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT-SUCCESSSES, PITFALLS, AND
PLANS FOR THE FUTURE"

Dear Judge Cogliati:

The purpose of this letter is to formally transmit the response of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to the 2020-2021 Grand Jury Report, titled "Distance Learning During the Pandemic in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District-Successses, Pitfalls, and Plans for the Future."

Sincerely,

BRUCE MCPHERSON, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

BM:ccs
Attachment

cc: Clerk of the Board
Santa Cruz County Grand Jury



**The 2020–2021 Santa Cruz County Civil Grand Jury
Requires the**

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

**to Respond to the Findings and Recommendations listed below
which were assigned to them in the Report Titled**

**Distance Learning During the Pandemic
in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District**

Successes, Pitfalls, and Plans for the Future

by September 15, 2021

Responses are **required** from elected officials, elected agency or department heads, and elected boards, councils, and committees which are investigated by the Grand Jury. You are required to respond by the California Penal Code [\(PC\) §933\(c\)](#).

Your response will be considered **compliant** under [PC §933.05](#) if it contains an appropriate comment on **all** findings and recommendations **which were assigned to you** in this report.

Please follow the instructions below when preparing your response.

Instructions for Respondents

Your assigned [Findings](#) and [Recommendations](#) are listed on the following pages with check boxes and an expandable space for summaries, timeframes, and explanations. Please follow these instructions, which paraphrase [PC §933.05](#):

1. **For the Findings, mark one of the following responses with an “X” and provide the required additional information:**
 - a. **AGREE with the Finding**, or
 - b. **PARTIALLY DISAGREE with the Finding** – specify the portion of the Finding that is disputed and include an explanation of the reasons why, or
 - c. **DISAGREE with the Finding** – provide an explanation of the reasons why.
2. **For the Recommendations, mark one of the following actions with an “X” and provide the required additional information:**
 - a. **HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – provide a summary of the action taken, or
 - b. **HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IN THE FUTURE** – provide a timeframe or expected date for completion, or
 - c. **REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – provide an explanation, scope, and parameters of an analysis to be completed within six months, or
 - d. **WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – provide an explanation of why it is not warranted or not reasonable.
3. **Please confirm the date on which you approved the assigned responses:**

We approved these responses in a regular public meeting as shown
in our minutes dated August 24, 2021.

4. **When your responses are complete, please email your completed Response Packet as a PDF file attachment to both**

The Honorable Judge Syda Cogliati Syda.Cogliati@santacruzcourt.org and
The Santa Cruz County Grand Jury grandjury@scgrandjury.org.

If you have questions about this response form, please contact the Grand Jury by calling 831-454-2099 or by sending an email to grandjury@scgrandjury.org.

Findings

F3. The administrators, teachers, parents, and students themselves are all understandably concerned about students' social-emotional issues arising from the pandemic.

- AGREE**
- PARTIALLY DISAGREE**
- DISAGREE**

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

F6. Even with all the training provided to teachers, and internet accessibility provided to students, distance learning has not worked well for some students.

- AGREE**
- PARTIALLY DISAGREE**
- DISAGREE**

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The County of Santa Cruz does not evaluate the efficacy of distance learning for PVUSD students and defers to the PVUSD Board of Trustees and Superintendent for an adequate response.

F7. Additional upgrades in school air quality systems and furniture are necessary to comply with COVID-19 safety protocols.

AGREE

PARTIALLY DISAGREE

DISAGREE

Response explanation (required for a response other than **Agree**):

The County of Santa Cruz does not inspect PVUSD air quality systems and furniture for compliance with COVID-19 safety protocols and defers to the PVUSD Board of Trustees and Superintendent for an adequate response.

Recommendations

R4. Within six months, PVUSD should use forthcoming federal and state money to provide summer and after-school programs to help with learning loss and social-emotional issues. (F3, F6)

- HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED** – summarize what has been done
- HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IN THE FUTURE** – summarize what will be done and the timeframe
- REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS** – explain the scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)
- WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED** – explain why

Required response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

The County of Santa Cruz does not set policy and budget for the PVUSD and defers to the PVUSD Board of Trustees and Superintendent for their decisions regarding this recommendation.

R5. Within nine months, PVUSD should use forthcoming funds to make necessary upgrades in air quality systems and furniture in the schools. (F7)

HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED – summarize what has been done

HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED BUT WILL BE IN THE FUTURE – summarize what will be done and the timeframe

REQUIRES FURTHER ANALYSIS – explain the scope and timeframe (not to exceed six months)

WILL NOT BE IMPLEMENTED – explain why

Required response explanation, summary, and timeframe:

The County of Santa Cruz does not make facilities decisions for the PVUSD and defers to the PVUSD Board of Trustees and Superintendent for their decisions regarding this recommendation.