

Byron School District
14301 Byron Hwy
Byron CA 94514

December 8, 2016

Michael Simmons, Foreperson
Contra Costa County Civil Grand Jury
725 Court Street
P.O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553

Response to Contra Costa County Grant Jury Report No. 1604, "Are our Schools in Compliance with the EpiPen Law, SB 1266"

In accordance with Section 933.05(a) of the California Government Code, the Byron Union School District (BUSD) has prepared this written response to the findings of the Grand Jury Report No. 1604, ("Are our Schools in Compliance with the EpiPen Law, SB 1266?").

FINDINGS

Finding #1:

Mylan Specialty Division supplies Pens at no cost to public schools in the district.

Response to Finding #1:

The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding #3:

FARE and CDC statistical information project a range of 4 percent to 7.7 percent of students (7,200 to 13,850 out of the estimated 180,000 students in Contra Costa County's eighteen school districts) that may have an allergy that is unknown to parents and undiagnosed.

Response to Finding #3:

Using the CDC's estimate that one in twenty-five students will be allergic, Byron Union SD (enrollment 1600) anticipates that approximately 64 students may be allergic.

Finding #5:

SB 1266 does not clearly address the use of Pens at off-campus school activities or events.

Response to Finding #5:

The respondent agrees with this finding. Byron Union School District has developed a procedure for providing an EpiPen for use when students are on field trips or participating in other off site activities.

Finding #7:

SB 1266 does not require follow up procedures for reporting the use of a Pen.

Response to Finding #7:

The respondent agrees with the finding. Byron Union SD documents the use. They Byron Union health clerk keeps this log and parents are always notified.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #3:

Each of the School District Boards should direct School District Superintendent to contact all schools in their district at the start of each school calendar year to confirm that they are compliant with the requirements of SB 1266.

Response to Recommendation #3:

The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation #4:

Each of the School District Boards should direct their School District Superintendent to report to the Board at the start of each school calendar year that the School district is compliant with the requirements of SB 1266.

Response to Recommendation #4:

The respondent agrees with the finding.

Recommendation #8:

The School District shall consider the practical and legal issues of supplying Pens for field trips and other off-site school events, and working with school nurses to develop policies and procedures for their use at these events.

Response to Recommendation #8:

The respondent agrees with the finding. BUSD has worked with the health aide to develop procedures.

Recommendation #10:

The School Districts should consider working with school nurses to develop policies and procedures for reporting the use of Pens.

Response to Recommendation #10:

The respondent agrees with the finding. BUSD has worked with the health aide to establish procedures for reporting the use of EpiPens

Recommendation #12:

The School District should consider helping parents understand the risks of anaphylaxis and the protocols in place for emergency administration of epinephrine. The School Districts should consider “identifying funds” to carry out these activities.

Response to Recommendation #12:

The respondent agrees with the finding and will develop parent information tools to inform about anaphylaxis and the protocols for emergency administration of epinephrine.

If any further information is needed, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Debbie Gold
Byron Union School District Superintendent