

JOHN SWETT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Office of the Superintendent
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September 2, 2016

Civil Grand Jury – Foreperson
725 Court Street
P. O. Box 431
Martinez, CA 94553-0091

Dear Mr. Simmons,

The John Swett Unified School District is in receipt of your letter dated June 6, 2016 and a copy of Grand Jury Report No. 1604, "Are Our Schools in Compliance with the "EpiPen Law, SB1266?" by the 2015-2016 Contra Costa Grand Jury.

Listed below are the responses to your findings and recommendations:

FINDINGS

Finding #1: Mylan Specialty Division supplies Pens at no cost to public schools in the district.

JSUSD Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding #2: Mylan Specialty Division will replace Pens at public schools in the district that have expired at a discounted cost.

JSUSD Response: 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.

JSUSD Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding #5: SB 1266 does not clearly address the use of Pens at off-campus school activities or events.

JSUSD Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

GOVERNING BOARD

Norma Clerici

Brian Colombo

Deborah Brandon

James Delgadillo

Jerrold Parsons

Finding #7: SB 1266 does not require follow up procedures for reporting the use of a Pen.

JSUSD Response: The respondent agrees with this finding

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #3: Each of the School District Boards should direct the 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.

JSUSD Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The Governing Board has not yet taken action to direct the superintendent; however the Superintendent is talking to site principals to make sure they are compliant.

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.

JSUSD Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The Superintendent will report to the Board, at the September 14, 2016 Governing Board meeting, that the four schools are compliant.

Recommendation #8: The School Districts should 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.

JSUSD Response: The recommendation requires further analysis. As a small school district with just three comprehensive schools and one alternative school, limited resources and contracted third party nursing services will require coordination. This analysis will take place prior to January 1, 2017.

Recommendation #10: The School Districts should consider working with school nurses to develop policies and procedures for reporting the use of Pens.

JSUSD Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented. Prior to January 1, 2017, the four principals and the contracted third party nurse will collaborate on the development of a policy and procedures for reporting the use of Pens.

Recommendation #12: The School Districts 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.

JSUSD Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The District will create a posting on our website to inform parents of the risks of anaphylaxis and protocols in place at our school sites. At this time, the District doesn't see a need to identify funding for the project.

Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Rob Stockberger
Superintendent