



# Rancho Santa Fe School

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August 9, 2019

The Honorable Peter C. Deddeh  
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court  
P.O. Box 122724  
San Diego, California 92112

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Re: Response to the Grand Jury Report: "School Safety in San Diego County"

Honorable Judge Deddeh:

In accordance with the requirements the Penal Code Section 933(c), the Rancho Santa Fe School District has reviewed the Grand Jury's findings and recommendations and prepared the following response, for recommendations 19-05 through 19-11:

**19-05: Monitor individual school's planning meetings to develop the CSSP and EOP to ensure collaboration of multi-disciplinary partners (staff, parents, students, first responders, fire department and law enforcement, community agencies) at the local school level.**

***This recommendation has been implemented.*** Rancho Santa Fe School District is a small school district with only two small schools (elementary, and middle) on a single campus with a total of approximately 600 students. Because we are on a single campus with different buildings assigned to different purposes, e.g. visual and performing arts center, the "district" functions like a single local school.

The Rancho Santa Fe School District has a Safety Advisory Committee charged with planning for all aspects of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan. The committee is comprised of parents, teachers, administrators, and representatives from local agencies and first responders (Fire Department, RSF Patrol, Community Center, Public Library).

Last year, we commissioned a Hazard and Vulnerability Assessment through this committee and have completed almost all of the safety and security recommendations made for our facility this summer, e.g. installed electronic access control locks in all classrooms and workspaces, added surveillance cameras.

**19-06: Include "Active Shooter" response language in the school's Comprehensive School Safety Plan and dedicated sections in the Emergency Operations Plan.**

***This recommendation has been implemented.*** The Emergency Operations Plan contains a dedicated section for Active Shooter (Annex A) which was shared at our Grand Jury Appearance. It was added to Criterion 3: Disaster procedures, routine, and emergency, of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan.

**19-07: Promote the use of tip hotlines and tip apps by students and parents.**

***This recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the 2019-2020 school year.*** The District has entered into an agreement with Sandy Hook Promise's "Say Something" tip line and will be providing training to staff and middle school students in the fall of 2019.

**19-08: Include substitute teachers and all other adult workers in the training and practice provided to regular staff on active shooter awareness and responses specific to each school.**

***This recommendation requires further analysis.*** While the Rancho Santa Fe School District agrees with the need to implement this recommendation, there are considerable challenges associated with the recommendation that must be considered, such as the logistics of training substitute teachers, the costs involved, and the transience of the substitute pool. Additionally, our small District is in a consortium for substitutes and all of the members have different emergency operations plans based on the logistics of their school sites. At this point, substitutes receive folders for the day that detail our Emergency Operations Plan for fire, lockdown, active assailant, and earthquake drills. We are considering working with the consortium on a video training for active shooters that substitutes would have to complete before being added to the consortium substitute system.

**19-09: Conduct active shooter drills with staff that are dynamic and produce "immediacy" of response consistent with the school's approved safety plan.**

***This recommendation has not been implemented, but will be implemented in the future.*** Our Director of Facilities and Operations and Director of Technology attended "Options Based Responses for Schools in Active Shooter & Other Armed Assailant Situations: Training of Trainers" which was a full day workshop on implementing an active shooter drill for staff. We will involve teachers in the planning and will do the drill annually, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

**19-10: Use age-appropriate training methods in conducting lockdown and active shooter drills with students.**

***This recommendation has been partially implemented and we will implement the active shooter component next school year.*** We have been conducting lockdown drills every other month with students and teachers. The active shooter drill will be done annually beginning this year.

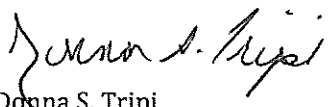
**19-11: Coordinate detailed emergency plans for school programs held on campus outside of normal school hours, inform all participants and involve the community's support.**

***The Rancho Santa Fe School District agrees with this recommendation.*** Though most of our programs after school hours on campus involve our teachers who are trained in our emergency plans, we will bring this recommendation to the Safety Advisory Committee to determine when and how to involve the community in an emergency drill at an event after hours. This will be planned for the 2019-2020 school year.

This response was approved by the Governing Board of the Rancho Santa Fe School District at a regular Board meeting on August 8, 2019.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Donna S. Tripi  
Superintendent  
Rancho Santa Fe School District