

Feather Falls Union Elementary School District

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October 14, 2014



Small Rural School Districts: Grand Jury Report Responses 13/14

Pursuant to Penal Code 933 and 933.05, the following responses are required:

A response to Findings F1 through F4 and Recommendations R1 through R4 from Feather Falls Union Elementary School District.

F1: School district websites are a good source for information to the public regarding activities, academics, and other relevant information.

Response: FFUESD agrees that school district websites are an important source of information about the school district. Feather Falls is in the process of updating the district's website and should have it up and running in the near future. The District is aware of information that the state requires posting on the site and will soon have all information for the community posted.

R1: All school districts should complete the development of their websites and keep them current.

Response: FFUESD will soon have an up-to-date website which will contain all required information.

F2: Potential volunteers must complete and pay for state mandated requirements (background check, fingerprinting, TB testing) prior to working with students.

Response: FFUESD agrees with the finding that volunteers must complete state mandated requirements prior to working with students.

R2: The school districts should assist with the cost of qualifying volunteers to work on the school campus.

Response: Volunteers who work for FFUSD do not pay for the cost of qualifying to work. All cost are borne by the district.

F3: State and Federal funding for preschool programs has been limited in recent years.

Response: FFUESD agrees that funding for preschool programs is inadequate. The state is starting to fund a limited number of new preschool programs.

R3: School districts should provide preschool programs.

Response: Due to the limited number of preschool age students residing within the FFUESD it is not feasible for the district to run a preschool program.

F4: When law enforcement questions arise, staff does not have a dedicated deputy sheriff to contact.

Response: FFUESD agrees that rural school districts do not have a dedicated deputy sheriff to contact when law enforcement questions arise. This can create an inconsistent response to situations that arise. This can also cause a lack of communication.

R4: The Butte County Sheriff's Department should assign a designated deputy position to each of the small rural school districts to be of assistance in possible emergency situations and to develop relationships with students, staff, and parents.

Response: Due to understaffing the sheriff's department is unable at this time to assign a Designated Deputy to the rural areas. It is strongly believed that a deputy should be assigned to the rural areas to foster better communication between the sheriff's office and the community. The sheriff's office has shown a willingness to work with the districts to develop a cohesive safety plan for the district.

Respectfully Submitted:



Ted Fredenburg, Superintendent/Principal

Feather Falls Union Elementary School District