



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.: 012
For Agenda Of: October 18, 2011
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme: 15 minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Chandra L. Wallar, County Executive Officer, 568.3400
Director(s)
Contact Info: Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the CEO, 568-3400

SUBJECT: Response to the Grand Jury Report titled "Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone."

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Consider and adopt responses in Attachment A as the Board of Supervisors responses to the Grand Jury report entitled "Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone" and
- B. Authorize the Chair to sign the letter included as Attachment A forwarding the responses to the Presiding Judge.

Summary Text:

On May 26, 2011 the Civil Grand Jury released a report entitled "Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone" (Attachment B) The Board of Supervisors is named as a responder to Finding 2 as well as Recommendation 2a. Consistent with California Penal Code Section 933(c), the Civil Grand Jury separately submitted its final report to and received comments from the District Attorney (Attachment C.)

It is recommended that the Board agree with Finding 2. It is recommended that Board not implement Recommendation 2a. The specific recommendations are provided in the letter to the Presiding Judge. (Attachment A)

Background:

The Grand Jury Report titled “Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone” finds that truancy often leads to insufficient educational credits required for high school graduation, increases the risk of a student dropping out of high school and risking a significant reduction in future economic opportunities associated with lower educational attainment. The Board is asked to fund a full time employee in the District Attorney’s Office to enforce compulsory school attendance.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted:

No fiscal analysis required for consideration and adoption of this response.

Attachments:

- A- Response to the Grand Jury report “Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone”
- B- Grand Jury Report – “Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone”
- C- District Attorney’s Department response to “Where is the Truancy Program in Santa Barbara County? Truancy is Troubling . . .for Everyone”

Authored by:

Dennis Bozanich, Assistant to the County Executive Officer

CC:

Joyce E. Dudley, District Attorney
Ted Sten, Foreman, 2011-2012 Santa Barbara County Grand Jury