



RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION
DR. DAVID LONG
Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

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**Riverside County
Board of Education**

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February 8, 2001

Ms. Gail Soursals, Grand Jury Coordinator
Office of the Grand Jury
P.O. Box 826
Riverside, CA 92502

Dear Ms. Soursals:

RE: Response to 1999-2000 Grand Jury Report

It was our understanding that we had responded to the questions of the Grand Jury. As stated in the letter dated July 27, 2000, the findings listed in the 1999-2000 Grand Jury report do not fall under the jurisdiction of the County Superintendent of Schools.

Reference Finding #2, (a), (b), and (c):

All are issues which the County Superintendent supports but are under the jurisdiction of the local school districts. This is also true of Finding #3.

Reference Findings #4, #5, and #6: Unification of Perris Union High School District:

The County Superintendent, as stated, did undertake a study on behalf of the County Commission specifically related to Finding #6. The electorate always has the ability to petition under Education Code Section 35700 to petition for unification of school districts.

Reference Findings #7 and #8:

These are under the jurisdiction of the Community College district.

We certainly understand the Grand Jury's concern with these matters and will provide whatever assistance we can.

Sincerely,

Elliott Duchon
Riverside County Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Division of Governmental Relations and Support Services
(909) 826-6478 • [909] 826-6363

ED:lsb

Attachments: 1999-2000 Grand Jury Report/Riverside County Schools
Letter dated July 27, 2000 from Elliott Duchon to the Grand Jury

JAN-30-01 TUE 05:32 PM

01/30/2001 14:58 FAX 909 369 6363

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Riverside County Superintendent of Schools

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July 27, 2000

Mr. Dan Miller, Foreperson
1999-00 Riverside County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 829
Riverside, CA 92502

Dear Mr. Miller:

Thank you for the copy of the Grand Jury's Report on the Riverside County Schools. It was a pleasure to provide you with the information you requested.

The Grand Jury recommendations, though all valid suggestions, do not generally fall under the authority of the Riverside County Committee on School District Organization. Recommendation number four, however, is under the purview of the County Committee. That recommendation is to conduct a study regarding unification in the Perris Valley area. The last study of this area, in 1995, was provided by a contract with the Fiscal Crisis and Management Team from the Kern County Office of Education.

The issue of unification in the Perris Valley and the need for an updated study will be placed on the agenda as a discussion item for the next County Committee meeting. The County Committee may initiate unification actions.

Please call Sharen Topham, 909/826-6448, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Elliott Duchon, Acting Secretary of the County Committee
Riverside County Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Division of Governmental Relations and Support Services
Telephone 909/826-6478 • Fax 909/369-6363

ED/s

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