

**Grand Jury Report
RESPONSE FORM**

RE: Report Titled: *Charter Schools Are Here To Stay*

Report Dated: June 6, 2011

Response Form Submitted By:

Rima Meechan
Administrator, River Oaks Charter School
555 Leslie Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: September 23, 2011

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the FINDINGS portion of the report as follows:

- I (we) agree with the Findings numbered:

- I (we) disagree wholly or partially with the Findings numbered below, and have attached, as required, a statement specifying any portion of the Finding that are disputed with an explanation of the reasons therefore.
#.59, #60

I have reviewed the report and submit my responses to the RECOMMENDATIONS portion of the report as follows:

- The following Recommendation(s) have been implemented and attached, as required, is a summary describing the implemented actions:
#1, #2, #3
- The following Recommendation(s) have not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, attached, as required is a time frame for implementation:

- The following Recommendation(s) require further analysis, and attached as required, is an explanation and the scope and parameters of the planned analysis, and a time frame for the matter to be prepared, discussed and approved by the officer and/or director of the agency or department being investigated or reviewed: (This time frame shall not exceed six (6) months from the date of publication of the Grand Jury Report)
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- The following Recommendations will NOT be implemented because they are not warranted and/or are not deemed reasonable, attached, as required is an explanation therefore:
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I have completed the above responses, and have attached, as required the following number of pages to this response form:

Number of Pages attached: 2

I understand that responses to Grand Jury Reports are public records. They will be posted on the Grand Jury website: www.co.mendocino.ca.us/grandjury. The clerk of the responding agency is required to maintain a copy of the response.

I understand that I must submit this signed response form and any attachments as follows:

First Step: E-mail (word documents or scanned pdf file format) to:

- The Grand Jury Foreperson at: grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us
- The Presiding Judge c/o Sally Nevarez: sally.nevarez@mendocino.courts.ca.gov
- The County's Executive Office: angeloc@co.mendocino.ca.us

Second Step: Mail all originals to:

Mendocino County Grand Jury
P.O. Box 939
Ukiah, CA 95482

Printed Name: RIMA MEECHAN

Title: ADMINISTRATOR

Signed: R Meechan

Date: 8/12/11

**River Oak Charter School
Responses to the Findings of the Grand Jury**

We agree with all findings pertaining to River Oak Charter School, except for those below:

Finding #59

During the 2010-2011 school year, the average daily class size increased from 20 to 26 students due to budget reduction.

Response

We would like to clarify the information written for Finding #59 above, and ask to replace that statement with the following as written below:

During the 2010-2011 school year, the maximum class size in 3rd grade was increased from 20 to 26 students, and 4th -8th grade classes were increased from 24 to 26 students due to budget reductions.

Finding #60

Students in grades 7-8 are taught computer science.

Response

We would like to clarify the information written for Finding #60 above, and ask to replace that statement with the following as written below:

Students in grades 7-8 use computers to do research for their reports and projects.

River Oak Charter School Responses to the Recommendations of the Grand Jury

The Grand Jury recommends that:

1. charter schools continue to collaborate with non-profit agencies, community organizations, and apply for grant funding to accomplish their mission, (Findings 7-8)

Response

River Oak Charter School continues to collaborate with Tapestry for counseling services for our students and families; with MCOE for business and financial services; and is currently applying for a Garden Grant for our Kindergarten Garden project.

2. charter schools continue to encourage students to perform physical activity without the use of expensive playground equipment, (Findings 6, 8, 43)

Response

Embedded in ROCS Steiner-inspired curriculum are daily "Movement" exercises in every classroom. We also provide Games/P.E. classes twice a week with our Specialty Games Teacher. This fall we would like to offer an after school co-ed basketball class for grades 6-8.

3. charter schools continue to encourage students to learn life-skills: home economics, budget management, and vocational skills. (Finding 32)

Response

At ROCS we encourage our students to learn life-skills through our Specialty Classes such as Handwork/Knitting, Woodwork, and our Music Program. In the 6th grade Math block, students create a business, sell products, and learn how to manage a classroom budget. In the Kindergarten and 3rd grade classes, students learn to prepare and cook meals.