

**Grand Jury Report  
RESPONSE FORM**

**RE: Report Titled: Mendocino County Small Coastal Schools**

**Report Dated: 6/14/10**

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***Response Form Submitted By:***

Gail Dickenson, Principal  
Mendocino High School  
10700 Ford Street  
Mendocino, CA 95460

***Response MUST be submitted, per Penal Code §933.05, no later than: 9/14/2010***

***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:  
\_\_\_ 1, 2, 4 – 7, and 9 - 15 \_\_\_\_\_
- 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.  
\_\_\_ 3 & 8 \_\_\_\_\_

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

- The following Recommendation(s) have \_\_\_\_\_ have been implemented and **attached, as required**, is a summary describing the implemented actions:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 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:  
\_\_\_ #2 \_\_\_\_\_

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- 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:

\_\_\_\_\_ #1 \_\_\_\_\_

*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](http://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](mailto:grandjury@co.mendocino.ca.us)
- The Presiding Judge: [grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov](mailto:grandjury@mendocino.courts.ca.gov)
- The County's Executive Office: [ceo@co.mendocino.ca.us](mailto:ceo@co.mendocino.ca.us)

**Second Step:** Mail all originals to:

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

Printed Name: \_\_Gail Dickenson\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_Principal\_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_6/18/10\_\_\_\_\_



June 18, 2010

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

Dear Madame Foreman and Members of the Mendocino County Grand Jury,

Thank you for the time and effort you put into the site visit, review of findings, and recommendations for Mendocino High School. Per your request of June 14, 2010, I am responding to both the findings and recommendations of the GRAND JURY REPORT as follows:

#### Response to FINDINGS

Finding #3: The percentage of students who are on inter-district transfers from outside the Mendocino Unified School District boundaries was approximately 24% for the 2009/2010 school year (and has fluctuated in the 20% to 25% range in recent years, rather than the 15% - 20% range cited).

Finding #8: Career Technical Education classes offered at MHS and funded through ROP/MCOE include: Graphics and Animation, Desktop Publishing and Theater Technology.

Career Technical Education classes offered at MHS and funded through MUSD general funds include: Wood Shop, Photography, and Computer Programming.

#### Response to RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation #1: Mendocino High School made a conscious decision to move our lunch service from the kitchen/multipurpose room to the main hallway on cold, rainy days and outside in the quad on warmer, dry days. This decision was based on input from both our 'wellness' committee and consultation with a nutritionist who worked closely with our food service department to improve both the nutrition and appeal of food provided to our students, plus other strategies to increase students staying on campus to eat lunch. MHS/MUSD staff and community members have put a lot of effort into finding the best way to serve lunch to students. These changes have, in fact, resulted in more students staying on campus and purchasing the meals provided by our food service

department than was the case previously when the kitchen and multipurpose room were used.

Open campus is a significant part of the Mendocino High School culture and most of the students go off campus to purchase their lunch in town. This is seen as an important aspect of students learning to handle the responsibility and decision making that comes with gradually increasing independence as they approach young adulthood.

Mendocino High School will not be changing its current lunch program, but will continue to monitor it and make changes and upgrades.

Recommendation #2: The elevator will be thoroughly cleaned this summer. In addition, maintenance and custodial workers have been notified of this finding and will monitor the cleanliness of the elevator more closely.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding my responses to your findings and recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gail Dickenson  
Principal