



## IS SAN MATEO COUNTY AT RISK OF A LARGE MEASLES OUTBREAK?

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### ISSUE

How has San Mateo County addressed the risk of a large measles outbreak?

### SUMMARY

Recent reports of major measles outbreaks across the country have alarmed public health officials and the public at large. In the wake of these concerns the Grand Jury investigated the measles immunization rates of schoolchildren and adults in San Mateo County and the actions that County agencies take to minimize the risk of such an outbreak.

Vaccines that immunize individuals against measles have been available since 1963. Nonetheless, outbreaks of measles still occur when an infected individual enters an unimmunized community. State laws try to reduce the risk of infection faced by children by requiring vaccination against measles and other diseases as a condition of entry into preschool, kindergarten, and 7th grade classes in public and private educational facilities. Health officials agree that vaccination rates of at least 93 percent achieve acceptable population immunity, and the average vaccination rates for San Mateo County schoolchildren have exceeded this threshold in recent years.<sup>1</sup> Yet, vaccination rates fell below this threshold in a few local schools in the 2017/18 school year, the most recent year for which data are published. In these instances, the Grand Jury learned that some schools allowed the enrollment of unvaccinated students if their parents promised to get them the required shots. In Grand Jury interviews, school officials stated that by the end of the school year, parents provided them with a doctor's confirmation that their children had been vaccinated. There is no formal record of these late vaccinations, however, and until the shots are received, the pockets of unvaccinated children raise the risk of an outbreak.

Much less is known about the vaccination rates of adults in the county. Public health officials believe that people born before 1957 gained immunity by exposure to the disease.<sup>2</sup> Adults born after 1963 may have been vaccinated in their school years, although as discussed in this report, most states offer certain exemptions from vaccination requirements. Some adults in the county may have grown up in countries with less strict vaccination requirements, but immigrants and green card holders must be vaccinated. The presence of major transportation corridors and an international airport in San Mateo County through which infected individuals may contact pockets of unimmunized adults and children adds risk.

Four isolated cases of measles (three adults and one child under 18 years) have occurred in San Mateo County in 2019.<sup>3</sup> Once a measles case is identified, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program (SMCDC) ensures that infected individuals are isolated and tracks down exposed individuals to limit the spread of the disease. None of the 2019 cases

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<sup>1</sup> California Department of Public Health. Retrieved from <https://www.shotsforschool.org/>

<sup>2</sup> California Department of Public Health, *Measles Investigation Quicksheet*, February 2018.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/measles.aspx>

spread within the county, suggesting to some public health officials that pockets of unvaccinated individuals may be sufficiently small and isolated that the risk of a large outbreak is not high.

To further counter the risk of a measles outbreak in the county, the Grand Jury recommends that (1) each school district in the county report to their Governing Board of five elected officials who oversee school district policies when overdue measles vaccinations of schoolchildren have been completed, (2) the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program (SMCDC) study the feasibility of testing adults visiting County clinics for their level of measles immunity and offer to immunize them if the level is low, and (3) the SMCDC upgrade resources needed to strengthen the County's response to a measles outbreak.

## GLOSSARY

**Attenuated virus** - a strain of live virus used for vaccines that can lead to immunity but lacks the ability to cause disease.

**Governing Board of School Districts** – a group of five elected officials serving staggered terms. Each Governing Board oversees the policies of its school district.

**Herd immunity** – a level of immunization that makes it unlikely that an infected individual will encounter enough non-immune individuals to cause an outbreak of a disease. Public health officials believe that vaccination rates above 93 percent provide a community with herd immunity against measles.

**Measles outbreak** - three or more cases of measles derived from a single infected individual.

**MMR** - Measles Mumps and Rubella vaccine. MMR contains an attenuated virus.

**Medical exemption** - issued by a physician for a child who is immunosuppressed and may be harmed by a live vaccine. Immunosuppression can occur because of treatment by chemotherapy or other medications or may be a congenital condition. Even an attenuated vaccine can pose significant risk to someone who lacks an effective immune system.

**Personal belief exemption (PBE)** - an exemption to vaccine requirements for religious or other non-medical reasons. As of January 1, 2016, personal belief exemptions are not permitted in California.

## BACKGROUND

Measles is a highly contagious disease that can infect individuals through airborne particles. There is no cure for measles, and before the introduction of the first effective vaccine in 1963, “there were about 3-4 million measles cases in the United States each year, including 400-500 deaths [per year].”<sup>4</sup> Vaccines against infectious diseases have been one of the great achievements in human public health. “The second half of the 20th century witnessed an explosion in vaccine research and the development of vaccines to prevent measles and other diseases including polio

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<sup>4</sup> Carrie MacMillan, “Will Measles Change Our View on Vaccinations?” *Yale Medicine*, March 26, 2019. <https://ym.care/jgg>

and influenza. Before these vaccines were available, Americans could expect that every year measles would cause severe and possibly fatal pneumonia, rubella would attack unborn babies, . . . , and Haemophilus influenza would infect the brain and spinal cord, killing or disabling thousands of young children.”<sup>5</sup>

For an *individual*, the measles vaccine is 93 percent effective after one dose and 97 percent effective after two doses, where effectiveness denotes production of an adequate level of antibodies against the virus.<sup>6</sup> The effectiveness of vaccines in preventing *outbreaks in a population* depends on achieving “herd immunity.” Outbreaks occur when an infected individual has contact with non-immune individuals who, once infected, may spread the disease to other non-immune contacts. In an unimmunized population, a single case of measles can infect fifteen to twenty additional people.<sup>7</sup> High immunization rates therefore limit the chance of the contacts between infected and unimmunized individuals that can produce an outbreak. Immunologists calculate that vaccination rates of at least 93 percent of the susceptible population provide herd immunity against measles.<sup>8</sup>

The use of vaccines became widespread through state laws requiring vaccinations for admission to public and private schools. However, many of these laws provide certain exemptions from vaccination requirements. Children who are immunosuppressed by birth or by chemotherapy should not receive vaccines like Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), which contain an attenuated live virus.<sup>9</sup> These children can receive a medical exemption.<sup>10</sup> However, a persistent loophole in many state laws allows parents to refuse to immunize their children because of “personal belief,” not otherwise specified.<sup>11</sup> An anti-vaccination movement, which claims that the measles vaccine causes autism<sup>12</sup> and other undesirable side effects, has encouraged use of the personal belief exemption (PBE), despite the fact that scientific evidence has thoroughly debunked those claims.<sup>13</sup> In California, SB 277 (2015) terminated the use of the PBE effective January 1, 2016.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Offit, P. (2007). *Vaccinated*. N.Y., N.Y.: HarperCollins Publishers. 2007.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/vaccination.html>

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Fine, P., Eames, K., & Heymann, D. L. (2011, April 1). “Herd Immunity”: *A Rough Guide. Clinical Infectious Diseases*, 52, 911-916. Sebastian, F. (2017, October 19). “Critical immunity thresholds for measles elimination.” Retrieved from

[https://www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2017/october/2\\_target\\_immunity\\_levels\\_FUNK.pdf](https://www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2017/october/2_target_immunity_levels_FUNK.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> See Glossary for definition.

<sup>10</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Autism includes a spectrum of developmental diagnoses.

<sup>13</sup> Omer, S., & Yildirim, I., (2019, March 5). “Further Evidence of MMR Vaccine Safety: Scientific and Communications Considerations,” *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 170(8), 567-568. CDC. (2019, April). “Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) Vaccine Safety Studies.” Retrieved from <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccinesafety/vaccines/mmr/mmr-studies.html>. Hoffman, Jan. “One More Time With Big Data: Measles Vaccine Doesn’t Cause Autism,” *New York Times*, March 5, 2019. Retrieved from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/05/health/measles-vaccine-autism.html?action=click&module=RelatedLinks&pgtype=Article>

<sup>14</sup> [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160SB277](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160SB277)

There are no laws requiring immunization of adults. Public health officials believe that people born before 1957 gained immunity by exposure to the disease.<sup>15</sup> The California Department of Public Health does not have data on the immunization status of adults born after the development of the vaccine in 1963. However, it is possible to test whether individuals may be susceptible to measles by measuring blood levels of antibodies against the virus. Between February 2011 and January 2012, a Salt Lake City test of over 10,000 people with a median age of 34 years found that only 86 percent had adequate anti-measles protection.<sup>16</sup>

The large outbreaks of measles across the US in recent months confirm the risk associated with pockets of unimmunized population groups. Clark County Washington declared a medical emergency after forty-nine new cases of measles, largely in an unimmunized Ukrainian community, were reported from January through early February 2019. Only 78 percent of the kindergarten through high school students in that community were vaccinated.<sup>17</sup> An outbreak in New York City centered on ultra-Orthodox Jewish communities that oppose vaccinations and led the mayor to declare a public health emergency and require the vaccination of residents in some Brooklyn neighborhoods.<sup>18</sup> The New York outbreak spread to Michigan because an individual who falsely believed he was immune visited communities that were unvaccinated.<sup>19</sup> In an effort to limit an outbreak of measles in Los Angeles County in April 2019, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health quarantined over 700 students and staff until their immunity could be determined.<sup>20</sup>

## DISCUSSION

### Immunization Status of Children

California requires vaccinations against measles and several other diseases as a condition of entry into preschool programs and into kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade in public and private schools.<sup>21</sup> Schools must report data on the immunization status of students entering these grade levels to

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<sup>15</sup> California Department of Public Health, *Quicksheet...*

<sup>16</sup> The immunization rate was not recorded. Shirts, B. H., Welch, R. J., & Couturier, M. R. "Seropositivity Rates for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella IgG and Costs Associated with Testing and Revaccination," *Clinical Vaccine Immunology*, March 2013, 20(3), 443-445.

<sup>17</sup> Johnson, K. "'A Match Into a Can of Gasoline': Measles Outbreak Now an Emergency in Washington State," *New York Times*, February 7, 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/02/06/us/measles-outbreak.html>.

<sup>18</sup> Otterman, S. "New York Confronts Its Worst Measles Outbreak in Decades," *New York Times*, January 17, 2019. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/17/nyregion/measles-outbreak-jews-nyc.html?action=click&module=RelatedCoverage&pgtype=Article&region=Footer>

<sup>19</sup> Sun, L. H. "Unaware he had measles, a man traveled from N.Y. to Michigan, infecting 39 people," *Washington Post*, April 16, 2019. Retrieved from [https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2019/04/16/how-patient-zero-spread-measles-across-state-lines-infected-people/?utm\\_term=.57c639afb78e](https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2019/04/16/how-patient-zero-spread-measles-across-state-lines-infected-people/?utm_term=.57c639afb78e)

<sup>20</sup> Del Real, Jose, "Measles Outbreak Declared in Los Angeles County," *New York Times*, April 23, 2019. Retrieved from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/23/us/measles-outbreak-los-angeles-county.html>. Mele, Christopher, "More Than 700 at 2 California Universities Under Quarantine Amid Measles Outbreak," *New York Times*, April 26, 2019. Retrieved from: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/26/us/measles-outbreak-los-angeles-quarantine.html?action=click&module=Well&pgtype=Homepage&section=US>

<sup>21</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 8. [http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1080\\_old.pdf](http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1080_old.pdf)

state public health authorities annually by November 1. These annual reports also tabulate the use of various exemptions.<sup>22</sup> The law does not apply to educational facilities with fewer than 20 students, or to children who are home-schooled.<sup>23</sup>

The Grand Jury reviewed these data, which are tabulated by county, school district, and individual school. (See Appendix A for the annual averages for kindergarten<sup>24</sup> students in San Mateo County and Appendix B for examples of data for preschool, kindergarten, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade enrollees at individual educational facilities.) This review established the following facts.

1. Between 2000 to 2018, the overall kindergarten vaccination rate in San Mateo County dropped to a low of 88.7 percent in 2010/11, and then rose to over 96 percent beginning in the 2016/17 school year.<sup>25</sup>
2. Personal belief exemptions, which had ranged between 1-2 percent for kindergarten enrollments in the county during the decade preceding the 2016 effective date of SB 277, fell to zero percent following the effective date of the law.<sup>26</sup>
3. In San Mateo County, there has been a rise in medical exemptions from vaccination requirements since the 2016 effective date of SB 277. Such exemptions increased from roughly 0.2 percent of kindergarten enrollments in the decade before SB 277 took effect to 0.5 percent for the 2017/18 school year. Much larger increases in the use of the medical exemption occurred elsewhere in California. California Department of Public Health data show that in 83 schools (none in San Mateo County), between 5 and 58 percent of kindergarten enrollees had medical exemptions.<sup>27</sup> In response to the suspicion that these data document an inappropriate use of the medical exemption,<sup>28</sup> the state legislature is considering a new law, SB 276. As amended on June 17, 2019, this legislation would broaden the guidelines for granting medical exemptions but require the state Public Health Department to review exemptions (1) for children in schools where the vaccination rate is below 95 percent and (2) from doctors who provided more than five exemptions per year.<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.shotsforschool.org/>

<sup>23</sup> Grand Jury interviews.

<sup>24</sup> Screening for immunization at kindergarten, the point of entry into the public school system, provides the broadest protection against the development of non-immune pockets of school children.

<sup>25</sup> See Appendix A.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid.

<sup>27</sup> Willis, Daniel J. "Vaccination Rates by School in California 2017-18," *Ed Source*, April 4, 2019. Retrieved from <https://edsources.org/2019/vaccination-rates-by-school-in-california-2017-18/610790>. Ostrov, B. "Exemptions Surge As Parents and Doctors Do 'Hail Mary' Around Vaccine Laws," *California Healthline*, April 4, 2019. Retrieved from *California Healthline*: <https://californiahealthline.org/news/exemptions-surge-as-parents-and-doctors-do-hail-mary-around-vaccine-laws/>

<sup>28</sup> Kaplan, K. . "Here's what happened after California got rid of personal belief exemptions for childhood vaccines," *Los Angeles Times*, October 29, 2018. Retrieved from <https://www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-vaccine-medical-exemptions-20181029-story.html>

<sup>29</sup> [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201920200SB276](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB276)

4. Although the average vaccination rate in San Mateo County schools exceeded herd immunity for the 2017/18 academic year, some schools fell below this standard. Five private and public child-care centers with a total of 156 students reported vaccination rates between 77 and 92 percent. For kindergarten enrollments, one private and ten public schools enrolling 739 kindergarten students reported vaccination rates between 86 and 91 percent. For seventh grade enrollments, six public schools enrolling 683 seventh grade students reported vaccination rates between 75 and 92 percent. (See Appendix B for details.)
5. County schools with vaccination rates below the 93 percent herd immunity level often identify unvaccinated students as “overdue.” (See Appendix B.) The criteria for this classification are not well defined. Under state law, schools should not enroll children who lack the required vaccinations.<sup>30</sup> However, some districts allow unvaccinated students to attend school, if (1) parents demonstrate the intent to complete the required vaccinations, and (2) exclusion from school would do immediate harm to the students. These children constitute a pocket of unvaccinated students until they complete their shots. School officials claim that parents present evidence that the shots have been completed before the end of the school year, but because the state provides no way to update data submitted after the annual November 1 deadline, there are no available data showing whether overdue students received the required vaccination.

## **Immunization Status of Adults**

School vaccination requirements limit the development of pockets of unvaccinated children in San Mateo County, but there are no parallel programs to identify and vaccinate unimmunized adults.<sup>31</sup> Many adults raised in the United States may be immune from measles because they received required vaccinations during their school years or had contact with the disease, but others may have used exemptions to avoid vaccination.

The overall immunization status of adult county residents born abroad is unknown. Those who “entered the U.S. in 1996 or later with an immigrant visa or have a green card” are presumed to be immune.<sup>32</sup> On the other hand, there are no vaccination requirements for visitors to the United States, which may add risk to a county with an international airport and major transportation corridors through which infected individuals may travel.<sup>33</sup> Health care officials believe that the risk of infection from travelers from Canada and Mexico is low, because both countries have excellent vaccination policies and coverage.<sup>34</sup> In contrast, travelers from Israel, the Philippines, the Ukraine, and other countries where low immunization rates have facilitated large outbreaks

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<sup>30</sup> California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 8.

[http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1080\\_old.pdf](http://eziz.org/assets/docs/IMM-1080_old.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> Grand Jury interviews.

<sup>32</sup> California Department of Public Health, *Quicksheet*. . . . The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services agency states that “[i]n 1996, Congress provided in legislation that every immigrant entering the United States, or every individual seeking adjustment of status to that of a legal permanent resident, show proof that he or she was vaccinated against vaccine-preventable diseases. The text for this requirement is in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), section 212(a)(1)(A)(ii).” <https://www.uscis.gov/news/questions-and-answers/vaccination-requirements>

<sup>33</sup> <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/united-states>

<sup>34</sup> Grand Jury interviews.

of measles present a greater risk if they have contact with nonimmune pockets of county residents.<sup>35</sup>

No formal health program within the county targets the risk of pockets of unimmunized adult residents. However, different clinics in the San Mateo Health system perform routine blood testing with the consent of their patients.<sup>36</sup> The clinics test for diabetes, anemia, and cholesterol, or communicable diseases, including tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases.<sup>37</sup> The results of those tests can lead to treatment for tested individuals or their contacts who may be at risk. The clinics do not now routinely administer tests for measles immunity, except for some specific groups such as healthcare workers and military recruits.<sup>38</sup> The Grand Jury believes that measles testing in the clinics and follow-up immunization could identify and reduce adult pockets of unimmunized individuals, thereby reducing the risk that they would present to the county.

### **San Mateo County Health Department Response to Cases**

All cases of measles and many other communicable diseases must be reported to the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program (SMCDC), which takes several actions to limit the spread from each reported case. When notified of a suspected case of measles, SMCDC personnel test the potential carrier to confirm the diagnosis and isolate infected individuals.<sup>39</sup> The SMCDC currently sends samples from a suspected case to the California Department of Public Health for analysis, a process that can delay confirmation of a measles case.<sup>40</sup> If the Program had the capacity to perform testing internally, the laboratory turnaround time for confirming and following up on a diagnosis would be faster.<sup>41</sup>

SMCDC personnel also try to identify and find people who had recent contact with the infected individual, assess their immune status, offer post-exposure prophylaxis, and recommend symptom watch or quarantine if needed—a labor-intensive task as hundreds of contacts may exist. When an outbreak occurs in other counties, the SMCDC team may assist in seeking and following contacts in San Mateo County. The current staff of the SMCDC includes a program supervisor, one physician, one or two Public Health Nurses, and three to five Communicable Disease Investigators.<sup>42</sup> An official from the SMCDC noted, however, that “[e]ven with only one measles case, the entire communicable disease team usually ends up being involved, mostly because of the burden related to the Contact Investigation.”<sup>43</sup> The four individual measles cases that developed in San Mateo County in the first quarter of 2019 placed considerable pressure on

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<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> <https://www.smchealth.org/smmc-find-location>

<sup>37</sup> Grand Jury interviews.

<sup>38</sup> Ibid.

<sup>39</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>40</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>41</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>42</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>43</sup> Grand Jury interview.

existing personnel.<sup>44</sup> If an outbreak occurs, the SMCDC team would seek additional assistance from personnel in other units of the San Mateo County Health Department.<sup>45</sup>

SMCDC currently lacks an electronic case management system that would make contact investigations less time-consuming.<sup>46</sup> One study of case management systems reported that “[h]ealth care providers are legally obliged to report cases of specified diseases to public health authorities, but existing manual provider-initiated reporting systems generally result in incomplete, error-prone, and tardy information flow.”<sup>47</sup> Parallel judgements were offered in Grand Jury interviews.

## Conclusions

Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual makes contact with a pocket of non-immune people. San Mateo County has few pockets of unvaccinated school children, and the fact that none of the four 2019 cases of measles spread within the county leads some public health officials to believe that pockets of unvaccinated adults may be sufficiently small and isolated that the risk of a large outbreak is not high. Yet, there is little hard evidence on the immunization status of adults in the county. Thus far, the few isolated cases of measles in the county have been contained by the SMCDC, but given the uncertainties, continued vigilance is prudent.

## FINDINGS

- F1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.
- F2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.
- F3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.
- F4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.
- F5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren—notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students—is unknown.
- F6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.
- F7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

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<sup>44</sup> Grand Jury correspondence.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid.

<sup>47</sup> *J Am Med Inform Assoc.* 2009 Jan-Feb; 16(1): 18–24.



- F8. Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.
- F9. The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- R1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.
- R2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.
- R3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.
- R4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.

## **REQUEST FOR RESPONSES**

Pursuant to Penal Code Section 933.05, the Grand Jury requests responses as follows:

From the following:

- Governing Boards of all San Mateo County school districts.
- San Mateo County Board of Supervisors

The governing bodies indicated above should be aware that the comment or response of the governing body must be conducted subject to the notice, agenda, and open meeting requirements of the Brown Act.

## METHODOLOGY

### Documents

- California Department of Health vaccination data for preschool, kindergarten, and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at schools throughout the state.
- Medical literature, CDC publications, and news reports were reviewed. See Bibliography for a complete list.

### Interviews

Reports issued by the Civil Grand Jury do not identify individuals interviewed. Penal Code Section 929 requires that reports of the Grand Jury not contain the name of any person or facts leading to the identity of any person who provides information to the Civil Grand Jury.

- Superintendents of Schools in two San Mateo County school districts.
- San Mateo County public health personnel.

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## APPENDIX A

### Kindergarten Vaccination Rates, San Mateo County (all figures are percentages)

<u>Academic Year</u>	<u>Vaccination Rate</u>	<u>Conditional Admits</u>	<u>Permanent Medical Exemptions</u>	<u>Personal Belief Exemptions</u>
2000/01	90.41	8.56	0.25	0.77
2001/02	88.64	9.85	0.21	1.29
2002/03	91.19	7.55	0.22	1.05
2003/04	92.45	6.32	0.11	1.12
2004/05	92.47	6.49	0.08	0.95
2005/06	93.14	5.76	0.08	1.02
2006/07	93.48	5.19	0.23	1.09
2007/08	89.97	8.56	0.25	1.22
2008/09	89.34	8.63	0.23	1.80
2009/10	88.81	9.12	0.22	1.85
2010/11	88.68	9.05	0.21	2.06
2011/12	91.16	6.41	0.18	2.25
2012/13	91.70	6.02	0.19	2.10
2013/14	90.18	7.40	0.16	2.26
2014/15	93.55	4.41	0.19	1.85
2015/16	95.20	3.00	0.10	1.60
2016/17	96.50	1.80	0.40	0.20
2017/18	96.90	1.20	0.50	0.00

Source: California Department of Public Health

# APPENDIX B

**2017-2018 IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN CHILD CARE WHERE MMR RATES ARE LESS THAN 93%  
Facilities with 20 or more children enrolled that report ed and facilities that did not report.**

HEAD START/ PRIVATE/ PUBLIC	CITY	FACILITY NAME	ENROLLMENT		UP-TO-DATE†	CONDI- TIONAL*	PMP**	PPE***	OTHER§	OVER- DUE††	DTP†††		POLIO§		MMR§	
			#	%							#	%	#	%	#	%
PRIVATE	COLMA	HOLY ANGELS PRESCHOOL	30	77	0	0	0	0	0	7	23	77	23	77	23	77
PRIVATE	REDWOOD CITY	TEMPLE BETH JACOB PRESCHOOL	31	84	4	13	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRIVATE	SAN MATEO	HIGHLANDS RECREATION DISTRICT	35	32	91	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRIVATE	REDWOOD CITY	FOOTSTEPS@CITY CENTER PLAZA (PS)	24	22	92	2	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PRIVATE	PACIFICA	WE PLAY WE LEARN	35	33	92	0	0	3	8	0	0	34	94	33	92	33

\* Number of children corresponds to the percentage range indicated in the column to the right.  
 † Up-To-Date: 3 doses of polio vaccine; and 4 doses of DTP; or combination of DTP and diphtheria-tetanus toxoids-containing vaccine; and 1 or more doses of measles, mumps and rubella-containing vaccine, separately or combined, on or after 1st birthday and 3 or more doses of Hepatitis B vaccine; and 1 or more doses of varicella vaccine or physician-documented varicella (chickenpox) disease.  
 †† Conditional Exemption is an enrollee who does not meet all requirements. This enrollee must be followed up because he/she lacks (i.e., is not yet due for) at least one dose and does not have a personal belief or permanent medical exemption; or has a physician affidavit of Temporary Medical Exemption for one or more doses.  
 ††† A Permanent Medical Exemption (PME); granted upon the filing with the facility of a written statement from a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the student or medical circumstances relating to the enrollee are such that immunization is permanently not indicated.  
 †††† A Personal Belief Exemption (PBE), whereby a parent requests exemption from the immunization requirements for school entry because all or some immunizations are contrary to the parent's beliefs.  
 § Others: Includes students reported as receiving IEP services.  
 †††† 4 or more doses of any diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccines including diphtheria and tetanus toxoids,  
 ††† 3 or more doses of polio vaccine; Oral polio vaccine (OPV) or inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) or any combination of these.  
 † 1 or more doses Measles, Mumps, and Rubella separately or combined on or after the 1st birthday  
 †† 1 or more doses of Hib on or after 1st birthday.  
 ††† 3 or more doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.  
 †††† 1 or more doses of varicella at or after 1st birthday, unadjusted for history of varicella illness.  
 ††††† Full reports were due October 15, 2017 and reporting closed on December 15, 2017

**2017-2018 IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS WHERE MMR RATES ARE LESS THAN 93%**

**Schools with 20 or more students enrolled that reported and schools that did not report.**

PUB/ PRIV	PUBLIC/SCHOOL/DISTRICT	CITY	SCHOOL NAME	ENROLLMENT		UP-TO-DATE <sup>†</sup>		CONDI- TIONAL <sup>†</sup>		PME <sup>**</sup>		PSE <sup>**</sup>		OTHERS <sup>§</sup>		DTP <sup>††</sup>		POLIO <sup>‡</sup>		MMR <sup>¶</sup>			
				#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
PUBLIC	PACIFICA	PACIFICA	SUNSET RIDGE ELEMENTARY	130	91	83	19	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85	95	86	95	86	86	
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	HAWES ELEMENTARY	64	55	86	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	56	88	58	91	55	86	
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	HENRY FORD ELEMENTARY	80	64	80	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	72	90	70	88	69	86	
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	HOOVER ELEMENTARY	86	75	87	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	76	88	77	90	76	88	
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	JOHN GILL ELEMENTARY	56	50	89	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	50	89	50	89	50	89	
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	CLIFFORD ELEMENTARY	68	61	90	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	64	94	65	96	61	90	
PUBLIC	JIF FERSON ELEMENTARY	SIMI VALLEY	CALIFORNIA VIRTUAL ACADEMY @ SAN MATEO	35	32	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	0	33	94	33	94	32	91
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	ATHERTON	SELBY LANE ELEMENTARY	134	101	89	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	11	102	89	103	90	104	91
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	FAIR OAKS ELEMENTARY	33	30	91	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	30	91	30	91	30	91
PUBLIC	SAN CARLOS ELEMENTARY	SAN CARLOS	SAN CARLOS CHARTER LEARNING CENTER	44	40	91	0	0	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91
PRIV/ATE		SAN BRUNO	STRATFORD SCHOOL	49	44	90	5	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	90	44	90	44	90	44	90

\* Number of children corresponds to the percentage range indicated in the column to the right.

<sup>†</sup>Up-To-Date: Four doses of polio vaccine (three doses are acceptable if at least one dose was received on or after the fourth birthday); and the DTP/DT vaccine doses (four doses are acceptable if at least one dose was received on or after the fourth birthday); and two doses of measles-containing vaccine, at least one of which must be measles, mumps, and rubella combined. Both doses must have been received on or after the first birthday; and three doses of hepatitis B vaccine; and one dose of varicella vaccine or physician-documented varicella (chickenpox) disease.

<sup>††</sup>Additional Enroll: A student who does not currently meet all requirements. This student must be followed up because he/she is not yet due for a required dose has a physician affidavit of Temporary Medical Exemption for one or more doses; or is a transfer student who has no record available yet.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Permanent Medical Exemption (PME): granted upon the filing with the school of a written statement from a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the student or medical circumstances relating to the student are such that immunization is permanently not indicated.

<sup>\*\*†</sup>Personal Belief Exemption (PBE), whereby a parent requests exemption from the immunization requirements for school entry because all or some immunizations are contrary to the parent's beliefs.

<sup>§</sup>Others: Includes students reported as attending independent study who do not receive classroom-based instruction or home-based private schools or receiving EP services.

<sup>††</sup> Overdue for one or more immunizations.

<sup>‡</sup> 1, 4 or more doses of any diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and pertussis vaccines including diphtheria and tetanus toxoids, and any acellular pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DT/DT).

<sup>‡</sup> 3 or more doses of polio vaccine; one polio vaccine (IPV) or inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) or any combination of these.

<sup>‡</sup> 2 doses of measles-mumps-rubella vaccine.

<sup>‡</sup> 3 or more doses of Hepatitis B vaccine.

<sup>¶</sup> 1 or more doses of varicella at or after child's first birthday, unadjusted for history of varicella illness.

<sup>¶</sup> All reports were due October 15, 2017 and reporting closed on December 15, 2017.

**2017-2018 IMMUNIZATION STATUS OF 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE STUDENTS WHERE UP-TO-DATE RATES ARE LESS THAN 93%**  
**Schools with 20 or more students enrolled that reported and schools that did not report.**

PUBLIC/ PRIVATE	PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT	CITY	SCHOOL NAME	ENROLLMENT		UP-TO-DATE*		CONDITIONAL (TIME)**		PME**		OTHERS†		OVERDUE††	
				#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	ATHERTON	SELBY LANE ELEMENTARY	92	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	25
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	MENLO PARK	GARFIELD ELEMENTARY	62	54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	13
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	JOHN F. KENNEDY MIDDLE	237	208	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	27	11
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	HOOVER ELEMENTARY	81	73	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	10
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	MCKINLEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	151	137	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	12	8
PUBLIC	REDWOOD CITY ELEMENTARY	REDWOOD CITY	ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY	60	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	8
			TOTAL	683										83	

\*Completed Pertussis-containing booster (DTaP, DTP or Tdap) on or after 7th birthday.  
 \*\* A Conditional Exemption is a 7th Grade pupil who has not yet received the required Tdap booster dose because of a Temporary Medical Exemption (TIME).  
 \*\*A Permanent Medical Exemption (PME) shall be granted upon the filing with the school a written statement from a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the student or medical circumstances relating to the student are such that immunization is permanently not indicated.  
 † Others: includes students reported as attending independent study who do not receive classroom-based instruction or home-based private schools or receiving IEP services.  
 †† Overdue for one or more immunizations.  
 ††† Fall reports were due November 1, 2016 and reporting closed on December 15, 2017.





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**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
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**SUPERINTENDENT**  
DR. AUDRA PITTMAN

October 13, 2019

Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The Bayshore Elementary School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

Engage. Educate. Empower.

Mrs. Maya Baker, Principal

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

District staff enrolls students who meet state vaccination requirements. Only students with a medical exemption filed by a medical doctor may enroll without required vaccinations. The school district reports the vaccination data to the state each year and is published on Shots for School.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

District staff enrolls students who meet state vaccination requirements. Only students with a medical exemption filed by a medical doctor may enroll without required vaccinations. The school district reports the vaccination data to the state each year and is published on Shots for School.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

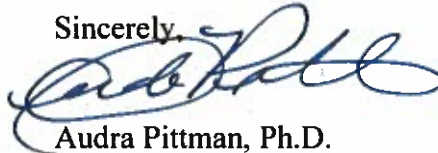
4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on November 12, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Audra Pittman", written in a cursive style.

Audra Pittman, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
Bayshore Elementary School District



# County of San Mateo

## Inter-Departmental Correspondence

APPROVED BY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OCT 08 2019

CLERK OF BOARD  
BY *John P. Callagy* DEPUTY

Department: COUNTY MANAGER  
File #: 19-969

Board Meeting Date: 10/8/2019

Special Notice / Hearing: No  
Vote Required: Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Michael P. Callagy, County Manager  
**Subject:** Board of Supervisors' Response to the 2018-2019 Civil Grand Jury Report, "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the Board of Supervisors' response to the 2018-2019 Civil Grand Jury Report, "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"

### **BACKGROUND:**

On July 17, 2019, the 2018-2019 San Mateo County Civil Grand Jury issued a report titled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?". The Board of Supervisors is required to submit comments on the findings and recommendations pertaining to the matters over which it has some decision-making authority within 90 days. The Board's response to the report is due to the Honorable Donald J. Ayob no later than October 15, 2019.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Grand Jury made seven findings and four recommendations in its report. The Board responses follow each finding and the four recommendations that the Grand Jury requested that the Board respond to within 90 days.

## FINDINGS

### **Finding 1:**

Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.

**Response:** Agree

### **Finding 2:**

For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.

**Response:** Agree

**Finding 3:**

Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.

**Response:**

Agree. During the 2017/18 school year students with Personal Belief Exemptions (PBE) was zero percent.

**Finding 4:**

Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.

**Response:** Agree

**Finding 5:**

The vaccination status of some schoolchildren-notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students-is unknown.

**Response:** Agree

**Finding 6:**

Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

**Response:**

Agree. Most people born before 1957 are thought to have been infected naturally with the measles virus through measles outbreaks. People who got the standard two doses of the measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine after 1967, should also be protected against measles. Persons who previously received a dose of measles vaccine in 1963-1967 and are unsure which type of vaccine it was or are sure it was inactivated measles vaccine may not be immune.

**Finding 7:**

Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

**Response:** Agree

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**Recommendation 1:**

School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.

**Response:**

This Board cannot implement this recommendation, as it pertains to school districts, which are independent public agencies and not under the governance of this Board.

**Recommendation 2:**

Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.

**Response:**

This Board cannot implement this recommendation, as it pertains to school districts, which are independent public agencies and not under the governance of this Board.

**Recommendation 3:**

The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.

**Response:**

The recommendation will not be implemented. Most adults in the United States are low risk for measles. In general providers do not need to actively screen low-risk adult patients for measles in non-outbreak areas in the United States. A pilot to determine community immunity level would be time consuming, require multiple visits for residents without sufficient immunity, and increase cost to residents who receive the titer screening and MMR vaccine when applicable. Public Health Policy and Planning, Communicable Disease Control will continue to provide measles guidance using Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines to primary care providers and issue measles health alerts and advisories regarding the various aspects of measles.

**Recommendation 4:**

Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.

**Response:**

The recommendation has been implemented. The California Health Executive Association and California Counties requested that the State allocate ongoing funding for disease control infrastructure in 2018. The 2019-2020 Governors' budget allocated \$35 million in state funding to Local Health Jurisdictions over a four-year period. We anticipate receiving an annual allocation of approximately \$100,000 over the next 4 years to increase infectious disease laboratory testing, enhance San Francisco International Airport surveillance and prepare for emerging infectious diseases and the ability to surge. We anticipate receiving the allocation within the next few months.

**SHARED VISION 2025:**

Acceptance of the report contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by ensuring that all Grand Jury findings and recommendations are thoroughly reviewed by the appropriate County departments and that, when appropriate, process improvements are made

to improve the quality and efficiency of services provided to the public and other agencies.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no Net County Cost associated with the acceptance of this report.





October 7, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
% Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center, 2nd floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655  
Email: grandjury@sanmateocourt.org

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The Belmont-Redwood Shores School District (the "District") received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code.

**FINDINGS**

*F1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

*F2. For the 2017/2018 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District, therefore, defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

*F3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District, therefore, defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

*F4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

*F5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren-notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students - is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

*F7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk to outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

*F8. Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F9. The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District, therefore, defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

*R1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district’s website by November 1, 2019*

The District disagrees with this recommendation. The District reports immunization data to the California Department of Public Health, and this data is publicly available at

<https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>. Last year, 100% of BRSSD students complied with the State's immunization requirements. Additional reporting requirements may pose an unnecessary burden on school districts, especially if this information is already compiled and reported. Our reporting practices are compliant with 17 CCR section 6075, and we believe that they adequately address public safety.

*R2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The District disagrees with this recommendation. The District reports immunization data to the California Department of Public Health, and this data is publicly available at <https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>. Last year, 100% of BRSSD students complied with the State's immunization requirements. Additional reporting requirements may pose an unnecessary burden on school districts, especially if this information is already compiled and reported. Our reporting practices are compliant with 17 CCR section 6075, and we believe that they adequately address public safety.

*R3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

*R4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Both the Grand Jury Report and these responses were presented to and approved by the District's Board of Trustees at its meeting held on September 26, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Michael Milliken, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
[mmilliken@brssd.org](mailto:mmilliken@brssd.org)



**Board of Trustees**  
Raul Alcaraz  
Kima Hayuk  
Lillian Markind  
Jacque McLaughlin  
Curtis Washington

**Superintendent**  
Ronan Collver

September 12, 2019

Hon. Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655  
*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

**RE: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled “Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?”**

Dear Judge Ayoob,

The Brisbane School District (the “District”) has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled “Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?” The District appreciates the Grand Jury’s interest in the matter.

Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury’s Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code.

**Findings:**

*F1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

*F2. For the 2017-18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

- F3. *Following the January 1, 2016 effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding. However, the District feels it is important to note that the zero percent referenced in the Report refers only to Kindergarteners.

- F4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

- F5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

- F6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

- F7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

- F8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

- F9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

**Recommendations by the Grand Jury:**

The San Mateo Grand Jury makes the following recommendations to the governing boards of all San Mateo County school districts.

- R1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018-2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these district should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The District annually compiles vaccination compliance information for the San Mateo County Health Department for newly-enrolled district Kindergarten and First Grade students and for Seventh Grade students. While the District believes this reporting is sufficient (i.e. legally compliant under [17 CCR section 6075](#), it may not adequately address public safety issues as it may not accurately reflect the overall immunity of our "herd." Nonetheless, the District has sufficient data to enact this Recommendation and will post the requested information on the District's website by November 1, 2019.

- R2. *Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

As with Recommendation 1, the District already compiles vaccination compliance information for specific groups of students in compliance with [17 CCR section 6075](#). As this report is due to the San Mateo County Health Department in February of each year, the District is prepared to enact this Recommendation

- R3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their levels of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

- R4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases*

*from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 11, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Ronan Collver  
Superintendent



September 10, 2019

[Via Email \(grandjury@sanmateocourt.org\)](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org)

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Kay Coskey  
Davina Drabkin  
Mark G. Intrieri  
Elizabeth Kendall  
Florence Wong

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The Burlingame School District has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION**

Maggie MacIsaac, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
  
Marla Silversmith  
Assistant Superintendent,  
Educational Services

Gaby Hellier  
Assistant Superintendent,  
Business Services/CBO

1825 Trousdale Drive  
Burlingame, Ca 94010  
(650) 259-3800

<http://www.burlingameschools.org>



4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district’s website by November 1, 2019.*

In the 2018-2019 school year the Burlingame School District reported any students who were not vaccinated to the State.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

In the 2019-2020 school year the Burlingame School District does not enroll students who are not up to date with their vaccinations. If students do show up for school without the required vaccinations they have 10 days to comply. If they do not comply with the proper vaccinations they are excluded from school until they show proof of vaccinations.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on Sept. 10, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Maggie MacIsaac, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Burlingame School District



# CABRILLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

498 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, California 94019 • 650 712-7100 • Fax 650 726-0279 • [www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us](http://www.cabrillo.k12.ca.us)

## SUPERINTENDENT

Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.

## GOVERNING BOARD

Mary Beth Alexander  
Lizet Cortes  
Kimberly Hines  
Sophia Layne  
Freya McCamant

September 12, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayob:

The Cabrillo Unified School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

### **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

Generally speaking, the District agrees with this Finding.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District lacks information to fully agree or disagree with this Finding given that it did not conduct the research related to this Report. However, the District accepts the Grand Jury's Finding for the purposes of this Response.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District lacks information to fully agree or disagree with this Finding given that it did not conduct the research related to this Report. However, the District accepts the Grand Jury's Finding for the purposes of this Response.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

Generally speaking, the District agrees with this Finding.

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District lacks information to fully agree or disagree with this Finding given that it did not conduct the research related to this Report. However, the District accepts the Grand Jury's Finding for the purposes of this Response.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

Generally speaking, the District agrees with this Finding.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

Generally speaking, the District agrees with this Finding.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

Generally speaking, the District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District lacks information to fully agree or disagree with this Finding given that it did not conduct the research related to this Report. However, the District accepts the Grand Jury's Finding for the purposes of this Response.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by November 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by December 1, 2019.*

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*
3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District supports this Recommendation but cannot provide the Grand Jury with any further input as the District has no knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation.

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District supports this Recommendation but cannot provide the Grand Jury with any further input as the District has no knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation.

Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Board of Trustees on September 12, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Cabrillo Unified School District



September 11, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The Hillsborough City School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that "[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law."

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

An Huang Chen, Gregory J. Dannis, Don Geddis, Margi Power, Gilbert Wai

SUPERINTENDENT

Louann Carlomagno

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Hillsborough City School District (HCS D) believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. HCS D submits an immunization report to the state for kindergarten and 7th grade students annually. There is a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for all HCS D schools.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. HCS D believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. HCS D submits an immunization report to the state for kindergarten and 7th grade students annually. There is a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for all HCS D schools.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

An Huang Chen, Gregory J. Dannis, Don Geddis, Margi Power, Gilbert Wai

#### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Louann Carlomagno



300 El Cerrito Avenue  
Hillsborough, CA 94010  
t: (650) 342-5193  
[www.hcsd.k12.ca.us](http://www.hcsd.k12.ca.us)

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 11, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Louann Carlomagno".

Louann Carlomagno  
Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
An Huang Chen, Gregory J. Dannis, Don Geddis, Margi Power, Gilbert Wai

SUPERINTENDENT  
Louann Carlomagno





# JEFFERSON

## Elementary School District

Governing Board  
Shakeel Ali  
Marie Brizuela  
Rebecca Douglass, PhD  
Clayton Koo  
Manufou Liaiga-Anoa'i

Superintendent  
Bernardo Vidales

September 11, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled  
"Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The Jefferson Elementary School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

### **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The Jefferson Elementary School District agrees, in part, with this recommendation. The district enrolls students in Kindergarten and Seventh Grade that have met all vaccination requirements or are exempt according to current exemption conditions. Each fall, by October 15, the school district submits to the California Department of Public Health the number of students that have All Required Vaccines (ARV), the vaccination rate of individual required vaccines, as well as the number of and reasons for those that are exempt. This data is subsequently published on the following website: <https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/> for members of the public to access.

Because this is a publicly accessible website, the information readily and easily available and the students in the Jefferson Elementary School District are highly compliant with vaccination requirements, the district believes it is duplicative to also list the same information on the district's website but will consider adding a link to the website where this information can be found.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The Jefferson Elementary School District agrees, in part, with this recommendation. The district enrolls students in Kindergarten and Seventh Grade that have met all vaccination requirements or are exempt according to current exemption conditions. Each fall, by October 15, the school district submits to the California Department of Public Health the number of students that have All Required Vaccines (ARV), the vaccination rate of individual required vaccines, as well as the number of and reasons for those that are exempt. This data is subsequently published on the following website: <https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/> for members of the public to access.

Because this is a publicly accessible website, the information readily and easily available and the students in the Jefferson Elementary School District are highly compliant with vaccination requirements, the district believes it is duplicative to also list the same information on the district's website but will consider adding a link to the website where this information can be found.

*3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

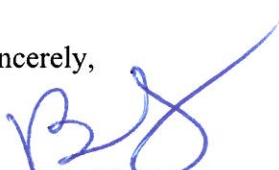
*4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the Jefferson Elementary School District's Governing Board on September 11, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Bernardo Vidales  
Superintendent



LA HONDA-PESCADERO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PO Box 189 • 360 Butano Cut Off, Pescadero, CA 94060  
650-879-0286 • FAX 650-879-0816

Amy Wooliever, Superintendent

October 10, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

District staff enrolls students who meet state vaccination requirements. Only students with a medical exemption filed by a medical doctor may enroll without required vaccinations. The school district reports the vaccination data to the state each year but due to small population samples, the data is not published on Shots to Schools. The District believes that cohorts under 20 should not be published due to student confidentiality.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

District staff enrolls students who meet state vaccination requirements. Only students with a medical exemption filed by a medical doctor may enroll without required vaccinations. The school district reports the vaccination data to the state each year but due to small population samples, the data is not published on Shots to Schools. The District believes that cohorts under 20 should not be published due to student confidentiality.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

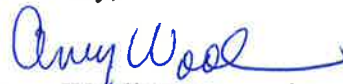
4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 10, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Amy Wooliever, Superintendent  
La Honda-Pescadero USD





**District Office**  
1011 Altschul Avenue  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 854-2880

**Las Lomas School**  
299 Alameda de las Pulgas  
Atherton, CA 94027  
(650) 854-5900

**La Entrada School**  
2200 Sharon Road  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
(650) 854-3962

October 1, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Ayob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"

Dear Judge Ayob:

The Las Lomas Elementary School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report Entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Finding and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to Section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS:**

1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.

The district agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. For the 2017/2018 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The district therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. Following the January 1, 2016, the effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that "(each student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law."

5. The vaccination status of some school children – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.

The District agrees with this Finding

6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.

The District cannot agree or disagree with this finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Board of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its school on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The Las Lomas Elementary School District (LLESD) believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. LLESD submits and immunization report to the state for kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students annually. There is a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for LLESD schools.

2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. LLESD believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. LLESD submits and immunization report to the state for kindergarten and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students annually. There is a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for LLESD schools.

3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity, The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state or local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state or local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District' Governing Board on October 9, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beth Polito".

Beth Polito  
Superintendent  
Las Lomitas Elementary School District

**Menlo Park City School District**  
181 Encinal Avenue  
Atherton, CA 94027  
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**Board of Education**  
David Ackerman  
Mark Box  
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Erik Burmeister

**Assistant Superintendent**  
Jammie Behrendt

**Executive Director of Student Services**  
Stephanie Sheridan

**Chief Business & Operations Officer**  
Ahmad Sheikholeslami

October 10, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The Menlo Park City School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

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**Menlo Park City School District**

Every child achieves academic excellence. Every child becomes emotionally and physically stronger.  
Every child discovers and grows their talents.

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District lacks information to fully agree or disagree with this Finding given that it did not conduct the research related to this report. However, the District accepts the Grand Jury’s Findings for the purpose of this Response.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The Menlo Park City School District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075, and adequately address public safety issues. The District is agreeable to this recommendation with extending the timelines. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by November 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by December 1, 2019

- 2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The Menlo Park City School District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. The District is prepared to enact this Recommendation.

- 3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

- 4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 10, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Erik Burneister  
Superintendent  
Menlo Park City School District



# Millbrae School District

*Together We Achieve The Extraordinary!*

555 Richmond Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030

650-697-5693 • 650-697-6865 (fax) • <http://www.millbraeschooldistrict.org>

**VAHN PHAYPRASERT**  
Superintendent

**CLAIRE BELTRAMI**  
Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services

**TBD**  
Chief Business Officer

**TARA KEITH**  
Director of Student Services

September 18, 2019

Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The Millbrae School (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

## **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

**NURTURE**

**PROMOTE**

**FOSTER**

**CONNECT**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FRANK BARBARO DENIS FAMA LYNNE FERRARIO MAGGIE MUSA D. DON REVELO  
An Equal Opportunity Employer





# Millbrae School District

*Together We Achieve The Extraordinary!*

555 Richmond Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030

650-697-5693 • 650-697-6865 (fax) • <http://www.millbraeschooldistrict.org>

**VAHN PHAYPRASERT**  
Superintendent

**CLAIRE BELTRAMI**  
Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services

**TBD**  
Chief Business Officer

**TARA KEITH**  
Director of Student Services

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

- Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

- The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

- Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

- Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

- Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

**NURTURE**

**PROMOTE**

**FOSTER**

**CONNECT**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FRANK BARBARO DENIS FAMA LYNNE FERRARIO MAGGIE MUSA D. DON REVELO  
An Equal Opportunity Employer



# Millbrae School District

*Together We Achieve The Extraordinary!*

555 Richmond Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030

650-697-5693 • 650-697-6865 (fax) • <http://www.millbraeschooldistrict.org>

**VAHN PHAYPRASERT**  
Superintendent

**CLAIRE BELTRAMI**  
Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services

**TBD**  
Chief Business Officer

**TARA KEITH**  
Director of Student Services

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. In the Millbrae School District, we believe that our current practices are legally compliant under [17 CCR section 6075](#) and adequately address public safety issues. Millbrae School District does not admit (enroll) students who are not up to date on state mandated vaccines. We already submit an immunization report to the state for pre-school and kindergarten by November 1st annually.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. Millbrae School District does not enroll students who have not met vaccination requirements. Our immunization information is sent to the state. At this time, we believe that Millbrae School District's current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

**NURTURE**

**PROMOTE**

**FOSTER**

**CONNECT**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
**FRANK BARBARO**   **DENIS FAMA**   **LYNNE FERRARIO**   **MAGGIE MUSA**   **D. DON REVELO**  
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*



# Millbrae School District

*Together We Achieve The Extraordinary!*

555 Richmond Drive, Millbrae, CA 94030

650-697-5693 • 650-697-6865 (fax) • <http://www.millbraeschooldistrict.org>

**VAHN PHAYPRASERT**  
Superintendent

**CLAIRE BELTRAMI**  
Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services

**TBD**  
Chief Business Officer

**TARA KEITH**  
Director of Student Services

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 17, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Vahn Phayprasert  
Superintendent  
Millbrae School District

NURTURE

PROMOTE

FOSTER

CONNECT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FRANK BARBARO DENIS FAMA LYNNE FERRARIO MAGGIE MUSA D. DON REVELO  
An Equal Opportunity Employer



# Pacifica School District

375 Reina Del Mar Avenue ★ Pacifica, California ★ 94044  
(650) 738-6600 ★ (650) 557-9672 (fax)

*Preparing Students for an Evolving World*

[www.pacificasd.org](http://www.pacificasd.org)

District Administration  
Heather Olsen, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Josephine Peterson  
Chief Business Official  
Maria Gavidia  
Executive Director,  
Special Education,  
Human Resources, and Pupil  
Services  
Will Lucey  
Executive Director,  
Educational Support Services

September 19, 2019

Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The Pacifica School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

## FINDINGS

- 1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

- 2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Bredall ★ Kai Doggett ★ Jesse Levin ★ Kathy Shiokari ★ Laverne Villalobos

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

**Board of Trustees**

Elizabeth Bredall ★ Kai Doggett ★ Jesse Levin ★ Kathy Shiokari ★ Laverne Villalobos

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The Pacifica School District currently requires every family to provide evidence of vaccination prior to the first day of attendance. The District then files annual immunization status reports with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), pursuant to 17 CCR section 6075, by November 1<sup>st</sup> of every year. The CDPH makes available on its website, (<https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>), the vaccination rate of every school within the Pacifica School District. Thus, the District believes its current reporting practice and the public's accessibility to vaccination data through the CDPH's "Shots for School" website adequately addresses public safety issues and that there is no need for addition reporting practices to be implemented.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The Pacifica School District currently requires every family to provide evidence of vaccination prior to the first day of attendance. The District then files annual immunization status reports with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), pursuant to 17 CCR section 6075, by November 1<sup>st</sup> of every year. The CDPH makes available on its website, (<https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>), the vaccination rate of every school within the Pacifica School District. Thus, the District believes its current reporting practice and the public's accessibility to vaccination data through the CDPH's "Shots for School" website adequately addresses public safety issues and that there is no need for addition reporting practices to be implemented.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

### Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Bredall ★ Kai Doggett ★ Jesse Levin ★ Kathy Shiokari ★ Laverne Villalobos

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 18, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Heather Olsen  
Superintendent  
Pacifica School District

**Board of Trustees**

Elizabeth Bredall ★ Kai Doggett ★ Jesse Levin ★ Kathy Shiokari ★ Laverne Villalobos

# Portola Valley School District

Ormondale School (K-3) • Corte Madera School (4-8)

Board of Trustees: Karyn Bechtel, Brooke Day, Jeff Klugman, Kimberley Morris Rosen

---

Roberta Zarea, Superintendent

September 23, 2019

*Via Email (grandjury@sanmateocourt.org)*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The Portola Valley School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

## **FINDINGS**

- 1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

- 2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

- 3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*



# Portola Valley School District

Ormondale School (K-3) • Corte Madera School (4-8)

Board of Trustees: Karyn Bechtel, Brooke Day, Jeff Klugman, Kimberley Morris Rosen

---

Roberta Zarea, Superintendent

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

# Portola Valley School District

Ormondale School (K-3) • Corte Madera School (4-8)

Board of Trustees: Karyn Bechtel, Brooke Day, Jeff Klugman, Kimberley Morris Rosen

---

Roberta Zarea, Superintendent

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The District will consult with County Counsel to determine what sort of reporting is sufficient, and then decide whether it is prepared to agree with this REcommendation. Our District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The District will consult with County Counsel to determine what sort of reporting is sufficient, and then decide whether it is prepared to agree with this REcommendation. Our District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County*

# Portola Valley School District

## Ormondale School (K-3) • Corte Madera School (4-8)

Board of Trustees: Karyn Bechtel, Brooke Day, Jeff Klugman, Kimberley Morris Rosen

---

Roberta Zarea, Superintendent

*Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 2, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Roberta Zarea  
Superintendent  
Portola Valley School District



"OUR CHILDREN – OUR FUTURE"

## ***Ravenswood City School District***

### **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

2120 Euclid Avenue, East Palo Alto, California 94303  
(650) 329-2800 Fax (650) 323-1072

#### *Board Members:*

Tamara Sobomehin, President  
Stephanie Fitch, Vice- President  
Marielena Gaona-Mendoza, Clerk  
Ana Maria Pulido, Member  
Sharifa Wilson, Member

Gina Sudaria  
Interim *Superintendent*

September 12, 2019

*Via Email (grandjury@sanmateocourt.org)*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayooob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayooob:

The Ravenswood City School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

### **FINDINGS**

- 1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

- 2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

- 3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*
- 2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*
- 3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

- 4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 12, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely



Gina Sudaria  
Superintendent  
Ravenswood City School District

**REDWOOD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
750 Bradford Street • Redwood City, CA 94063 • 650-423-2230

**Board of Education**

Dennis McBride, President  
Janet Lawson, Vice President  
Alisa MacAvoy, Clerk  
María Díaz-Slocum  
Cecilia Márquez



**Superintendent**  
John R. Baker, Ed.D.

October 11, 2019

**Hon. Donald J. Ayoob**  
**Judge of the Superior Court**  
**% Charlene Kresevich**  
**Hall of Justice**  
**400 County Center; 2nd Floor**  
**Redwood City, CA 94063-1655**

RE: Grand Jury Report: "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"

Dear Hon. Donald J. Ayoob,

Please find the RCSD responses to the Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations below:

**FINDINGS:**

- F1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under Immunized community.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd Immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren--notable those who are home-schooled and those schools with fewer than 20 students--is unknown.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F8. Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.
- F9. The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.  
The respondent agrees with the finding.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- R1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these Districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented.

Forty four students have not provided proof of vaccination for the 2018/19 school year. Notice of Immunizations Needed letters have again been mailed to these 44 families this school year (2019/20). Updated 2018/19 vaccination data will be published on School District website by November 1, 2019.

- R2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.

RCSD will be implementing the Grand Jury's recommendations. The following is the time frame for implementation:



- District wide audit - January, 2020
- Notification to parents - January, 2020
- Student Exclusion - February, 2020
- Report to School Board - March, 2020
- Vaccination Data - March 31, 2020

R3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County Clinics for their level of Measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.

N/A

R4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address Outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County health should respond within three Months of receiving those requests.

N/A

**Date of Governing Board Public Meeting to approve the responses: October 16, 2019**

Sincerely,



Superintendent  
Redwood City School District



October 9, 2019

*Via Email (grandjury@sanmateocourt.org)*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The San Bruno Park School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

**FINDINGS**

*1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

*2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jennifer M. Blanco • Teri L. Chavez • Kevin J. Martinez • Andrew T. Mason • Henry Sanchez, M.D.  
Sharon Kamberg, Ed.D., *Superintendent*



*3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

*4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

*5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

*7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jennifer M. Blanco • Teri L. Chavez • Kevin J. Martinez • Andrew T. Mason • Henry Sanchez, M.D.

Sharon Kamberg, Ed.D., *Superintendent*



8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

This recommendation will not be implemented as it is not warranted. The San Bruno Park School District (SBPSD) believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately addresses public safety issues. There will be a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for the SBPSD schools.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

This recommendation will not be implemented as it is not warranted. The San Bruno Park School District (SBPSD) believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately addresses public safety issues. There will be a link on our website for "Shots for Schools" which is a website hosted by the California Department of Public Health which includes immunization rates for the SBPSD schools.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jennifer M. Blanco • Teri L. Chavez • Kevin J. Martinez • Andrew T. Mason • Henry Sanchez, M.D.

Sharon Kamberg, Ed.D., *Superintendent*



*3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

*4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 9, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.  
Sincerely,

Sharon Kamberg,  
Superintendent  
San Bruno Park School District

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Jennifer M. Blanco • Teri L. Chavez • Kevin J. Martinez • Andrew T. Mason • Henry Sanchez, M.D.  
Sharon Kamberg, Ed.D., *Superintendent*



# SAN CARLOS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Michelle Harmeier, Ed. D., Superintendent  
Hans Barber, Assistant Superintendent  
Mila Milligan, Chief Business Official

1200 Industrial Road, Unit 9  
San Carlos, CA 94070  
Voice: (650) 508-7333  
Fax: (650) 508-7340  
www.scsdk8.org

October 10, 2019

Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The San Carlos School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

## **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district’s website by November 1, 2019.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The San Carlos School District (SCSD) believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR Section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. SCSD submits an immunization report to California Department of Public Health, and this information is readily available at <https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>. Because this is a publicly accessible website with information readily and easily available, and the students in San Carlos School District are highly compliant with vaccination requirements, the District believes additional reporting requirements would be duplicative and may pose an unnecessary burden on school districts.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. SCSD believes that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR Section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. SCSD submits an immunization report to California Department of Public Health, and this information is readily available at <https://www.shotsforschool.org/k-12/how-doing/>. Because this is a publicly accessible website with information readily and easily available, and the students in San Carlos School District are highly compliant with vaccination requirements, the District believes additional reporting requirements would be duplicative and may pose an unnecessary burden on school districts.

- 3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

- 4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 10, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Michelle Harmeier  
Superintendent  
San Carlos School District







# SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 25, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The San Mateo-Foster City School District (the "District") has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

## **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

3. *Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

1170 Chess Drive  
Foster City, California 94404  
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650.312.7779 Fax  
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Board of Trustees  
**Kenneth Chin, Noelia Corzo, Rebecca Hitchcock, Audrey Ng, Shara Watkins**  
Superintendent  
Joan Rosas, Ed.D.



## SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

4. *Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”

5. *The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

6. *Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.

7. *Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*



# SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

During 2018/2019 school year, the San Mateo-Foster City School District met all state required vaccination requirements. The District did not enroll any students with overdue vaccinations or a Personal Belief Exemptions (PBE). Any student already enrolled in the District on a PBE and rising to the next required checkpoint were supported and provided resources to allow the student to complete the required MMR (Measles) vaccination. All medical exemptions were signed by a licensed physician and up-to-date.

All required immunization data is filed annually with San Mateo County. The District will publish updated vaccination data on the District's website by November 1, 2019.

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the **Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.***

The safety of students, staff and families is a priority to the San Mateo-Foster City School District. In the 2019/2020 year, two students were conditionally enrolled and families were provided resources to ensure that both students received their required immunizations within the first month of the school year. The District did not enroll any students with overdue vaccinations or a Personal Belief Exemptions (PBE). A student with a previous PBE on file was provided resources necessary to complete all required vaccinations during the first month of the school year. The District will publish updated vaccination data on the District's website by November 1, 2019.

3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*



## SAN MATEO-FOSTER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

- 4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on October 3, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Joan Rosas, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

San Mateo-Foster City School District



## SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

### SUPERINTENDENT

Shawnterra Moore, Ed.D.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

John C. Baker  
Eddie Flores  
Daina R. Lujan  
Patricia A. Murray  
Mina A. Richardson

September 27, 2019

*Via Email ([grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org))*

The Honorable Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655

*Re: Response to the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?"*

Dear Judge Ayoob:

The South San Francisco Unified School District has received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code:

### **FINDINGS**

1. *Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

**The District agrees that the outbreak or spread of preventable diseases such as measles may occur when an infected individual comes into contact with non-immunized individuals.**

2. *For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

**The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.**

- 3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB 227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

**The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.**

- 4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

**The District agrees that schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations may create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak. Pursuant to District Policy, the District cooperates with state and local public health agencies to encourage and facilitate immunization of all district students against preventable diseases in order to protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases such as measles. It is for this reason that, in accordance with California law, District Policy provides that “[e]ach student enrolling for the first time in a district school after July 1, 2016, enrolling in or advancing to grade 7 shall present an immunization record from any authorized private or public health care provider certifying that he/she has received all required immunizations in accordance with law. Students shall be excluded from school or exempted from immunization requirements only as allowed by law.”**

- 5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

**The District agrees with this Finding.**

- 6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

**The District agrees that adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.**

- 7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

**The District agrees that recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.**

8. *Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

**The District agrees with this Finding.**

9. *The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

**The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based. The District therefore defers to the Grand Jury with regard to this Finding.**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. *School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019 and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

**The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. In South San Francisco, we believe that our current practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues. South San Francisco Unified School District does not admit (enroll) students who are not up to date on state mandated vaccines. We already submit an immunization report to the state for pre-school and kindergarten by November 1<sup>st</sup> annually.**

2. *Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

**The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. South San Francisco Unified School District does not enroll students who have not met vaccination requirements. Our immunization information is sent to the state. At this time, we believe that SSFUSD's current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.**



3. *The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

**The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.**

4. *Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

**The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this Recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.**

Please be advised that Both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Governing Board on September 26, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Dr. Shawnterra Moore  
Superintendent  
South San Francisco Unified School District



Hon. Donald J. Ayoob  
Judge of the Superior Court  
c/o Charlene Kresevich  
Hall of Justice  
400 County Center; 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063-1655  
Email: [grandjury@sanmateocourt.org](mailto:grandjury@sanmateocourt.org)

Dear Honorable Judge Ayoob:

The Woodside Elementary School District (the "District") received and reviewed the 2018-2019 Grand Jury Report entitled "Is San Mateo County at Risk of a Large Measles Outbreak?" We appreciate the Grand Jury's interest in this matter. Having reviewed and considered the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations, the District responds as follows, pursuant to section 933.05 of the California Penal Code.

**FINDINGS**

*F1. Outbreaks of measles occur when an infected individual enters an under-immunized community.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F2. For the 2017/18 school year, the overall measles vaccination rate for public and private school students in San Mateo County exceeded the 93 percent herd immunity level experts say is needed to protect the community as a whole.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F3. Following the January 1, 2016, effective date of SB227, use of the personal belief exemption dropped from two percent of students to zero in San Mateo County.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F4. Schools that admit students with overdue vaccinations create pockets of unimmunized individuals that may facilitate the development of a measles outbreak.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F5. The vaccination status of some schoolchildren – notably those who are home-schooled and those in schools with fewer than 20 students – is unknown.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F6. Adults born after 1957 who never had a measles infection and who lack sufficient vaccination may also be at risk of a measles infection.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F7. Recent outbreaks in Washington State, New York, and Los Angeles illustrate that pockets of unvaccinated people can pose a risk of outbreaks.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F8. Testing for measles immunity at County clinics could identify pockets of people susceptible to measles.*

The District agrees with this Finding.

*F9. The resources of the SMCDC, which identifies and tracks measles cases in San Mateo County, may be inadequate to contain a major outbreak.*

The District cannot agree or disagree with this Finding, as the District did not conduct the research cited in the Report on which this Finding is based.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

*R1. School districts that enrolled students who did not meet state vaccination requirements for the 2018/2019 school year should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by October 1, 2019, and the Governing Boards of these districts should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website by November 1, 2019.*

The District will consult with County Counsel to determine what sort of reporting is sufficient, and then decide whether it is prepared to agree with this Recommendation. Our District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.

*R2. Beginning with the 2019/2020 school year, school districts that enroll students who do not meet vaccination requirements in subsequent school years should report to their Governing Board whether overdue vaccinations have been completed by March 31 of each year, and the Governing Board should publish updated vaccination data for its schools on the school district's website.*

The District will consult with County Counsel to determine what sort of reporting is sufficient, and then decide whether it is prepared to agree with this Recommendation. Our District believes its current reporting practices are legally compliant under 17 CCR section 6075 and adequately address public safety issues.

*R3. The San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should study the feasibility of testing people visiting San Mateo County clinics for their level of measles immunity. The results of the study should be reported to the San Mateo County Health Department Board by January 1, 2020.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

*R4. Within three months of this report, the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program should request funding for upgrading the resources needed to address outbreaks of measles and other communicable diseases from the Chief of the San Mateo County Health Department. San Mateo County Health should respond within three months of receiving those requests.*

The District lacks sufficient knowledge or information regarding the San Mateo County Health Communicable Disease Control Program's ability to implement this recommendation, but generally supports any and all reasonable efforts by state and local public health agencies to protect the health of those in the community and to curtail the spread of preventable infectious diseases.

Please be advised that both the Grand Jury Report and the District's responses were presented to and approved by the District's Board of Trustees at its meeting held on September 17, 2019.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or required additional information.

Sincerely,



Steven Frank  
Superintendent

Approved September 17, 2019 by the Woodside Elementary School District Governing Board