



**NAPA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Transforming lives by instilling 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills and inspiring lifelong learning in every student.

September 19, 2011

✓ Honorable Stephen T. Kroyer, Presiding Judge  
Department H, Napa Criminal Courthouse  
1111 Third Street, Napa, Ca 94559

Judith Bemat, Forewoman  
2010-2011 Napa County Grand Jury  
P.O. Box 5397  
Napa, CA 94581-0397

**FILED**

SEP 27 2011

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court  
By: C. Brennan  
Deputy

**Re: 2010 -2011 Grand Jury Final Report on NVUSD Transportation Department**

This letter is in response to the 2010-2011 Grand Jury's report on the Napa Valley Unified School District Transportation Department. The responses to findings 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and recommendations 1, 2 are listed below.

**F1. NVUSD provides safe transportation service to its students.**

- NVUSD agrees with the Grand Jury finding.

**F2. The TD has completed an internal and external review and has developed recommendations to operate more effectively and efficiently.**

- NVUSD agrees with the Grand Jury finding.

**F3. The TD does not use computerized routing systems.**

- NVUSD agrees with the Grand Jury finding.

Received

SEP 22 2011  
Napa Superior Court

**Board of Education**

2425 Jefferson Street  
Napa, CA 94558  
(707) 253-3511  
(707) 253-3888 fax  
[www.nvusk12.org](http://www.nvusk12.org)

Joe Schunk, President  
José Hurtado, Vice President  
Francesca Ortiz-Chavez, Clerk  
Jacqueline Chilton

Robb Felder  
Thomas Kensok  
Alan Murray

Patrick J. Sweeney, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

**F4. The NVUSD Transportation Department would not provide the necessary information to determine if AR 3541 requirements are met relative to maximum walking distances.**

- NVUSD has available The Program and Facility Master Plan and Demographic Study which identifies the boundaries for each school. This report allows the Transportation Department to determine if the AR3541 requirements are met.

**F5. A substantial portion of NVUSD transportation funds goes to providing services to SD/OI students. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of the TD 2009/10 budget is expended on nine percent (9%) of the students.**

- NVUSD agrees with the Grand Jury finding.

**F6. The cost to provide transportation services to SD/OI students on a per student basis shows a rising trend.**

- NVUSD agrees with the Grand Jury finding.

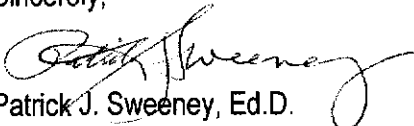
**R1. NVUSD Board of Trustees evaluates and revises the maximum walking distances in AR 3541 to be consistent with current practices and available financial resources.**

- The recommendation has not been implemented, but the District will direct our demographer, as part of our annual enrollment analyses, to prepare reports by school site showing in concentric circles the Board approved walking distances, including a visual plotting of student residences.

**R2. Transportation Department uses computerized routing tools and a graphic information system to determine if current transportation services are efficient and meet the NVUSD regulation with respect to AR 3541.**

- The recommendation requires further analysis. NVUSD transports approximately (1200) students with fourteen (14) Homes to School routes, eighteen (18) SD/OI routes. The number of routes may not require a computerized routing system which is used in large school districts that transport a large number of student's i.e. Los Angeles (66,000) or Fresno (9,500). The Transportation Department uses the following criteria for routing: student safety, walking distance as defined in NVUSD AR 3541, school boundaries and geography, individual education plan (IEP) of the student, school bell times, school calendar, school closures, vehicle capacity and capability. In preparation for the 2012-2013 budget cycles, the district will examine the possibility of conducting a review of our routing practices and consider, depending on available resources, the purchase of routing software.

Sincerely,

  
Patrick J. Sweeney, Ed.D.  
Superintendent