

of  
*Education*

September 5, 2008

The Honorable Raymond A. Guadagni  
Presiding Judge  
Superior Court of the State of California  
County of Napa  
825 Brown Street  
Napa, CA 94559

**FILED**

SEP 11 2008

Clerk of the Napa Superior Court  
By: *C. Brunner*  
Deputy

Barbara C. Nemko, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
(707) 253-6816

Dear Judge Guadagni,

Business Services  
(707) 253-6819

I would like to offer my apology for the lateness of this response from the Napa County Office of Education (NCOE) in regard to the following recommendations provided by the Napa County Grand Jury in its 2007-2008 report of the Calistoga Joint Unified School District.

Fiscal Services  
(707) 253-6833

The Grand Jury recommended that:

General Services  
(707) 253-6828

- A monitoring system be established that educates superintendents, principals and teachers as to the 'restricted use' of the Art and Music Block grants funds and the Art, Music, PE grants funds; and assures the expenditures thereof are spent as per grant restrictions.
- Art and Music Block grant unspent funds be spent on appropriate items as detailed in "intent."

Human Resources  
(707) 253-6824

The request of the Grand Jury that the NCOE respond to these recommendations seems to indicate that it is the NCOE that should establish the monitoring system. We respectfully disagree with this recommendation. While the County Office of Education has AB 1200 fiscal oversight of school districts in the county, the arts funding is a pass through from the State to the county offices. Our role is to distribute the funding to the school districts. Complete information regarding the use of the Art and Music Block grant is provided to all school districts on the California Department of Education's website and through School Services Advisories. Districts are required to submit a summary report directly to the State in order to receive ongoing funding. These reports are reviewed by CDE for appropriate use of funds, and the appropriate use of funds is also reviewed during each district's annual audit. The NCOE is involved only if a district fails to send their report to the State, in which case the State calls us and asks us to notify the district that they will not receive ongoing funds until their report is submitted to Sacramento.

Educational Services  
(707) 253-6810

Court & Community Schools  
(707) 253-6817

Curriculum & Instruction  
(707) 253-6999

Early Childhood Services  
(707) 253-6914

Regional Occupational Program  
(707) 253-6830

The CDE website: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/fo/profile.asp?id=953>, includes a section for frequently asked questions and has an e-mail link to the designated CDE staff responsible for this program (Nancy Carr).

SRLPA  
(707) 253-6807

Special Education Services  
(707) 259-5904

I hope that this clarifies the role of the NCOE in the Art and Music block grant funds. If you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at 253-6823.

Sincerely,

*Barbara Nemko*

Barbara Nemko  
Napa County Superintendent of Schools

Received  
Napa Superior Court

SEP 10 2008

Court Executive Office

cc: William Trautman, Foreperson  
2008-2009 Napa County Grand Jury