

Blochman Union School District

BENJAMIN FOXEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

4949 Foxen Canyon Road
Santa Maria, CA 93454

(805) 937-1148 • FAX (805) 937-2291

Kristin Garrison-Lima, Superintendent

Honorable Arthur A. Garcia
Assistant Presiding Judge
Santa Barbara Superior Court
P.O. Box 5369
Santa Maria, CA 93456-5369

January 29, 2012

Re: Local Government Post Employment Benefits in Santa Barbara County-Complicated and Costly

Dear Judge Garcia,

This is the Blochman Union School District's response to the Grand Jury's request for responses to the above mentioned report.

Recommendation 1

That, no later than January 1, 2012, all local government agencies that belong to multiple-employer pension pools obtain, and for each year thereafter, make publicly available estimates of their individual unfunded actuarial liability from an actuary or plan sponsor.

District's Responses to Recommendation 1

Recommendation 1 will not be implemented at Blochman Union School District because the district does not have this information and is outside the scope of our agencies capacity. BUSD is part of the school's statewide CalPERS and CalSTRS pools, employer contributions are set at the same rate for all school district members of the pool. The unfunded Liability of the state school pools impacts the employer contribution rate. This unfunded liability is made available to the general public annually in both the CalPERS Comprehensive Annual Report and the CalSTRS Comprehensive Annual report.

Recommendation 2a

That no later than January 1, 2012, in the best interest of ratepayers and taxpayers, each government agency that provides healthcare premiums for employees, adopt an implementation plan to reduce these contributions.

District's Response to Recommendation 2a

BUSD has no employees that receive healthcare benefits after retirement. It is the district's current policy to not provide post retirement benefits.

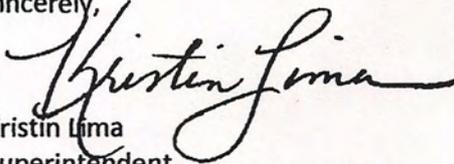
Recommendation 2b

That no later than January 1, 2012 in the best interest of ratepayers and taxpayers, each government agency that provides healthcare premiums for employees, adopt an implementation plan to reduce these contributions.

District's Response to Recommendation 2b

BUSD does have a maximum, or capped healthcare benefit for employees. As with other school districts the amount paid towards the healthcare for employees is a negotiable item and thus difficult to reduce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin Lima". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Kristin Lima
Superintendent

Blochman Union School District