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**AGENCY TRANSMITTAL FORM**

I hereby acknowledge receipt of:

**Lemoore Union High School District**

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This copy is received by:

Print Name:

Debbie Muro

Signature:

Debbie Muro

Title / Position:

Superintendent

Month/Day/Year:

6/6/19

Time: 10:00

Grand Jury Witness:

Karen Ormsby

Grand Jury Witness:

[Signature]

## **LEMOORE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **SUMMARY**

The 2018-2019 Kings County Grand Jury noted that there had not been a visit to the Lemoore Union High School District in about ten years. With the addition of new schools and passage of the school bond (Measure L), the Kings County Grand Jury decided to visit and gain knowledge of the schools within the district. In addition, other aspects including Food Service, Student Services, Bond Expenditures, Finance, Average Daily Attendance and enrollment trends were examined at the schools within the District. The schools of the District are Lemoore High School (LHS), Jamison Continuation High School (JHS), Lemoore Middle College High School (LMCHS), Lemoore Online College Preparatory High School (LOCPHS) and Lemoore Adult School (LAS).

### **BACKGROUND**

The Lemoore Union High School District is located in the culturally diverse community of Lemoore in Kings County. It is primarily agricultural based and serves Lemoore Naval Air Station, Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe and is centrally located near several state prisons. Initially the District was comprised of a comprehensive high school. In subsequent years, a continuation high school and an adult school were added. Rapid growth occurring in the 1970's and 1980's prompted discussion of adding a second comprehensive high school. The idea was set aside when the growth of the district slowed considerably in relation to uncertainty over water deliveries for the agricultural industry, lack of anticipated growth of Lemoore Naval Air Station, and an increasing trend for students to desire alternatives to the traditional comprehensive high school. LUHSD seized the opportunity to form partnerships with West Hills College and establish Lemoore Middle College High School in 2010 and reopen Lemoore Adult School in 2016. Lemoore Online High School was opened in 2017 to serve students desiring a computer based school environment. With the Lemoore/Jamison complex being the fifth largest campus in California, the thought was that there was room to expand at that site.

A general obligation bond, Measure L, was passed in 2016 to provide new data infrastructure, a new academic building, roof repairs, a new well, science building remodel, athletic facilities additions and renovations for Lemoore High School and other buildings within the school district. Painting of the main building and Lemoore Middle College High School was also made possible by the bond passage.

### **METHODOLOGY**

The 2018-2019 Kings County Grand Jury met with the District Superintendent on October 15, 2018 and heard "first hand" about the District. Information shared included information about the overall operation of the District and the progress in updating the schools with funds provided

by the passage of Measure L. Grand Jury members toured the campus of Lemoore High School, Jamison Continuation High School, the athletic facilities and the Middle High School campus at West Hills College as part of the meeting with the superintendent and saw improvements provided by bond money. Members of the Grand Jury later visited each District school campus to have the opportunity to talk with students, teachers and administrators. Interviews and observations on October 15, 2018, December 3, 2018 and January 28, 2019 gave the Grand Jury the opportunity to experience each District school. A review of school handbooks, the Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP), State Department of Education website documentation and web research provided additional information regarding the District schools. Additionally, several Grand Jury members regularly attend District Board Meetings.

## **DISCUSSION**

It was obvious to the Grand Jury that the District Office supports each of the district schools. The District Superintendent has been in the position for many years which provides stability in the overall operation of the District. Lemoore Union High School District was named as an Exemplary District by the California Department of Education in 2019.

### **Measure L (Bond)**

The \$24 million general obligation bond is in the third year of spending. Counting California State funds and developer fees, the total to be expended is \$31,236,164, of which \$12,374,965 has been expended or encumbered for projects. This leaves \$18,861,199 to be spent in future years. The Bond Oversight Committee meets several times a year and has endorsed the District's expenditures to date. Several of the new facilities were visited by the Grand Jury. It is apparent that the planned bond expenditures filled needs of the LUHSD physical plant. Many of the projects are 'visible', as opposed to infrastructures that were inside walls and out of sight. Visited were the stadium refurbishment, the new athletic building and restrooms, the engineering classroom remodel and the agriculture farm classroom.

### **Food Services**

Food is served for breakfast, nutrition break, and lunch at the Lemoore campus and was observed as it was being served to students. It appeared that while LHS is not a 'closed' campus, many of the students chose to have their meals on campus. Regarding the free lunch program, students at LHS are 50% subsidized and 50% pay full price for food. There were four entrees served and a salad bar at lunch. Students could choose to take whatever they wanted which minimized waste of food. Carts were placed during the nutrition break in distant areas from the cafeteria to allow more students to be served. Food service is also provided to LMCHS and Jamison.

### **Business Services**

Upon review of the District's First Interim Report, the District is able to meet the State Reserve for Economic Uncertainties requirement. This is a reduction from the 2017-18 Unaudited Actuals of 39% of Unappropriated, but still is a very healthy 'savings account' to utilize if needed. Budgeted expenses appear to be in line with prior years. The Multi-year Projection was not reviewed, but given the ADA stability, it is anticipated that LUHSD will be solvent in future years.

## **Transportation**

The Transportation Department coordinates bus transportation not only for LUHSD but also with Lemoore Elementary School District, Central Elementary School District and Island School District. The District is to be commended in developing this shared bus system which saves money for all districts and affords the opportunity for the purchase of additional equipment as needed.

## **Curriculum and Instruction**

It is the responsibility of the District to ensure that all curriculum offered by the District comply with State of California and Federal guidelines. It is the responsibility of the Director of Curriculum and Instruction to have State approval for all classes which meet the University of California and/or California State University entrance requirements. Although not currently a requirement, Career Technical Education courses also meet any industry standards not covered under the California Board of Education.

Edgenuity Courseware has been selected as the platform for curriculum at LUHSD schools. This company, in existence since 1998, has achieved Corporate Systems Accreditation with Supplemental Digital Learning and is approved by most states including California. Edgenuity partners with schools and districts to bring world-class learning experience to classrooms of any size using cutting-edge digital tools and research-based instructional strategies. Coursework can be delivered online or through more traditional methods. A vast array of coursework is available enabling students to earn credits for high school graduation as well as career and/or college courses.

## **District Enrollment**

LUHSD has been stable in student population with little steady growth. Over the past three years the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) has been 2,074 in 2016-2017, 2,078 in 2017-2018 and projected to be 2,082 in 2018-2019. This stability of ADA indicates that the unrestricted funding for the District will remain in a growth mode providing consistent funding for educational programs.

## **Student Services**

Services provided under the general umbrella of Student Services are: School library which is located on the campus of LHS and is open before school, at nutrition break and lunch. Computers are also available for student use. The Bookkeeper located on the campus of LHS assists with student insurance, student body cards, lunch cards and payment of any student bills. The Career Center and Guidance Center are also located on the campus of LHS. The Career Technician assists students with information on careers, work permits, financial aid, scholarships, colleges and vocational schools, plus the SAT and ACT. The Career Center sponsors many programs such as military recruitment, college presentations including College Night, Senior Exit Interviews, and Senior Awards Night. Students are assigned to Guidance Counselors who provide assistance with academic planning as well as with personal problems. The Health Services staff consists of two school psychologists, a Registered Nurse (RN), a Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), and a social worker. They have established hours on both the LHS campus and the Middle College High School campus at West Hills College. Jamison High students can receive health services at the LHS Health Services Office. The school nurses are

available as needed during regular school hours for emergencies or medication administration. They assist with medical needs that are a part of a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) or any other identified need.

The District is able to bill Medi-Cal for basic health screenings and services given to all students. Referral services for mental health, substance abuse, pregnancy, or other issues are available through the office. The Kings County Health Officer provides medical oversight to registered nurses employed as school nurses. Kings County Mental Health Department assists with the mental health issues. Classes related to mental health including substance abuse are held at the multipurpose room of Jamison High School.

## **LEMOORE HIGH SCHOOL**

### **DISCUSSION**

“Lemoore High School (LHS) is the cornerstone of the community. The school is committed to providing all of the students an exemplary education leading to college entrance and/or career paths which foster economic independence as well as social and civic responsibilities in the twenty-first century” is the mission statement of LHS .

The administration consists of the Principal and three Assistant Principals. The Assistant Principals are each assigned to lead an academic team of Curriculum and Instruction, Tradition and School Climate and Testing and Special Education Services. A psychologist, school counselor and other relevant personnel are also assigned to each team. The fourth team is the Athletic Director and staff.

The Counseling Services offers a wealth of information and guides students in planning their education for their four years at LHS. There are interest areas (called industry sectors) from which to choose. These are: Agriculture and Natural Resources; Arts, Media and Entertainment; Business and Finance; Education, Child Development and Family Services; Health Science and Medical Technology; Engineering and Design; Public Services; and Hospitality, Tourism and Recreation. Each sector leads to entry level employment and/or higher education depending on the student's interests.

The school offers a number of additional programs such as Academic Decathlon, Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp (NJROTC), Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) and Migrant Education. There are also more than 200 students classified as needing special education attending LHS with needed services provided. The athletic program is well rounded with a number of varsity sports from which to choose.

## **DONALD C. JAMISON HIGH SCHOOL**

### **DISCUSSION**

The mission of Donald C. Jamison High School (Jamison High School) “is to provide a quality education for students needing an alternative to a traditional high school setting”. The objective of the school is to provide additional options in the event a student cannot be successful at Lemoore High School.

Jamison High School operates efficiently in the area of credit recovery through the use of Edgenuity curriculum and helps students in their efforts to earn credits to either return to Lemoore High School or to earn their high school diploma from Jamison. The school offers coursework in restaurant and printing skills, business management, multi-media and offers workability classes through the Kings County Office of Education. The school has established links with local businesses and other entities such as beauty colleges, technology firms, and military recruiters. There are also life skills classes offered to help students solve problems.

The staff at Jamison High School consists of a Principal, six teachers, one part-time special education teacher and a counselor. The support staff includes a part-time registrar, attendance secretary and the administrative secretary.

During the classroom observations, teachers were utilizing varying strategies to reach all students with the result that the students were engaged in the learning process. In many cases, student participation drove interest as demonstrated in the Graphics Arts Class. In another instance with the topic of drug intervention education, the students were learning by designing and developing various posters that would be placed in other classes as a source of information. The teaching staff was most eager to share their passion and vision for student future success.

On the day of the observation a foggy day schedule had been called. When members of the Grand Jury arrived at the normal starting time for class to begin, several students were turned away and told classes would begin at 9:30. The Administration was asked about this situation and corrective action was taken to coincide with policy.

## **LEMOORE MIDDLE COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL**

### **DISCUSSION**

Lemoore Middle College High School (LMCHS) is a collaborative effort between Lemoore Union High School District and West Hills College Lemoore. Initially established through grant funding in 2005, the school was converted to a dependent charter school in 2010. “The mission is to provide an accelerated college preparatory education with a specific focus on concurrent college coursework embedded into the regular school day. The program is designed to provide challenging and meaningful learning experiences for students in a nontraditional setting on the

West Hills College Lemoore campus” as stated in the LMCHS website. The school is housed in portable structures, some owned by the college and some by the District. A permanent campus is in the planning stages and will be completed along with the expansion project at West Hills College Lemoore. Students have full access to the college facilities including library, student union and career center. Students in grades 9-12 have the opportunity to not only earn a high school diploma that meets university entrance requirements, but to take West Hills College courses as well and earn an Associate Degree. College Guidance Counselors are also available to help students prepare for transferring to a 4-year university.

During classroom visitations it was observed that not only were the students engaged and active in the curriculum being delivered, but the teachers were also excited to be able to deliver the curriculum to them. The connection between students and teachers was evident which provided for a positive learning environment and atmosphere. Students are involved in the academic decathlon and have won many awards in both state and national championships.

During the campus visit several students spoke highly of the different programs that were offered at LMCHS such as Journalism, Video Production, Girl Up and Interact Clubs. They also spoke of the student interest in being involved in varsity sports at Lemoore High School. At this time the school administration and school board are moving forward with this request. The students repetitively reinforced the fact that LMCHS has developed their skills in organizing, planning and being part of a team which ultimately has made them more confident as they look toward pursuing their future undergraduate degree in the years following their high school careers. Over 60 percent of the student body hold 3.0 grade point averages or higher and the average number of college credit hours earned at graduation by the students are 20 semester hours.

## **LEMOORE ONLINE COLLEGE PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL**

### **DISCUSSION**

Lemoore Online College Preparatory High School (Lemoore Online) is a dependent charter school designed for students who are interested in a virtual classroom experience in which they are in control of their school schedule. Lemoore Online is located on the West Hills College Lemoore (WHCL) campus and is a part of the LMCHS site. Students have access to enroll in college courses and take advantage of the opportunities and services available at WHCL for all students. The LMCHS Principal is also the Principal at Lemoore Online. Staff consists of the Dean and two part-time employees.

Edgenuity is utilized as the online curriculum. The programs are user friendly. The tutors are available by appointment. Students must make a physical appearance every ten days with attendance taken by the student logging on between 8am and 3pm Monday through Friday for a minimum of five minutes. The parent or guardian is notified if a total of 30 hours per week is not completed.

Testing is progressive. The student can take the tests online or in person. When taking the tests online the parent or guardian vouches that it is in fact the student prior to the test being administered. Testing patterns are monitored to assure student progress or if cheating has occurred.

Students in grades 9 thru 12 receive the school's attention to their unique learning style, providing curriculum and counseling services that prepare the student for a rigorous post-secondary education. Students have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma that prepares them for a career, or one that meets the University of California and/or California State University entrance requirements.

Lemoore Online is currently in its second year of existence, beginning in the fall of 2017. They had 35 students at the time of the Grand Jury visit. Students from Kings, Tulare and Fresno Counties are currently enrolled.

## **LEMOORE ADULT SCHOOL**

### **DISCUSSION**

Lemoore Adult School initially opened July 1, 1993 to offer Adult Basic Education and a few other classes such as computer skills. The school closed July 1, 2010 as a result of a lack of State funds related to the recession. The school reopened on August 15, 2016 on the Jamison High School campus made possible by funding from a California Adult Education Grant. Funds are distributed from the West Hills College Adult Education Consortium. The Principal at Jamison High School also serves as the administrator for Lemoore Adult School.

The main focus of the school is to help those 18 or older obtain their high school diploma. Classes in English (Monday), History (Tuesday), Science (Wednesday), and Math (Thursday) are held from 3:30 to 5:30 pm. Classes are free and limited to 40 students who must be present to receive credit. Edgenuity is the curriculum used for the content the student needs to achieve. A credentialed teacher in that subject matter conducts the class and assists as needed. Interestingly, English is the largest class and math is the smallest, possibly related to the higher number of immigrants needing English for their diploma. A counselor from West Hills College visits the campus to encourage and advise those who may be interested in continuing their education. Occasionally, the school offers short classes such as food handling so students can receive the applicable certificate for jobs in that industry. There is a fee associated with these special classes.

Grand Jurors attended the class on a Thursday. The students attending this class were independently working on packets containing the specific math content they needed. The teacher was available to answer questions. The students expressed their gratitude on having this opportunity to complete their education.



## **FINDINGS**

### **Finding 1**

The school district has a well developed plan of action for managing and spending the Measure L money. The oversight committee appears to be accepting its responsibility well.

### **Recommendation 1**

Continue with the current plan of action in managing the Measure L money.

### **Finding 2**

Few districts have the longevity of a District Superintendent and staff as does the Lemoore High School District. The commitment to the school is to be commended.

### **Recommendation 2**

None

### **Finding 3**

The District has worked to develop a curriculum that meets the educational needs of the students by offering a variety of school settings as well as classes that prepare graduates to pursue higher education or begin their careers.

### **Recommendation 3**

Keep working to offer educational opportunities which meet the needs of the students of the district.

### **Finding 4**

The commitment to the architectural history of the Lemoore High School campus is admired by the area population.

### **Recommendation 4**

Continue the tradition of keeping the appearance of Lemoore High School as it was built.

## **REQUIRED RESPONSES**

Pursuant to Penal Code sections 933 (c), provides in part: "Within 90 days of receipt of a report the public agency shall submit its response to the presiding judge. If the report is on an elected public official, the response shall be submitted to the presiding judge within 60 days of receipt..."

None

## **INVITED RESPONSES**

Lemoore Union High School District Board of Trustees

Lemoore Union High School District Superintendent

## **SEND FINAL REPORT RESPONSES TO:**

Original to:  
Donna Tarter Presiding Judge  
Kings County Superior Court  
1640 Kings Court Drive  
Hanford CA 93230

Copy to:  
Kings County Grand Jury  
Post Office Box 1562  
Hanford, CA 93232