Report to Grand Jury from Pope Valley School

May 2009

e Napa Superior Court

The Pope Valley School Board, superintendent and staff would like to than members of the Grand Jury who took time to visit Pope Valley School and to listen attentively and sympathetically to the day-to-day challenges of running small, rural school district.

Recommendation One:

The Grand Jury recommends that the Pope Valley Board of Trustees develop a long-term financial plan to cover a budgetary shortfall in the event that property tax revenue begins to subside over the next few years.

Response One:

Most of the expenses of the Pope Valley School District are personnel expenses. At the Board Retreat this summer, the Board of Trustees will consider ways to reduce personnel expenditure. The Board will make every effort to cut expenses in a way that has the least impact on the students in the classrooms.

Recommendation 2:

The Grand Jury recommends that the Pope Valley Board of Trustees continue to build reserves to cover the narrowing gap between decreasing revenue and increasing expenses.

Response 2:

The Board of Trustees will consider ways to continue to build our reserves, while continuing to provide the materials and supplies necessary for an up-to-date education for our students.

Recommendation 3:

The Grand Jury recommends that the Pope Valley Board of Trustees investigate a way to procure funding for a much needed multi-purpose room to be used for kitchen/cafeteria; rainy or hot day physical education; art and after-school activities; and an area that can be used by the community during off-school hours.

Response 3:

The Pope Valley Board of Trustees plans to hold a Board Retreat this summer to work on long-term strategic planning for the district. One of the agenda items will be ways to procure funding for a multi-purpose room.

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Recommendation 4

Pope Valley Union Elementary School District install "Columbine" type locks on all classrooms immediately.

Response 4:

We hope to bring quotations, from companies who could install "Columbine" locks, to the June Board of Trustees meeting, and will have the installation done over the summer vacation, in preparation for the 2009-2010 school year.

Christopher Thompson Signature School Board President: Signature: Vice President: Paul Kimsey School Board Member: Mike Damonte Signature: Signature: Susan Hagar School Board Member: Signature School Board Member: Katie Gonzalez Signature: Florence Superintendent/Principal Florence Eaton