Vallejo City Unified School District (VCUSD) School Closure Decision
2009-2010 Grand Jury Report

This report is being initiated by the Solano County Grand Jury in response to the numerous letters to the editor and accusations about the VCUSD Board, Staff, Superintendent and State Administrator as printed in a local newspaper.

BACKGROUND FACTS

When the Grand Jury considered investigating the matter of the school closure issue, the main concern was whether this was the only solution to what appeared to be a systemic and continuing problem within the District. The Grand Jury decided that this report should be written for public informational purposes only and should include no findings and no recommendations.

There has been talk of school closures in Vallejo in the past. The school district declared bankruptcy in 2004. At that time, a State Administrator was assigned to run the VCUSD until they were fiscally solvent. With attendance declining, State funding would be reduced. Difficult decisions were needed in order to meet present and future operating costs, which would include how to repay the $60 million State loan.

Schools

There are 23 schools in the system:

- 16 K-5, 4 Middle Schools (MS)
- 3 High Schools (HS)
- One continuation high school
- One community day school
- One home teaching support program
- Adult School and Preschool Programs for families who qualify

Students

The VCUSD student population is diverse, both ethnically and socio-economically and reflects the State's population.

- 16,500 students in K-12
- Over 2000 adult school attendees
- 400 3-4 year olds in preschool programs

Staffing

VCUSD is one of Vallejo's largest employers.

- 1600 full and part-time certificated teachers
- 550 full and part-time classified employees, which include secretaries, administrative, maintenance, bus drivers, classroom aides, and lunch supervisors
- Approximately 100 certificated administrators, principals, assistant principals, reform coordinators, psychologists, program specialists and District Office managers