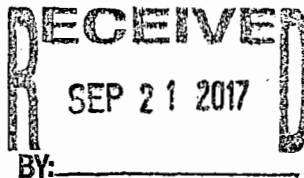




Office of the District Attorney Stanislaus County

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney



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Marlisa Ferreira

Bureau of Investigation
Lt. David Hutchinson
Lt. Froilan Mariscal

September 15, 2017

Superintendent and Board of Trustees
Sylvan Union School District
605 Sylvan Avenue
Modesto CA 95350

Dear Superintendent and members of the Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to give a brief update on the Focusing on Children Under Stress (FOCUS) program. This innovative, simple and no-cost approach opens up the lines of communication between law enforcement agencies/first responders and the schools in order to ensure that school administrators and teachers receive notice if a child has experienced a traumatic experience which may impact his or her performance in school. Equipped with advance notice, the school is able to keep a watchful eye over the student in order to better respond if any issues arise.

I think you will agree that our county has much to be proud of when it comes to collaborative approaches that seek to provide better services and outcomes to our residents—in particular, our children. FOCUS is a wonderful example. Please consider posting a link on your website to the video that we showed during our presentation—and perhaps even send out a notice to parents to advise them of the program and encourage them to view the video. You can find the video at the FOCUS website along with additional information: www.focuscalifornia.org

Once again, we greatly appreciate the opportunity to have shared FOCUS with you. Please don't hesitate to contact any of us if you have any questions or would like to schedule future presentations.

Sincerely,

Birgit Fladager
District Attorney

George Papadopoulos
Criminal Investigator

Scott Kuykendall
Asst. Superintendent, SCOE

Maribel Garcia
Deputy Probation Officer

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