

Time for action

from: Mary Divin <mfdivin@gmail.com>
to: BOD@trivalleylearning.org
date: Fri, Apr 22, 2016 at 9:47 AM

Board of Directors,

It is clear that TVLC is facing some serious allegations. TVLC's past budgetary problems, recent issues with on-time teacher pay, and alleged conflicts of interest all paint a picture of an immediate financial problem for TVLC and their schools. I am worried about the long-term stability of our schools and the future prospects for our students should TVLC prove unable to effectively manage our independent charters. Your stakeholders require that you acknowledge there is a problem and quickly formulate a plan for recovery. As a TVLC stakeholder and an LVCS parent, I ask the following of the board:

1. I must stress the action outlined on the NJESD notice of violation: end current relationships with the former TVLC CEO, as well as those that supported his questionable actions.
2. I demand that TVLC moves forward with the search for a new CEO. I fail to understand why we had gone so long without even a formal job description for this position. TVLC is now on its second interim CEO, and it is time to move forward with an official replacement. I ask for the next meeting's agenda to contain actions items outlining and approving the future steps leading to the eventual hiring of a new CEO.
3. I ask that the next meeting's agenda contain an action item on the review and decision on Tristan Pico's at large board member application. I wish to extend my personal immense support for Ms. Pico, and it is clear the community at large supports her placement on the board. Ms. Pico is passionate about our schools and our students, and the board could not ask for a better representative.
4. I ask that you amend the bylaws in order for school councils to be able to accept new members as spaces become available and not be limited to their appointment in the fall of every year.
5. Given the recent question about on-time LVCS faculty payment, TVLC's ability to retain quality teachers is now highly questionable. I am worried that TVLC's actions will jeopardize teacher retention and threaten the future of our schools. If we don't have quality teachers, and

quality specialists, this will negatively affect school morale, student retention, and future student enrollment. Your stakeholders and the public demand up-to-date information on our finances and financial reserve; at this turbulent time, silence or claimed ignorance is not acceptable. I have to insist that provisions are put in place and a financial reserve is maintained so that our teachers and faculty are never again put in a position where they have to question if they will be paid.

It is clear that changes need to be made, I ask that these matters be handled effectively and rapidly. The community questions our leadership, teachers are concerned over the stability of their paychecks, and families are scared about our schools' futures. It is time to act.

Sincerely,
Mary Divin
LVCS parent