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**Subject:** New Jerusalem Approved the NOV

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Dear Volunteers,

New Jerusalem School District approved the NOV Dated 4/7/16 for TVLC/Acacia. This started a path toward possible revocation of the TVLC charters for Acacia Schools. TVLC has a month to respond.

Have you noticed that the often vocal "Friends of TVLC" on Facebook have been restrained in their response? Have you noticed the media has been restrained in their response? Have you noticed that with the exception of a few emails you've received the parent community is restrained in their response? It does not go without saying that it is unexpected that this group, each of YOU, has gone without a response. Not a peep to say "Dear Parents, we want to inform you of things that will affect your school if not resolved." Not a word.

Why is this the case? You have known about this? In general the parents have not. Our kids have no clue the peril that our schools are in. They are happily in the hands of those we trust to be certified to teach. Are the teachers also unaware? Are you waiting until the news breaks so that you can have a press conference and tell us all's well?

Your community is uncharacteristically quiet. That is not because we are unaware. It is not because we aren't planning to look at alternatives as contingencies to protect the education of our kids. Its not because we aren't worried at which point the shoe will drop with our larger authorizer or the state of California or some law enforcement agency. It is not because we think that it's ok to just continue as is. It is because we have wanted to trust you. We want to hear from you, but you placate us. Please don't tell us not to be worried. Please don't tell us there is no crisis. Please don't tell us that things are turning around. Tell us the real truth and trust that we want to know.

One day some time ago one of your current board members told me that parents don't care about what goes on at the board level. That leader told me that parents just want to take their kids to school, pick their kids up, help their kids with homework and don't care about what is going on with TVLC. Is that what you all feel? I don't feel that way. None of the scores of families I've talked with recently along the way feel that way. But here one of your current board members does.

When a friend, a fellow parent or even a grandparent tells us to trust them, we want to. We want to trust that they, that people in general, will honor not only the word of a governing document but the fundamental principals by which our charter schools, including that document, were formed. We want to trust that the collective conscience of our community is considered: that of the parents who first envisioned a charter petition for these schools and those who are here now and those who have come and gone along the way. But because they don't get involved in every aspect of our governance is not to say that they don't care. They trust. We trust. We want to trust. Who wants to govern governing board that is supposed to be governing itself and others? Who would think they actually had to do so?

What happens when actions are taken that are incongruent with the trust that parents have...and in this case, the public trust?

We trusted and now we are here. Now it is on each of you. Because parents do not show up, is not that they do not care. They care so much that they keep trusting. They keep bingo their kids to our schools. They keep trusting YOU. Please do not sit in your advisory and decision making roles and allow four schools that touch the lives, the minds and hearts of the very social future we have in both Stockton and Livermore...without taking action and making a decision...and not without doing so such that all the parents and teachers know.

On Monday, LVCP Site Council, you will get a lesson in the bylaws. I challenge you to use the other life lessons that you have learned. The ones that show that your critical thinking selves INDIVIDUALLY know when enough is enough...or maybe too much. If someone tells you that the Site Council is only an advisory committee, advise them with your vote that you have a right to call for and a right to exercise. If you do not, then so be it for the fate of our schools.

Its another day behind us all. What is ahead? What is the fate of LVCS and LVCP and AECS and AMCS?

Dick Corso

