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## MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

*For immediate release*

# District continues ‘oversight’ role with Acacias

STOCKTON – Tuesday afternoon, the San Joaquin County Superior Court granted a temporary restraining order against the New Jerusalem Elementary School District, Superintendent David Thoming, and any staff member working in an oversight capacity for the district, which in effect allows Stockton’s Acacia Elementary Charter School and Acacia Middle Charter School to receive funding even after the NJESD Board of Trustees voted to revoke both charter schools on Friday, July 29.

“Sadly, now that the judge has made this decision, more tax payer dollars are at risk of being negligently misspent,” said David Thoming, NJESD superintendent.

One of the myriad of issues forcing the NJESD Board to revoke the charter schools was financial mismanagement, including a huge debt with additional financial obligations on the horizon.

Both Acacia schools, managed by Livermore-based Tri-Valley Learning Corporation under the direction of interim Chief Executive Officer Lynn Lysko, have filed appeals with the San Joaquin County Office of Education, per California Education Code, to overturn the NJESD Board’s decision last month. If SJCOE upholds the NJESD Board’s decision, TVLC can appeal to the California State Board of Education.

In the meantime, even though there is a temporary restraining order, NJESD, per Education Code, is still the authorizing district of the Acacia charter schools.

“We will continue to provide vigorous oversight which is expressly called for in state law,” added Thoming, who today advised a California State Senate committee on districts authorizing of charter schools. “The assertion (from a TVLC media release) that somehow the judge ordered the district to ‘cease interfering with the operation of Acacia charter’ schools is patently false, misleading, and we look forward to sharing that statement with the judge. Clearly TVLC has taken the judge’s decision and rewritten a fictional tale which in no way reflects her decision.”

Thoming stated that the district will observe the appeals process and looks forward to sharing with SJCOE the grave level of financial mismanagement TVLC has engaged in for the past year. SJCOE’s Board meets on Wednesday, August 17, at 5 p.m.

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