

**NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM ISSUE PAPER:
LEARNING COMMUNITY WASTE ROLLS ON UNABATED.**

BACKGROUND. The 2020 session of the Legislature did nothing to stop the juggernaut of wild and wasteful spending by the Learning Community (LC). Fueled by our tax dollars and state revenue, LC board members continue to spend tax money on programs and initiatives that do nothing to substantially improve the academic achievement of minority and poor children. The LC does not rely on proved curricula available for regular public schools but squanders tax monies on programs and gimmicks that appear trendy but have no permanent reliability for success.

TWO EXAMPLES. The LC intends to spend additional funding on the Greater Omaha Attendance and Learning Center (GOALS). From Dec. 2019 through March, 2020, GOALS served only 119 students who were missing school. But only 79 of the students passed through this program, which boasted only a 71% success rate at convincing youth to attend class. Only 22 kids much improved their attendance. Only 63% of public school staff members believed GOALS programs satisfactory in a GOALS survey. Also, the LC in May, 2020 splurged \$10,285.90 on diapers and baby formula, apparently for its early childhood education program.

PARENT UNIVERSITY. Not content with squandering money on kids, the LC also boasts a yearly budget of \$1,516,444 to fund Parent University, a splurge that instructs parents how to raise, feed, and educate their children. FY 2020-2021 expenses include \$162,417 for its programs, such as \$10,200 for child care, \$25,538 for meals, and \$17,675 for transportation. Administrative costs of \$1,099,971 include \$172,000 for navigators to tell parents how to manage their households, \$86,000 for family liaisons to do likewise, \$32,760 for a food coordinator for meals served, \$7,650 for advertising this program, and \$510 for a website.

MORE TAX \$\$ WASTED.

DATE	VENDOR	SERVICE	AMOUNT
4-30-20	One World Community Health Centers	Medical services	\$4,642
5-11-20	Two Men & a Truck	Diaper & formula transport	\$294.50
5-12-20	Carroll Communications	Planning	\$5,231
5-12-20	OP\$	Coaching	\$55,182
5-17-20	Carroll Communications	Planning	\$299.97
5-31-20	Completely Kids	Activities	\$2,763
5-31-20	NE Early Childhood Collaborative	Training	\$1,150
5-31-20	One World Community Health Centers	Child care	\$989.76
6-1-20	Omaha Chamber of Commerce	Membership dues	\$360
6-1-20	Surreal Media Lab	Social media	\$2,650
6-8-20	City of Omaha	Part-time librarian	\$3,756
6-15-20	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Evaluations of programs	\$18,666
6-15-20	UNMC	Evaluations of programs	\$35,760

TAKE ACTION NOW. As we repeatedly have urged, the only method to eliminate this worthless bureaucracy that misuses tax monies without substantially helping children academically is to lobby diligently our state senators. This flagrant waste will continue until taxpayers act. Learn how to lobby senators the correct way and receive their contact information by emailing netaxpayers@gmail.com.

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