

**NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM ISSUE PAPER:
LEARNING COMMUNITY DESERVES DISSOLUTION.**

BACKGROUND. The Learning Community (LC) continues its relentless progress more as a welfare and entertainment agency than an educational institution. Every LC public report boasts about the satisfaction showed by its instructors, staff, and students, how its new programs received with rave reviews by the entire LC community. It brags continually about its plans and program evaluations. However, all of these congratulatory plaudits ignore the basic objective of the LC, educating children, so that they will enter regular public school classrooms at the same academic level as their peers. For years, the LC has not publicized the increased academic achievement of its pupils, because there is no progress here. The LC continues to waste taxpayer dollars without showing proportionate, expected academic results. The Legislature should terminate this worthless educational bureaucracy.

TAX DOLLARS MISSPENT

DATE	VENDOR	SERVICE	AMOUNT
8-1-23	Buffet Early Childhood Institute	Aug. superintendent plan evaluation	\$71,095
8-23-23	NE Association of School Boards	Meeting	\$110
8-25-23	Bounce Ninja	Playtime	\$738
8-29-23	Bounce Ninja	Playtime	\$100
8-31-23	Completely Kids	August contract	\$7,742
8-31-23	Culligan	Coolers	\$150
9-1-23	Emspace	Accounting, consulting, media	\$2,683
9-1-23	HyVee	Parent U. meals	\$364.55
9-1-23	InfiNet Solutions	Computer consultation	\$3,214
9-1-23	Dalicia Taco Truck	Tacos	\$944
9-5-23	Buffet Early Childhood Institute	August monthly program	\$195,462
9-5-23	Peopleready	Parent U. childcare workers	\$551
9-8-23	Panera Bread Co.	Meals	\$412
9-12-23	Little Caesar's	Meals	\$86.77
9-12-23	City of Omaha	Payroll work	\$3,503
9-12-23	Peopleready	Parent U. childcare workers	\$441
9-14-23	PINC	Interpreters & translation	\$206
9-15-23	Jensen Rogert Assoc.	Lobbying	\$2,500
9-17-23	Control Yours	Membership fee	\$192.50
9-19-23	Peopleready	Parent U. childcare workers	\$1,653
9-22-23	PINC	Interpreters & translation	\$206
9-26-23	Little Caesar's	Meals	\$146
9-27-23	Little Caesar's	Meals	\$39.74
9-27-23	InfiNet Solutions	Computer consultation	\$1,040

FINANCIALLY RECKLESS. The LC has kitchen and dining areas on its premises, yet it continues to lavish taxpayer \$ on restaurant meals. Free dinners for Parent U. with child care. Expanded Parent U. classes. It wastes funds on expressive art group therapy for kids, a vocal group for Spanish-speaking student moms, common sense parenting, individual therapy sessions for families, and farm to school programming. \$90,000 spent on community relations, \$36,000 on lobbying, \$141,500 expended on childcare director training, and a bloated \$4,200 on dues and memberships in outside organizations, overspending on this category by \$1,775. On Aug. 1, 2023, the LC credit card report showed an unpaid balance of \$17,891. By 9-30-23, this unpaid balance showed \$8,863. In the Oct. display of reports on its website, the LC showed several reports lauding the LC for the positive feedback gleaned from staff, students, and families. However, this 182-page long list showed no evidence, statistical or otherwise, of improved or higher student academic achievement.

ADDITIONAL LC SCANDALS. An LC manager now accused of a conflict of interest by receiving LC funds for her private business, against LC internal policies. Purchases made with the LC employee purchase card for holiday gifts and greeting cards. Furthermore, the LC exceeded its budgeted disbursement in its General Fund by over \$38,000, and the LC Coordinating Council and Administration exceeded their budgets by over \$3,000.

TAKE ACTION NOW. Since its inception, the LC has failed in its mission to increase academic achievement among minority and poor children. It has failed miserably in this mission, as it has continually failed to show boosted academic achievement that would prepare its charges for upward mobility in regular public school classroom settings. The LC has had more than enough years to prove itself a worthy bureaucracy and has completely failed. Existing public schools easily can assume its stated mission. Using the above content, contact your state senator to defund and legally eliminate the worthless Learning Community. Email netaxpayers@gmail.com for state senator contact information and join our NTF *Learning Community Project*.

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