

NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM ISSUE PAPER.**LEARNING COMMUNITY CONTINUES TO WASTE TAX \$\$ WITH NO ACADEMIC BOOST.**

BACKGROUND. Another year has begun, and the Learning Community (LC) still has not provided taxpayers who support the LC with valid statistical information that proves that its young students have boosted their academic achievement levels. Close scrutiny will show that academic achievement levels are poor. Instead, the LC boasts about its nurturing activities for the children and how much the parents, who also receive services, appreciate the LC activities. If one examines these activities and programs, one quickly will realize that they resemble babysitting and playtime activities, coupled with welfare services, more than they resemble academic curricula. This useless taxing bureaucracy deserves termination for not producing academic results from our tax \$\$.

TAX \$\$ WASTED

DATE	VENDOR	SERVICE	AMOUNT
9-1-23	Delicia Taco Truck	Meals	\$944
7-27-23	Watts Creates	Love & Strength Class	\$1,025
9-8-23	Panera Bread Co.	Meals	\$412
9-12-23	Little Caesars	Meals	\$86.77
9-25-23	UNMC	Oct. program evaluation	\$37,339
9-26-23	Little Caesars	Meals	\$146
9-29-23	PINC	Interpreting & translation	\$206.25
9-30-23	Completely Kids	Sept. contract	\$11,369
9-30-23	Culligan	Water coolers	\$150
10-1-23	InfiNet Solutions	Computer consultation	\$2,533
10-2-23	Emspace	Consultation & media outreach	\$15,285
10-2-23	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Sept. programming	\$196,061
10-9-23	UNMC	Sept. program evaluation	\$37,339
10-10-23	Bakers	Parent U. groceries	\$66.64
10-11-23	HyVee	Parent U. food & gas	\$716.55
10-12-23	City of Omaha	Payroll	\$4,007
10-15-23	Control Yours	Membership fee	\$192.50
10-15-23	Jensen Rogert Assoc.	Lobbying	\$2,541
10-17-23	Peopleready	Parent U. child care	\$1,819
10-19-23	OPS	Instructional coaches	\$11,728
10-24-23	Peopleready	Parent U. child care	\$1,874
10-30-23	Peopleready	Parent U. child care	\$661
10-30-23	Eide Bailly	Accounting services	\$7,756
10-31-23	Peopleready	Parent U. child care	\$1,764
10-31-23	Culligan	Cooler	\$85
10-31-23	Completely Kids	Oct. contract	\$3,280
10-31-23	PINC	Interpreting services	\$825
11-1-23	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Superintendent plan evaluation	\$10,532
11-1-23	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Oct. program payment	\$161,564
11-1-23	Emspace	Media outreach, website	\$15,825
11-1-23	InfiNet Solutions	Computer consultation	\$2,523
11-7-23	Bakers	Groceries for P. U. families	\$29.67
11-7-23	Peopleready	Childcare workers	\$1,764
11-10-23	HyVee	Parent U. food & gas	\$683
11-14-23	Peopleready	Childcare workers	\$1,764
11-13-23	UNMC	Oct. program evaluation	\$37,339
11-15-23	Jensen Rogert Assoc.	Lobbying	\$2,541

11-17-23	Control Yours	Membership fee	\$192.50
11-17-23	Royal Awards	Awards for board members	\$72.45
11-28-23	InfiNet Solutions	Computer consultation	\$2,561
11-30-23	PINC	Interpreter services	\$206.25
11-30-23	Culligan	Coolers	\$150
12-1-23	InfiNet Solutions	Dec. computer consultation	\$2,540
12-1-23	UNMC	Nov. program evaluation	\$37,339
12-1-23	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Nov. program payment	\$147,287
12-1-23	Buffett Early Childhood Institute	Nov. superintendent plan evaluation	\$8,332
12-4-23	City of Omaha	Payroll	\$3,569
12-5-23	Bakers	Groceries for P.U. families	\$277.83
12-5-23	Peopleready	P.U. childcare workers	\$1,102
12-11-23	HyVee	Parent U. food & gas	\$460.31
12-11-23	HyVee	Retirement breakfasts	\$122.29
12-11-23	Little Caesars	Meals	\$67
12-14-23	Emspace	Media outreach, website	\$18,418
12-15-23	100 Black Men of Omaha	Membership	\$200
12-15-23	Jensen Rogert Assoc.	Lobbying	\$2,742
12-17-23	Control Yours	Membership fee	\$192.50

FINANCIAL MISMANAGEMENT. On Nov. 1, 2023, the LC credit card balance stood at -\$4,264.99; on Nov. 30, the negative balance reached -\$5,135.83. By Dec. 31, 2023, the negative balance had dipped to -\$10,943.97. \$145 for Lyft rides though the LC has vans. \$94.63 splurged at Mexican restaurants in addition to meals at restaurants listed above. \$605 spent on LC advertising Sept.-Nov. 2023. Although the LC mission is to educate kids, \$1,585,324 spent on Parent University. \$141,500 spent on Child Care Director training. \$162,000 spent on community relations and \$33,000 earmarked for lobbying. Dollars for game night with parents. 298 families referred to welfare services by staff. The LC pays for outside professional assistance, though it should have permanent staff to handle these responsibilities.

ACADEMIC DISAPPOINTMENT. The 2022-2023 LC Annual Evaluation portrayed poor academic results. Only 12% of LC students pegged above average for student initiative, only 18% of students above average for self-control. For vocabulary scores, 15% above average, 51% below average. Only 55% evidenced mastery of letters; only 45% demonstrated mastery of numbers. Only 13%-15% of students above average in language skills. All students fell below average in math concepts and application and applied problems. In math, only 27% of pupils above average, 24% below average. On the NE State Assessment Math Test, only 3% reached advanced math status, only 10% on track. In reading, only 24% above average, 32% below average. Only 58% of LC kids attending OPS missed fewer than 10 days of school.

TAKE ACTION NOW. The LC administration and board continue to waste taxpayer \$\$ on non-basic services and act more like a welfare agency system than an educational one, recklessly spending tax \$\$. The LC continues to provide no evidence of remedial or regular academic effort that would prepare its enrolled children to advance academically in regular public school classrooms. Therefore, the only solution is to eliminate this bureaucracy through state legislative effort, because local education and other officials refuse to expose the LC worthlessness. Urge your state senator to repeal the statute for the LC and defund it completely. Email netaxpayers@gmail.com for state senator contact information and join our NTF *Learning Community Watch* project.

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