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NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM ISSUE PAPER:
DEMAND TERMINATION OF THE WORTHLESS LEARNING COMMUNITY.

BACKGROUND. It is an incontrovertible fact that the Learning Community (LC) never has achieved its stated objective of boosting academic achievement for its students, despite its pronouncements. Instead, it has transformed itself into a welfare agency, using taxpayer dollars to offer an array of services to its students and their parents, including illegal aliens. Our state legislature must take notice and, at the behest of taxpayers, terminate this worthless "educational" agency that never has fulfilled its stated purpose and never will fulfill it.

PARENTAL OFFERINGS. Much of the LC tax-funded budget, plus massive amounts privately donated by the leftist Sherwood Foundation ($500,000), provides English as a 2nd Language instruction to illegal alien parents. Daytime and evening instruction on how to earn a high school equivalency GED degree, a reading and writing club, and math and computer literacy classes. The LC Community Café program offers employment and career readiness assistance. Micro business classes courtesy of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. Also, literacy classes, civics classes, child abuse and neglect classes, mental health, leadership, and culinary programs, and housekeeping, financial, and citizenship instruction. Parenting classes in trauma and resilience. The LC takes parents on tours at the leftist Women's Center for Advancement and hosts game nights. 4,200 diapers distributed to LC parents in July, 2025. Family Summer Camps and a Spring into Family Fun Camp. Community Conversations for Parents placed on hold while the team reviews family needs and determines an appropriate program structure. Parent U. annual costs total $1,710,349.

OTHER SERVICES. The LC provides community childcare training and coaching for South Omaha child care providers. 16 of them receive weekday coaching, Saturday morning training, and collaboration meetings. The LC board authorized the CEO to establish English as a 2nd Language agreements with OPS. The LC participated in the Cinco de Mayo Parade, spent $50,000 on trips to the Henry Doorly Zoo, and spent $33,000 on lobbying activities. 138 packages of diapers distributed for 69 children through the Nebraska Diaper Bank partnership (no academics here).

EXTRANEOUS EXPENSES. LC logos installed on building interior walls. $90,000 spent on marketing and advertising. $30,000 spent on consulting fees. The LC participated in the UN-O Social Work Practicum Fair to become considered as a site for a social work practicum student.



ACADEMICS. None of these programs and activities have provided evidence showing academic improvement among LC students. Math scores for kiddiegarden, 1st Grade, and 3rd Grade fell below the national average. 2nd Graders tested scored a bit higher than the national average. "Our literacy achievement scores are not yet where we want them to be, and we recognize there is important work ahead to reach our goals," said one staffer.

D, E, AND I. The LC still maintains the following committee funded by our tax dollars: Elementary, Learning, and *Diversity*.

TAKE ACTION NOW. The Learning Community is an expanding educational bureaucracy that has transitioned into a welfare agency and has proved beyond doubt that it cannot adequately improve school readiness or academic achievement for its students. It will not improve. It provides no template for replication in other areas of our state. In the next legislative session, urge your state senator to entirely defund and eliminate this worthless drain on our taxpayer dollars. Email **netaxpayers@gmail.com** for state senator contact information and join our NTF *Learning Community Watch Project*.

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