

From: [REDACTED]
To: [-- City Clerk](#)
Subject: I love Live Oak!
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 9:01:40 PM

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Dear City Council,

I feel personally compelled to write you to share my deepest and most authentic gratitude for Live Oak Charter School. As someone who moved here recently from San Francisco with two girls, 5 and 3 years old, I can tell you that I immediately found a “home” in Love Oak. It is an intentional school that nurtures character development through an engaged community and a fully committed staff. Be it their “buddy system” connecting different ages across K through 8th, the celebration of milestone achievements like “leaving the nest”, or a host of other intentional rituals, Live Oak delivers on all fronts.

As someone who has volunteered several times to prepare the Live Oak grounds for a school event the next day, I can tell you first hand that this school is thriving, despite the lack of resource and care from the broader Fair Grounds operations. I can recall a month ago setting up for our annual Rose Ceremony where last year’s Kindergartners “graduate” into first grade and get connected with the new 8th graders, that just the night before, I spent an hour setting up and two hours cleaning the grounds because an event was held across the street with little to no regard for the Live Oak school grounds. Long into the night I was picking up bags and bags of trash, cigarette butts, and even human feces next to one of the school buildings. It was beyond an unfortunate event. We tried calling the Fair Grounds for assistance, and at the very least to log a complaint, but there quite literally was no contact to go to for this sort of thing. Thank goodness a team of volunteer parents took it upon themselves to do what should have been avoid altogether or at the very least should have had an alternate path for resolution.

As a father of two daughters who will be connected to Live Oak for the next 10 years, I ask that the City Council ensures the stability and longevity of Live Oak by exploring direct management of the property at the Fair Grounds that includes Live Oak. Live Oak is the lifeblood of my family and welcoming into all that Petaluma has to offer. I couldn’t be happier to be in this City and part of the greatest community I could have ever dreamed of.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration,

Sincerely,
Jason Walter

[REDACTED]