

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [-- City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** public comment re: Live Oak Charter School at the fairgrounds  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 8:27:45 PM

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To Whom it May Concern:

I have been a Live Oak Charter School parent for over 10 years. My eldest child attended school there from Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and my youngest is now a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, also having started in Kindergarten. With help from the whole Live Oak community of faculty, staff, parents, and children, I have watched my own kids grow from wild things into well-educated, thoughtful, and compassionate teens prepared to face their next challenges. I know that each of Petaluma's school communities is unique and I love Live Oak's particular blend of whole-child education.

I have always had mixed feelings, however, about Live Oak's campus on the Petaluma fairgrounds. I value the location that allows it to draw from both Eastside and Westside families, bringing different aspects of the larger Petaluma together within the school community. But I have also been ill-at-ease with the state of the Fair-controlled facilities, which are poorly maintained at the best of times. I know that as much as the location (along with the quality education, of course) attracts families to our school, the run-down state of the facilities we are forced to deal with turns many away.

My hope is that a solution can be found that allows Live Oak to maintain its central location, but also allows it to take greater control over its own facilities, either alone or in partnership with the City. I know that our Live Oak Board and administration are open to all reasonable ideas, and I'm hopeful for the future.

Sincerely,

Josh Kizner

Parent of one Live Oak student and one Live Oak graduate

Petaluma homeowner