

Dear Peace Valley Families and Community,

As I mentioned in the Weekly Wire last week, fundraising and donation efforts will be fully run through the school as we move forward. As the Foundation will no longer be fundraising for Peace Valley Charter School, this ushers in a new *phase* of fundraising but not a new *face*.

While working for the Peace Valley Education Foundation, I fundraised alongside so many of you through various campaigns: PVCS merchandise/apparel sales, dine outs, mattress fundraiser, PVCS sticker sales, Winter Faire, and the Bridge the Gap campaign. Some of this fundraising was earmarked to support teacher professional development and the garden, leaving most of the funds unrestricted. I fundraised *for* Peace Valley Charter School while working *at* Peace Valley Education Foundation.

Since leaving the Foundation and working for the school in my current role, most of those fundraised dollars have come back to the school. However, the way in which this money has been distributed has been disheartening as it did not match its intended goal and appropriation. Some of you have expressed your own concern for transparency as it relates to fundraising and how this money is used to support the school. It is critical that, as a community, we are clear with money and consistently apply those funds to their intended purposes.

Some of you have asked me about donations you gave for field trips and school supplies. Teachers are either preparing to go on field trips or are in their planning phases. The money you donated for field trips will only be spent on field trips. This goes for any other targeted funds given to the school including donations for school supplies. It will be spent on, and only spent on, its target.

As transparency and clear, consistent communication are key to a thriving school community, I am going to be clear, direct, and bold as I share this information with you all:

**The school is in need of additional general funds (the "new gap") to finish out the 2018-2019 school year. Simply put, the school needs \$40,000 of unrestricted donations by May 15th.**

As you consider this new donation target, it is critical that we consider our collective efforts to reach our new goal. These efforts will manifest in many different forms in the upcoming weeks. Take this time to consider your sacrifice and financial contributions. We all must consider what we can do to stretch towards this goal.

That's it. Clear. Direct. Bold. And simple. There will be no online platforms and no fancy brochures. Please give where you can. Checks, money orders, and cash can be brought directly to the front office. We will immediately issue you a tax donation receipt. Contributions to educational entities qualify for a substantial Idaho tax credit [Click here](#) to learn more about the tax benefits of donation to Peace Valley.

100% of what you give will go towards the school's general fund to help us successfully finish out our first school year of Peace Valley.

As a collective **WE**, it is time to consider what it means to serve Peace Valley Charter School. I did not move to Idaho for a one-year adventure! If the board considers my application for the permanent position as your principal, it would truly be an honor to be with you all for many years to come. Rest assured, I will continue to place transparency and open communication at the forefront of all I do.

If you have any questions regarding fundraising, please reach out to me directly and I would be delighted to clarify any of what I have shared in this message.

Together We Serve,

Andrew S. Ross

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