

Dear Alumni,

We are sending this letter to ask for your financial assistance as we transition to a new phase of The Learning Center (TLC).

If you think back to your earliest and fondest memories of school, it is of The Learning Center and the incredibly special people that have spent nearly 40 years making a difference with far too many children to count. This small community is beyond fortunate to have received the love, hard work, expertise and dedication of the leaders of The Learning Center. The time has come for a number of them to retire and enjoy some quieter days, passing the torch on to a new chapter for the unique school environment they created. We are forever grateful for the blood, sweat and tears the entire staff of The Learning Center has put in over the last 38 years. This amazing group of people in this photo will be retiring at the end of this school year.

TLC is fully committed to continuing the tradition of our school as our pioneers head into their retirement. There is a band of committed parents, board members and staff (past and present) who have developed a strategy for moving forward and ensuring to keep this legacy alive. It is essential that our community continues to have a private school option, and that the students fortunate enough to attend The Learning Center create those same memories you hold so near and dear to your heart.

The Transition Team has developed a business plan for continuing into the future, which serves as the guidepost for transitioning forward while ensuring TLC values are maintained. The Plan includes strategies for recruiting staff - and nearly all open positions have been filled by eager new professionals. The Plan also includes strategies for marketing to increase enrollment and raising funds.

As the Transition Team prepares to welcome in a new group of leaders, it is evident that TLC needs more support. Although TLC has a healthy stream of income from tuition and childcare fees, like many other private schools, we also need to supplement our income from donations from alumni, local businesses and grants.

With that, we ask that you take some time to consider ways in which you might extend a helping hand. Over the last 38 years, The Learning Center has never reached out for help in this way. The dedicated staff has always managed to find a way to make ends meet.

We are asking you to **provide a tax-deductible donation** to our general fund. This will help not only with the maintenance of an older building and operation expenses, but provide the staff with a respectable salary. We also intend to use donations to engage a grant-writer to help secure more significant funding for our projects and to support our curriculum. Donations can be sent to the address below, or made at

<https://www.tlcbradford.org/giving>. Maybe you would even consider a commitment to a yearly donation.

We are hoping to hold an event (down the road) that we could have a silent auction. Do you have something that you would be willing to donate (sports tickets, local services, etc.) for that event?

Pennsylvania businesses can also help TLC by contributing to the Pennsylvania Education Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC), and designating TLC as the indirect recipient of the funds (the funds will go to eligible families to use only for tuition to TLC). This school year, about 63% of the TLC students in grades K-6 received a scholarship through this fund, equaling about 65% of their tuition – without this program, TLC’s enrollment may drop to dangerous levels. Businesses who make donations through this program can receive tax credits equal to 75% of its contribution, or 90% of the contribution if business agrees to provide same amount for two consecutive tax years. This is a great way to contribute to the community while also significantly reducing tax liability (for a net result of just a modest donation). The application deadline is **July 1 (or May 17 for businesses already in the program)**. More information is available at <https://csfofpa.org/eitc>

If you are a business owner, please consider this. And please consider asking your employer if they would be willing to hear more about this option as a way to support TLC.

We are so optimistic and hopeful to ensure that The Learning Center maintains its unique learning environment for this special small community. We just need a little TLC to help!

The Learning Center

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