

Dear Board Members,

First of all, thank you so much, holy moly, for stepping in for our community, but especially for the biggest deal of all and that is our kidders.

, my son, my only child in PCM, is in the adolescent community with Dave and Jordan. As such, we have been seemingly safe and ignorant of the majority of what has been going on. Dave and Jordan are masters at the trade of mentoring and teaching kids and thus, continued to thrive throughout the last couple of years. But that means so much of what has hurt others in the last year has not been a burden we carried and I'm new to the impact or rather, new to the realization of the impact on our community.

I don't know what all the options are, but I don't believe that there are only 2 options—pcm or school district. I wanted to say that so you know, that this actually is not out of desperation. WILL be okay and we will find options for him—we will even perhaps MAKE options for him. I want PCM to continue because it has evolved to what I want most for my child—a place to show what he is, a place to show what he can do for himself AND for the community, not despite the problems, but because of the awareness of them. Board members, I would hope you consider moving forward with the appeal to keep PCM as a charter.

I do not know what I have that is helpful or useful, I don't know how this all works, nor do I know my capabilities, but I am absolutely up for whatever I CAN do to help.

One last thought, the last woman to speak for the commission who was sitting in front of us directly, said something that bothered me. She basically said that for her we had no hope, that this was beyond repair and that bothered me. I immediately felt the desperation, but caught myself and thought, "This woman absolutely gets to tell me the risks, the chances, the numbers, and her willingness to move forward, but she actually does not determine hope." Her hope was little. Mine remains gigantesaurus sized. And I'm ready and anxious to see how I can aid in whatever this community chooses to move forward with.

Sincerely,

Kandice Held, Held's mom