

#### **Board of Trustees**

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# "Excellence in Education Since 1876"

4612 Dehesa Road El Cajon, CA 92019

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Superintendent Bradley Johnson

Assistant Superintendent
Business Services
Francesca Martinez

August 22, 2025

#### Via Certified Mail and Email

#### To:

Ms. Alicia Crow, President Dehesa School Parents' Club 619 Broadview Street Spring Valley, CA 91977 aliciacrow70@gmail.com

#### CC:

Mrs. Minda Thomas, Treasurer of Dehesa School Parents' Club Dehesa School District Board of Trustees Mrs. Hee-Jin Peterson, Principal Francesca Martinez, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Deborah Schweitzer, Executive Assistant/Business Services Specialist

# Subject: Cease and Desist – Immediate Suspension of Dehesa School Parents' Club Operations

Dear Ms. Crow,

This correspondence serves as formal notice and a **cease and desist letter** from the Dehesa School District. Effective immediately, the District is suspending authorization for the Dehesa School Parents' Club to operate in connection with the District or its schools.

## **Authority Under District Policy and Regulation**

As a school-connected organization, the Parents' Club falls under Board Policy 1230 and Administrative Regulation 1230. These governing documents make clear:

- "Activities by school-connected organizations shall be conducted in accordance with law, Board policies, administrative regulations, and any rules of the sponsoring school."
- "When deemed necessary by the Board or the Superintendent or designee, the authorization for a school-connected organization to conduct activities in the district may be revoked at any time."

Pursuant to this authority, the District has determined that immediate suspension is necessary.

#### **Basis for Suspension**

On August 6, 2025, following consultation with the Parent Teachers Association (PTA), the District became aware of substantial compliance deficiencies concerning the organization's nonprofit status. Subsequently, during a call with the District's independent auditors on August 21, 2025, at 8:30 a.m., these deficiencies were corroborated and determined to be consistent with the concerns raised by the PTA.

- 1. **IRS Status Revoked** The Parents' Club's nonprofit status was revoked by the Internal Revenue Service on **November 15, 2014.**
- 2. California Secretary of State Status Suspended The California Secretary of State suspended the entity's nonprofit status on November 26, 2019.

These findings raise grave concerns that the organization may have been operating illegally for years, including—but not limited to—collecting revenue, managing funds, recruiting members, voting, and potentially operating without insurance or liability protection.

Compounding these concerns, the Parents' Club Board (via email from the President) has expressly stated its refusal to share financial and organizational records with the District. This refusal directly violates the authority granted under BP/AR 1230 and undermines the District's ability to ensure lawful and responsible operations.

## **Immediate Directives**

Effective immediately:

- All operations of the Dehesa School Parents' Club are suspended pending further review.
- The District will determine how to coordinate parent volunteers for school activities during this interim period.
- An audit of the organization's activities and finances is under consideration to assess the extent of unauthorized operations.

• The District will directly communicate with parents and staff, as needed, regarding the Club's status to ensure transparency and clarity.

## **Point of Contact**

All questions regarding this matter must be directed exclusively to:

## **Bradley Johnson**

Superintendent Dehesa School District 4612 Dehesa Road El Cajon, CA 92019 bradley.johnson@dehesasd.net

Additionally, the District will be forwarding a copy of this letter to **East County Schools Federal Credit Union** regarding the Parents' Club account so the institution can determine appropriate next steps in light of the organization's lapsed nonprofit status.

The District values parent engagement and volunteerism but must prioritize legal compliance, transparency, and the protection of our students and community. Until these issues are resolved, the Parents' Club is not authorized to conduct any further activities connected to the Dehesa School District.

Respectfully,

Bradley Johnson Superintendent

Dehesa School District