

3486 Victorian Hills Drive
Richburg, SC 29729
January 5, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
The Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

Congratulations on your re-election as South Carolina Governor!

I am writing to you because I feel like I have no other option. As the chief executive of our state, the mechanics of our bureaucracy operate according to your prioritization. In short, I do not feel as if several of our taxpayer-funded departments are operating with the openness and integrity which our state statutes intended. As a result, I am reduced to troubling you with my concerns. Please permit me to explain.

On April 29, 2014, I delivered a letter to the Chester County School District Superintendent voicing my concerns regarding grade/transcript security (Enclosure 1 – applicable areas highlighted). On April 30, 2014, I received a phone call from the associate superintendent for curriculum and instruction informing me that the points I raised regarding grade security were a concern (Enclosure 2).

On October 24, 2014, I learned from a well-connected Lewisville parent that our guidance counselor at Lewisville Middle School (LMS), Tracey Hyatt, was “released/resigned/decided to pursue other opportunities” in mid-semester in October, and was escorted from the LMS premises for altering grades. Coincidentally, Ms. Hyatt had three children in attendance at Lewisville schools for many years as a contract teacher in that district, one of which just happens to be the pending valedictorian of the Lewisville High School graduating class of 2015. As such, I wrote a letter to Dr. Slayman at the Chester County School District requesting amplifying information regarding the district’s efforts to verify or reconstruct transcripts for graduating seniors (Enclosure 3). Her response on November 10th clearly affirmed my suspicions regarding the grade breach (Enclosure 4). Failed attempts to schedule a follow-up to my inquiries (Enclosure 5) prompted my letter to Mr. Don Cantrell at the South Carolina Department of Education (Enclosure 6).

To date, I have heard nothing other than an informal inquiry from the General Counsel’s Office at the Department of Education, despite requests for assistance from the Chester County Sheriff’s Office, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED), and the State Education Superintendent (Dr. Zais). This appears to be yet another case of bureaucrats protecting their own, and I am reluctant to believe that is the standard you have invoked for South Carolina.

At stake, to my novice mind, are two offenses; one of which is an administrative investigation (teacher certification), and the other potentially criminal (local law enforcement/SLED). I am asking your help in ensuring that both avenues are pursued. I cannot comprehend how it is that local boards of trustees are permitted to adjudicate the law, and decide for themselves which offenders of state statutes they will or will not refer for prosecution, and who they will aid and abet with a view to diminishing or negating their role in criminal misconduct simply to save face with their constituency.

We, the underwriters of their salaries and comfort, deserve the truth. Yet our district is hiding behind the veil of teacher privacy to avoid accountability and embarrassment. We ask your intervention on behalf of the truth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard S. Vork", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard S. Vork

Encls.

CC: Alan Wilson, Attorney General

3486 Victorian Hills Drive
Richburg, SC 29729
April 29, 2014

Dr. Agnes Slayman
Superintendent, Chester County School District
509 District Office Drive
Chester, SC 29706

Dear Dr. Slayman:

My initial draft of this letter had to be re-written as I had anticipated a satisfactory phone call from Dr. King by now. Instead, I received the enclosed email this morning which really didn't answer my question. As my enclosed response to Dr. King clarifies, I would like to know *how*, or by what process, will Victoria's on-campus grade for MATH111i actually be entered into her high school transcript? Ms. Jordan does not seem to know the answer to this, and is awaiting amplifying direction from the district. I will continue to work with Dr. King in answering this question, and I thank you for your follow-up on the question of dual-credit coursework.

When we spoke last Thursday, I alluded to many issues that I would like an opportunity to present to you. But understanding that arranging a meeting with you might be difficult at this time for both of us, I am opting to reduce my concerns to writing. Though none of the points I present are exigent in nature, they jointly paint a picture of Chester County schools which, left unaddressed, will keep us from the credible standing we might hope to enjoy in the near future. Coupled with the accreditation status you and your staff vigorously pursued through AdvancED, I believe that an initiative to address these concerns can go a long way towards restoring parental trust and confidence in a system historically rife with nepotism, favoritism, and back-room dealing.

Our family is completing our seventh year in Chester County, and has treasured the experience of living here and truly considers it our heartfelt home. Our daughters have transitioned from little girls to young women, and the consistency of the Lewisville schools has provided the backdrop and support which facilitated their growth. They have learned about themselves and the world, mostly for the better, but sometimes for the worse. As for the latter, we have been there to counsel them and encourage them, always assisting them in making decisions which keep them true to their best selves. Unfortunately, a stacked deck will surface from time to time, and we have counseled them in these cases as well, reminding them that the proverbial cream will always rise to the top. It is my hope that my bringing these matters to your attention will permit you to include such issues in the scrutiny you employ in making future decisions so as to minimize or, more ideally, eliminate their occurrence.

As my oldest daughter nears the completion of her junior year, I cannot disguise my apprehension and distrust of the integrity of our school transcripts. More pointedly, I question who holds the access to alter these records, and what type of two-person control exists to

ENCLOSURE (1)

prevent manipulation of such sacred records? My history with this issue dates back to my middle school experience where I had instances where both my daughters actually had grades lowered in their records in between reporting periods. (Mr. Erwin could confirm this with you, and I have records.) There can be no secret that I have lobbied vigorously over the years over the question of a guidance counselor being permitted to be employed at the same school that their children attend, as I have witnessed first-hand the nepotism and resulting drop in peer morale which sprang from these instances. But, in my mind, there is no coincidence that the aforementioned grade changes occurred at a time of significant friction between this guidance counselor and me. Further, the proclamations have already been issued from this particular guidance counselor that her daughter **will be** the class valedictorian in 2015.

Being the small community it is, I have made mental notes of those students in each of my daughters' classes who are most likely to be afforded this honor. Yet I see no consistency between academic year performance and final awards, as somehow particular students seem to end the year with your "All A's" award, despite having received at least a "B" in final coursework at some point earlier in the year. Surely, as the advocate for my children, who only get one chance at these opportunities in their lifetimes, you can understand my trepidation over the equity of our present system, and question the level playing field we all seem to advocate. Likewise, I can understand your reluctance to question the integrity of any of your educators, and any predisposition you might have to dismiss my doubts outright.

Do we have strict controls on access to grades? Is such access compartmented? Does our software have the capability to track entries and the associated dates such changes were made? Is there any form of two-person control? And is there any means to review and authenticate grades from earlier years? If the answer to any of these questions is "no," then the possibility of grade compromise is a very real issue.

Secondly, I have grave reservations regarding long-standing teachers at the middle and high school level who rest upon laurels which have long ago faded. Surely this is a concern at the elementary level as well. But the effects are much more impactful at the aforementioned levels as there remains precious little time for a student to recover from them. This is not to categorically diminish all teachers who have been in their positions for an extended period. Yet at both the middle and high school levels, I have encountered teachers whose indifference to the subject matter they teach is palpable and downright overt; to the point of telling their students at the end of the year that they "hate teaching this subject." Though a remedy was pursued in the instance of the latter, the solution did not restore my student's faith in an institution which should have never exhibited such unforgiveable and unprofessional behavior. And since this teacher still instructs at the same location, my mission as a parent is to ensure that this teacher never instructs my daughters in anything ever again. You might understand my questioning the integrity of a "Teacher of the Year" award.

Principals are too autonomous in the retention decisions of their staff. Nowhere that I am aware of is a teacher evaluation system employed whereby students and parents are permitted a timely, semesterly forum whereby they can objectively evaluate the teachers whose salaries they underwrite. In short, teachers have no accountability to the true customer: Chester

ENCLOSURE (1)

County families. Time and again I have watched principals jump to the defense of their teachers rather than investigate the facts. This has engendered a sense of entitlement amongst certain teachers, and our students are paying the price.

I realize that we want to keep good teachers. But if one is not improving in their chosen pursuits, then they are getting worse. A fair system of evaluation for teachers by students and parents would provide the feedback necessary to separate the serious educators from the squatters, and permit the district an additional tool against which to measure staffing decisions made by principals at all levels. Overall, teaching quality has been exceptional in Chester County. But when things go bad, the damage can be unrecoverable.

Finally, I wish to mention a concern over which you probably have no direct control, but could exert considerable pressure through appropriate inquiries and pointed fact finding. As parents who are closely involved with our daughters' friends and peers at the high school, we have heard over the years through various disparaging remarks and conversations that the selection process for Palmetto Girls State (and Palmetto Boys State) is nothing more than a popularity game, always centering on which student or family ranks highest socially in the eyes of the interviewing figure. Sadly, we came to understand this reality first-hand last month with Victoria's "interview" for this esteemed honor.

Contrary to the nationally promulgated Girls State Plan of Action and its suggested criteria for selection, it seems the South Carolina American Legion Auxiliary Unit which sponsors Chester's delegates is completely uninvolved in the process, reducing what should be a well-deserved honor to a question of connections, at best. Victoria's interview with Judge Gibbons (how he is involved in the process remains a mystery to me) lasted less than five minutes, with his initial comment being, "You're the only one here that I don't know." Despite national guidelines suggesting that each candidate write an essay, that units meet with parents to explain the program, and that units *should* make contact with each candidate prior to selection, no contact with the sponsoring auxiliary unit was ever made. In short, Judge Gibbons made these selections himself. Clearly, whichever American Legion Auxiliary unit sponsors Chester County does not esteem the honor enough to exercise due diligence and screen for the best possible candidates for this honor. As a result, it is difficult to accept that Lewisville High School's most qualified candidates consisted of fraternal twins from one family, and the daughter of a well-connected Chester County guidance counselor.

As a 1981 participant in Virginia Boys State and a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, I am no stranger to the significance of this honor. And though I by no means intend to disparage the caliber of this year's selectees, I am perfectly justified in questioning the process whereby they were selected. It stinks of a back-room deal done over a wink and a handshake, and, unfortunately, all parties involved are complicit in the diminishment of this high honor. Having invoked the matter of "equal access" to me when we spoke last Thursday, I think you might agree that the playing field is not exactly accessible to all.

Chester County students have been entrusted to your guidance and judgment, and therefore belong to you. You are under no obligation to serve as a marionette to the American Legion to

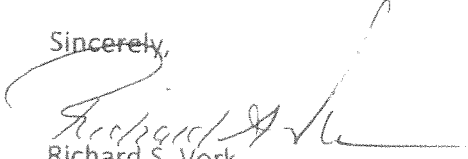
ENCLOSURE (1)

promote an honor they cannot be bothered to equitably select candidates for. Please help restore this honor to the dignified standing it deserves by aggressively corresponding with the state American Legion Auxiliary to find out why this distinction is taken so casually. If nothing else, our students will come to respect that selection for this honor will be based upon one's personal accomplishments, and not who goes to church with the interviewer. The interviewer must be unconnected to and unfamiliar with any of the candidates to lend credibility to the selection process. I am sending letters to the National and South Carolina directors of the American Legion Auxiliary regarding their absence of a directive-driven selection criteria and process, so any inquiries you might make should not come as a surprise to them.

Please know, Dr. Slayman, that in no way do I hold you responsible for any of these negative experiences. In fact, our family is deeply appreciative of your accomplishments on behalf of our schools over the past two years, and though we might have been silent, we have remained informed. As the only regular parental attendee at five years worth of Lewisville Middle School PIA/SIC meetings, I am intimately aware of the parental indifference which plagues our county, and only hope to offer a few critical suggestions as to why parents might view any involvement with our schools as a waste of time. Together I hope we can eradicate this pandemic.

Thank you for your time and assistance!

Sincerely,


Richard S. Vork

ENCLOSURE (1)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ME AND DR. CHARLES KING (CHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION) ON APRIL 30, 2014, REGARDING MY LETTER ADDRESSED TO DR. AGNES SLAYMAN (CHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT) DATED 29 APRIL 2014:

I received a phone call at 3:30 PM on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, from Dr. King, acknowledging receipt of the letter I hand-delivered at the district office for Dr. Slayman on Tuesday, April 29, 2014.

Dr. King began the conversation by addressing the first part of my letter. He simply stated that the questions I raised regarding grade access and security are "concerning." We spoke further about the details of the dual-enrollment program that he was in the process of formalizing through a written policy, and how my concerns regarding the transmission of numerical grades from colleges (USC-L, in this case) to high schools would be addressed, as numerical grades are necessary for recording accurate grades in the high school transcripts. He relayed to me that his daughter(s) had taken advantage of dual-enrollment coursework in their high school careers, and hoped to see it utilized more here in Chester County. He assured me that a more clarified policy would be forthcoming soon.

We also discussed our shared experiences, having both been American Legion Boys State participants in our respective states. He shared my concerns about the selection process for the Palmetto Boys/Girls State programs here in Chester County, but acknowledged that there was very little, if anything, the district could do to affect current practice.


Richard S. Vork

4/30/14
April 30, 2014

ENCLOSURE (2)

3486 Victorian Hills Drive
Richburg, SC 29729
October 30, 2014

Dr. Agnes Slayman
Superintendent, Chester County School District
509 District Office Drive
Chester, SC 29706

Dear Dr. Slayman:

I am writing to you today with a bitter blend of both profound disappointment and renewed confidence. The disappointment obviously speaks for itself regarding the discovery of grade tampering on the part of Tracey Hyatt at Lewisville Middle School. Yet I cannot deny a renewed confidence in my school district for undertaking the difficult task of addressing the unpleasant business of investigating allegations of gross misconduct by one of its own educators. I want to thank you and your staff for having the integrity and commitment to doing the right thing despite its unsavory nature.

I understand that this is probably not information which I am supposed to know, but the small size of our community in the Lewisville area affords unique proximity to inside information, making it difficult for noteworthy occurrences to remain insulated. Conversely, I understand that the school district has many obligations regarding privacy which you are required to uphold, so please do not think that the purpose of this letter is an exercise in intrigue. Rather, the intent of my correspondence today is to remind you of my duty to act in the best interests of my children; particularly Victoria, in this case. And not being entitled to the actual facts of the matter due to the privacy guidelines by which you are required to abide, I will be making some assumptions which may or may not be accurate, but are necessary to clearly convey my position. I ask you in advance to forgive me any inaccuracies in my conjectures as I attempt to concisely relate my concerns, and those being felt by many of our Lewisville parents and students.

Is the district exercising due diligence to expediently audit all grades for the Class of 2015 dating back to eighth grade? Will parents be advised of any resulting changes in class ranking? Will the district take steps to apprise prospective colleges of changes to transcripts and rankings? Will such review be completed in short order so as to meet with college application deadlines? I am hopeful that all of these questions can be answered affirmatively. Anything short of an exhaustive audit dating back to eighth grade renders any resulting records as tainted. Additionally, such a failure gives rise to additional complications.

Though I do not know the exact date or details whereby Ms. Hyatt was implicated, it raises questions in my mind, as a parent, what the impact upon my child is. Victoria has spent the summer and fall completing college applications, and consequently having her Lewisville High School (LHS) transcript forwarded which has her ranked second in her class. As you are aware,

ENCLOSURE(3)

scholarships awarded by the State of South Carolina and individual universities routinely utilize class ranking as a condition of eligibility, all of which consider class ranking *at the completion of the junior year*. The Palmetto Fellows Scholarship requires a standing within the top six percent in order to be eligible. In the case of the current LHS graduating class, that requires an applying student to be in the top five. If Ms. Hyatt's grade tampering resulted in any erroneous shift in standing for whoever is ranked sixth, then she has essentially stolen money from an otherwise qualified candidate, rendering her conduct potentially criminal in nature. Many schools offer scholarships which are solely available to the valedictorian of a graduating class. Clemson University's Clemson Scholars scholarship and the University of South Carolina's Valedictorian Scholar Award are two such examples; both of which Victoria has applied to. Hence, it is quite conceivable that by her misconduct, Ms. Hyatt has stolen from me. Only an exhaustive audit can reveal the extent of the damage she has done and any potential criminal liability.

Based upon the duration of your tenure as superintendent, you are not privy to the saga of nepotism, favoritism, and grade manipulation at Lewisville Middle School (LMS) which predated your arrival. My records are thorough and authentic, and detail a pattern of conspiracy and cover-up to which I believe both Tracey Hyatt and H.L. Erwin were parties; the latter through negligence, at a minimum. Grades have been altered dating back to Victoria's eighth grade year, not to mention overt attempts by LMS to deny Victoria access to the honors curriculum to which her testing entitled her. Fortunately we had the foresight to make copies of every report card that came home so that we could detect such practices.

As for Ms. Hyatt's future as a guidance counselor, I will not question your judgment as to what you believe to be best for the district. However, integrity is an island from which many depart, but none can return. In fact, the State of South Carolina believes so thoroughly in the vital nature and trust reposed in a school guidance counselor that a unique ADEPT standard governs the responsibilities, evaluation, and ethics of this esteemed position. In the wake of such self-serving misconduct, it is particularly disturbing to read the specifically enumerated responsibilities to the parents, the school, the community, the profession, and to herself that Ms. Hyatt has trampled upon. Adherence to the dual-relationship provision (counseling one's own daughter) might have preempted all of this. In essence, Ms. Hyatt is not simply another teacher in the eyes of our education system; and violated the sacred trust of countless people. As an aggrieved party, I cannot let her simply walk away and be permitted to teach or counsel elsewhere without having pursued my own formal grievance through the process provided by the state board of education.

Unfortunate though it is to have to address, the continued attendance of Ms. Hyatt's daughter, Makenzie Hyatt, at Lewisville High School beyond the end of the present semester would be unacceptable and improper. Attendance by the children of staff and faculty at a school contrary to the dictates of their official domicile is a privilege conferred by the superintendent as a matter of convenience to the employee in question. And considering the grade manipulation at hand, for Makenzie Hyatt to be ranked against the very peers her mother conspired to defraud, such continued attendance and graduation, as valedictorian, no less, would be insulting to every member of the LHS 2015 graduating class. Makenzie Hyatt should be ranked against the seniors at Chester High School since we are relatively certain that Ms.

ENCLOSURE (3)

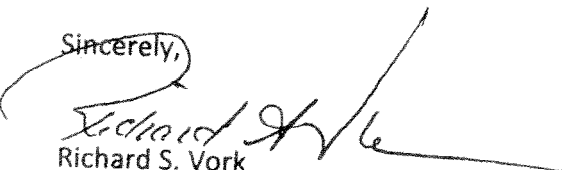
Hyatt had no reason to tamper with those transcripts, and her ranking might be a more honest reflection. Personally, based on Makenzie's routine assertions over the years that she "**will be** class valedictorian," I cannot be convinced that she was not complicit, at least through knowledge, of her mother's underhandedness. Every student reviews their transcript at his or her annual IGP meeting with Ms. Jordan and is given the opportunity to point out any errors, favorable or unfavorable. Yet that is something only an exhaustive external investigation could determine.

I do not wish to work against you or the district, Dr. Slayman. But with these revelations occurring on the eve of college and scholarship applications for the affected class, I have a limited window in which to act on my daughter's behalf. Any right to privacy afforded Tracey Hyatt should not compel an affected student to forfeit their confidence and certainty in their high school transcript, and that can only be restored through your office. I am hopeful that you are in concurrence with the course of action I have articulated and that a remedy, if one can possibly exist, is already in progress. But in the absence of any information from your office to the contrary, I will have to assume that the district's plan is to simply make Ms. Hyatt "go away" and pretend all of this never happened, rather than getting out in front of the issue. I sincerely hope such is not the case.

Should you need to contact me, I can be reached at (803) 899-0491 anytime.

As always, I am deeply appreciative of your time, not to mention your relentless pursuit of excellence throughout Chester County schools.


Sincerely,


Richard S. Vork

ENCLOSURE (3)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ME AND DR. AGNES SLAYMAN (CHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT) ON NOVEMBER 10, 2014, REGARDING MY LETTER DATED 30 OCTOBER 2014:

I received a phone call at 9:20 AM on Monday, November 10, 2014, from Dr. Slayman, acknowledging receipt of the letter I hand-delivered at the district office for her on the morning of Thursday, October 30, 2014, as well as the follow-up copies mailed Monday, 3 November, 2014. She stated that scope of the information she is permitted to disclose is limited by privacy guidelines, however, she did reassure me that the district is "going through everything" in an effort to authenticate the accuracy of not only Class of 2015 transcripts, but other classes as well. She further stated that the review has been in progress for several weeks now, and will require, by her estimate, a couple of more weeks to complete. I offered a suggestion that the reviewers should be sure to verify distance learning grades taken through USC-L by checking with the university directly, as those grade records were most assuredly immune to tampering. I asked if she would be in contact with Lewisville parents once the review was complete, and she answered affirmatively. I further asked if I could expect to hear from her personally once the review was complete, and she also replied affirmatively.


Richard S. Vork

11/10/14
November 10, 2014

ENCLOSURE(4)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ME AND MS. LESLIE JACOBS (ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR DR. CHARLES KING, CHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION) ON NOVEMBER 21, 2014:

I received a phone call at 3:48 PM on Friday, November 21, 2014, from Ms. Jacobs asking if I would like to schedule a meeting with Dr. King to discuss my daughter's transcript. I stated that I knew Dr. King was busy and that a formal meeting wasn't necessary. Ms. Jacobs stated that Dr. King could convey the information by regular mail or email if I preferred. I inquired as to the earliest date available for a scheduled meeting, and she stated December 11, 2014. I responded that such a late date some three weeks hence was unacceptable as Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and college application deadlines were looming. I further stated that I am disappointed by the absence of urgency and communication to Lewisville parents by the district, as there are many families aware of the scandal that has transpired, and have received no reassurance of the integrity of their student's grades from the district. I also asserted that I feel as if the district is going to great lengths minimize the transparency regarding the compromise of grades, and it seems like they are expending more energy protecting themselves rather than doing the right thing. I pointed out that Lewisville High School was still forwarding transcripts during this five week "review/authentication" period with no idea as to their accuracy. I further stated that if this standoff continues, I will have to exercise other options including utilization of law enforcement and the media if that what it takes to get to the truth. Ms. Jacobs asserted that she had no further information for me and the conversation was terminated.


Richard S. Vork

11/21/14
November 21, 2014

ENCLOSURE (5)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD OF PHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ME AND MS. LESLIE JACOBS (ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR DR. CHARLES KING, CHESTER COUNTY SCHOOLS ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION) ON NOVEMBER 25, 2014:

I received a phone call at 8:53 AM on Tuesday, November 25, 2014, from Ms. Jacobs advising me that an appointment had come open for December 4th, and asking if I would be available that date to meet with Dr. King regarding my daughter's transcript. I apprised Ms. Jacobs that I intended to depart for Florida on extended personal business immediately following the Thanksgiving weekend, and that I would be unavailable for a meeting at that time. No other options were offered for a meeting, nor did she offer to have Dr. King contact me by either email or by letter as she had suggested the previous Friday.



Richard S. Vork

11/25/14
November 25, 2014

ENCLOSURE(5)

3486 Victorian Hills Drive
Richburg, SC 29729
November 28, 2014

Mr. Don Cantrell
Chief Information Officer
South Carolina Department of Education
1429 Senate Street /Suite 1201-A
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Cantrell:

I am hopeful that your department might be the correct one to answer some questions I have regarding high school transcripts. More specifically, if a grade breach occurs, are there official state guidelines which dictate how transcript verification should occur, and are grades archived somewhere within the state to permit an accurate method of transcript reconstruction?

After recent revelations of transcript compromise here in Chester County, I have been in contact with the Chester County School District for the past month attempting to receive assurance that my high school senior's transcript is an accurate reflection of her high school work. With the deadline for Palmetto Fellows Scholarship applications but two weeks away, countless questions have arisen as to what methods are being utilized by the school district to reconstruct transcripts for her graduating class which cover the past four and a half years.

Are individual teachers required to maintain hardcopy grade books, or required to archive copies thereof, with the local district or state at the end of each school year? Or with the advent of online grade books (e.g.: Parent Portal), are archived copies available from which to reconstruct transcripts in the event of a compromise?

In our particular instance, grade alterations began to be noticed during the 2010-2011 school year as demonstrated by the variations in my daughter's Algebra I Honors class exhibited in enclosures (1) through (5). Despite the assignment of a final grade of a 93, her transcript presented by the high school guidance counselor the following year revealed that the grade had been reduced to a 92 as explained in enclosure (6). Now, nearly three years later and on the heels of the Chester County School District's recent extensive "reconstruction" of transcripts, my daughter's grade has now mysteriously become a 94. Enclosures (7) and (8) reflect this disparity.

It is clear from this evidence that whatever methods the district has employed to verify transcripts lack thoroughness and accuracy. After more than five weeks of "review" by the district, my daughter's transcript is once again incorrect. And at this point, it is my suspicion that if such archives *do* exist at the state level, Chester County School District would be reluctant to request access to them due to the embarrassing self-indictment that they actually had no security over existing record systems. In short, it has been "open season" for grade tampering by any faculty member with both access and the predisposition to do so for an indeterminate number of years, thereby casting serious doubt on the accuracy of our students'

ENCLOSURE (6)

records. This disappointing reality might even explain the coincidentally high occurrence of faculty children graduating as valedictorian or salutatorian from Lewisville High School. And since my district seems neither willing nor competent to get the proper assistance in authenticating these transcripts, I am hopeful that someone at the South Carolina Department of Education might be able to assist in rectifying this dire breach of trust and confidence.

Accurate transcripts are the only "paycheck" our education system can bestow upon a student. The transcript opens the future's doors, or slams them shut. With attendance at school mandated by the state, the establishment of a secure, tamper-proof system of records is the most important responsibility of our school system; second only to the preservation of our children's safety. And if our system cannot provide accurate transcripts, then our school officials have failed to uphold the most basic tenets of equal access which they have sworn themselves to uphold.

I look forward to any assistance or insight you or your designated representative can provide.

Sincerely,



Richard S. Vork

Encls.

CC: Mr. John L. Finan, Chairman, South Carolina Commission on Higher Education
Senator Creighton B. Coleman, South Carolina Senate, District 17
Rep. F. Gregory Delleney, Jr., South Carolina House of Representatives, District 43

ENCLOSURE(6)

Lewisville Middle School
School Year: 2010 - 2011

Vork, Victoria Renae
Grade: 8

Period	Term	Course	Teacher	Q1	Q2	S1	Abs	Tdy	Comments
1(A-B)	10-11	Algebra 1 Honors	Bey, Elihu	93			0	0	
2(A-B)	10-11	Earth Science	Williams, Kenda Kay	97			0	0	
3(A)	10-11	Band	Hopper, Mitch	100			0	0	
3(B)	S1	Keyboarding	Yarbrough, Sharon Black	100			0	0	
4(A-B)	10-11	English 1 Honors	Percival, Lisa	93			1	0	
5(A-B)	10-11	S C Hist Gr 8	McCullough, Gail	96			1	0	
HR(A-B)	10-11	8th Grade Homeroom	Williams, Kenda Kay	-			0	0	

Grade Scale:

A: 93 - 100 B: 85 - 92 C: 77 - 84 D: 70 - 76 F: Below 70

ENCLOSURE (6)

[SUB-ENCLOSURE(1)]

Lewisville Middle School
School Year: 2010 - 2011

Vork, Victoria Renae

Grade: 8

Period	Term	Course	Teacher	Q1	Q2	S1	Q3	Q4	Abs	Tdy	Comments
1(A-B)	10-11	Algebra 1 Honors	Bey, Elihu	90	93	91			0	0	
2(A-B)	10-11	Earth Science	Williams, Kenda Kay	97	98	98			0	0	
3(A)	10-11	Band	Hopper, Mitch	100	100	100			0	0	
3(B)	S1	Keyboarding	Yarbrough, Sharon Black	99	101	100			0	0	
3(B)	S2	Phy. Ed./Health	Wilks, Bernice F						0	0	
4(A-B)	10-11	English 1 Honors	Percival, Lisa	93	93	93			2	0	
5(A-B)	10-11	S C Hist Gr 8	McCullough, Gail	96	97	97			1	0	
HR(A-B)	10-11	8th Grade Homeroom	Williams, Kenda Kay		-	-			0	0	

Grade Scale:

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: Below 70

AS DISCUSSED WITH MR. CRAWFORD ON 1/28/11, THE HIGHLIGHTED GRADES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER ARE NOT THE SAME GRADES RECEIVED ON THE ORIGINAL FIRST QUARTER REPORT CARD.

ENCLOSURE (6)

(SUB-ENCLOSURE (2))

Richard J. Vork 1/28/11

ACKNOWLEDGED, BUT NOT IN AGREEMENT

Lewisville Middle School
School Year: 2010 - 2011

Vork, Victoria Renae

Grade: 8

Period	Term	Course	Teacher	Q1	Q2	S1	Q3	Q4	Abs	Tdy	Comments
1(A-B)	10-11	Algebra 1 Honors	Bey, Elithu	93	93	91	93		0	0	
2(A-B)	10-11	Earth Science	Williams, Kenda Kay	97	98	98	95		0	0	
3(A)	10-11	Band	Hopper, Mitch	100	100	100	99		0	0	
3(B)	S1	Keyboarding	Yarbrough, Sharon Black	99	101	100			0	0	
3(B)	S2	Phy. Ed./Health	Wilks, Bernice F		-	-	100		0	0	
4(A-B)	10-11	English 1 Honors	Percival, Lisa	93	93	93	94		3	0	
5(A-B)	10-11	S C Hist Gr 8	McCullough, Gail	96	97	97	97		2	0	
HR(A-B)	10-11	8th Grade Homeroom	Williams, Kenda Kay		-	-			0	0	

Grade Scale:

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: Below 70

AGAIN, THIS IS A PROBLEM. THE Q1 GRADE IN ALGEBRA I CAME HOME IN JANUARY AS A 90 INSTEAD OF THE CORRECT 93. HOWEVER, THE S1 AVERAGE IS STILL INCORRECT. HOW DO TWO 93'S AVERAGE OUT TO BE A 91?

Richard W. 4/5/11

ENCLOSURE (6)
[SUB-ENCLOSURE (3)]

Lewisville Middle School
School Year: 2010 - 2011

Vork, Victoria Renae

Grade: 8

Period	Term	Course	Teacher	Q1	Q2	S1	Q3	Q4	Abs	Tdy	Comments
1(A-B)	10-11	Algebra I Honors	Bey, Elihu	93	93	93	93		0	0	
2(A-B)	10-11	Earth Science	Williams, Kenda Kay	97	98	98	95		0	0	
3(A)	10-11	Band	Hopper, Mitch	100	100	100	99		0	0	
3(B)	S1	Keyboarding	Yarbrough, Sharon Black	99	100	100			0	0	
3(B)	S2	Phy. Ed./Health	Wilks, Bernice F				100		0	0	
4(A-B)	10-11	English I Honors	Percival, Lisa	93	93	93	94		3	0	
5(A-B)	10-11	S C Hist Gr 8	McCullough, Gail	96	97	97	97		2	0	
HR(A-B)	10-11	8th Grade Homeroom	Williams, Kenda Kay						0	0	

Grade Scale:

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: Below 70

ENCLOSURE(6)
[SUB-ENCLOSURE(4)]

Lewisville Middle School
School Year: 2010 - 2011

Vork, Victoria Renae

Grade: 8

Period	Term	Course	Teacher	S1	Q3	Q4	S2	F1	Abs	Tdy	Comments
1(A-B)	10-11	Algebra 1 Honors	Bey, Elihu	93	93	93	94	93	0	0	
2(A-B)	10-11	Earth Science	Williams, Kenda Kay	98	95	94	94	96	1	0	
3(A)	10-11	Band	Hopper, Mitch	100	99	100	100	100	0	1	
3(B)	S1	Keyboarding	Yarbrough, Sharon Black	100					0	0	
3(B)	S2	Phy. Ed./Health	Wilks, Bernice F		100	95	98		1	0	
4(A-B)	10-11	English 1 Honors	Percival, Lisa	93	94	98	95	93	5	0	
5(A-B)	10-11	S C Hist Gr 8	McCullough, Gail	97	97	100	98	97	3	0	
HR(A-B)	10-11	8th Grade Homeroom	Williams, Kenda Kay						0	0	

Grade Scale:

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: Below 70

promoted

ENCLOSURE (6)
[SUB-ENCLOSURE (5)]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN KATHLEEN VORK AND MS. SANDRA JORDAN, LEWISVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELAR, ON FEBRUARY 24, 2012, DURING AN IGP MEETING FOR VICTORIA VORK. VICTORIA VORK WAS ALSO PRESENT.

My daughter, Victoria, and I meet with Ms. Jordan, the guidance counselor at Lewisville High School, annually to discuss course selection for the following year. During the annual meeting on February 24, 2012, to review Victoria's course selection for her sophomore year, Ms. Jordan handed me Victoria's transcript with her 8th grade coursework and that from the fall semester of 9th grade. I noticed that it showed a 92 for Victoria's Algebra I Honors, a course she had taken the prior year at Lewisville Middle School but is for high school credit. I told Ms. Jordan that there was an error on the transcript and that Victoria has received an A in Algebra I Honors in 8th grade. Ms. Jordan asked me if I knew the number grade that she had received, so I pulled out Victoria's final report card from the prior year and showed her that it had been a 93. Ms. Jordan took the copy of the transcript that she had handed me, and said that she could correct it. She did something on her computer, said it was fixed, and printed another copy of the transcript for me with the correct grade of a 93 on it.


Kathleen B. Vork

11/20/2014
November 20, 2014

ENCLOSURE (6)
[SUB-ENCLOSURE (6)]

Student Name Vork, Victoria Renae		
Student ID [REDACTED]	Grade 11	Gender F
State ID 9978244778	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Ethnic Code W
Parent Guardian Vork, Kathleen & Vork, Richard 3486 Victorian Hills Drive Richburg, SC 29729 803-789-7294		

State of South Carolina Standard High School Transcript

Enter Date: 8/17/2011
Graduation Date:
Class Of: 2015
Diploma Type: District Non-Diploma Document

School Name/Address
Lewisville High School
3971 Lewisville High School Road
Richburg SC 29729
Tel: 803-789-5131 Fax: 803-789-3188

District Name/Address
Chester County School District
109 Hinton Street
Chester, SC 29706
Tel: (803) 385-6122 Fax: (803) 581-0863

Crs ID	Course Title	Term	Grd	Mark	Credit	Crs ID	Course Title	Term	Grd	Mark	Credit
10-11 Lewisville Middle School											
301100HW	English 1 Honors	YR	8	93	1.00						
411100HW	Algebra 1 Honors	YR	8	93	1.00						
510000CH	Keyboarding	S1	8	100	0.50						
11-12 Lewisville High School											
301200HW	English 2 Honors	S1	9	93	1.00						
304001CW	Public Speaking	S1	9	98	1.00						
322100HW	Biology1 Hon	S2	9	100	1.00						
331000HW	World Geog (GS) H	S2	9	98	1.00						
340200CH	Comp Health I	Q3	9	99	0.50						
344119CW	PE 1	S2	9	98	1.00						
365100CW	Spanish1CP	S1	9	95	1.00						
411200HW	Algebra2- Honors	S1	9	88	1.00						
500800CH	Computer Apps	Q4	9	98	0.50						
12-13 Lewisville High School											
301300HW	English 3 Honors	S2	10	98	1.00						
321100HW	PhysScience -Hon	S1	10	97	1.00						
334000CW	Psychology	S2	10	99	1.00						
336000HW	World History-G/T	S2	10	97	1.00						
365200CW	Spanish2 CP	S1	10	97	1.00						
412100HW	Geometry-Honors	S1	10	93	1.00						
503000CW	Digital Multimedia	S2	10	100	1.00						
540000CW	Entrepreneurship	S1	10	96	1.00						
13-14 Lewisville High School											
301400HW	English 4 Honors	S1	11	97	1.00						
305400CW	Yearbook Prod	S1	11	100	1.00						
323100HW	Chemistry 1 Honors	S2	11	99	1.00						
332000HW	US Hist & Const H	S1	11	95	1.00						
336698EW	Western Civ II DL	S2	11	98	1.00						
339912EW	English 101 DL	S2	11	94	1.00						
356100CW	Music Appre1	S2	11	100	1.00						
413100HW	Pre-Calculus-Hon	S1	11	93	1.00						

**State of South Carolina
Standard Transcript of Student Progress**

Enter Date: 8/17/2011

Graduation Date:

Class. Of: 2015

Diploma Type: District Non-Diploma Document

School Name/Address

Lewisville High School
3971 Lewisville High School Road
Richburg SC 29729
Tel: 803-789-5131 Fax: 803-789-3188

District Name/Address

Chester County School District
109 Hinton Street
Chester, SC 29706

Tel: (803) 385-6122 Fax: (803) 581-0863

Student Name Vork , Victoria Renae		
Student ID [REDACTED]	Grade 12	Gender F
State ID 9978244778	Date of Birth [REDACTED]	Ethnic Code W
Parent Guardian Vork, Kathleen & Vork, Richard 3486 Victorian Hills Drive Richburg, SC 29729 803-789-7294		

[illegible]

To determine the course academic level refer to the seventh character in each course ID.

If graduation date is a future date,
current year reflects Work in Progress.

Official Signature _____ Date: _____
Dr. James Knox, Principal or Designee

An official signature and/or seal is required for manually created transcripts.

Information about the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy can be found at:

http://ed.sc.gov/topics/curriculumstds/sc_ugp.html

ENCLOSURE(6)
[SUB-ENCLOSURE(8)]