



LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Majalise Tolan
Superintendent

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April 30, 2026

To: Siletz Valley School Interim-Superintendent, Debra Barnes
Siletz Valley School School Board Chair, Jenifer Metcalf
From: LCSD Superintendent, Dr. Majalise Tolan
Re: Charter and Lease Agreements and Charter Law Compliance 2026-2027 Review

Ms. Barnes and Ms. Metcalf,

This letter serves as an update on the formal notice of concerns regarding Siletz Valley School (SVS)'s compliance with the Lincoln County School District (LCSD) charter agreement, LCSD lease agreement and Oregon Charter Laws initially sent on July 21, 2025, continued with a 60-Day Notice to Terminate on January 30, 2026, and LCSD Board termination vote on April 14, 2026, which did not pass.

Since the initial letter sent on July 21, 2025, Interim Superintendent Debra Barnes was replaced by Superintendent Lenora Hall. Debra Barnes remained as Siletz Valley School Principal; however, Barnes has now been the Interim Superintendent as of March 2026. The lack of consistent leadership continues to bring uncertainty to the ongoing ability of SVS to become compliant and to maintain compliance in the following areas based on the Oregon School Board Association's 2023 and 2026 reports and recent LCSD findings. It is important to note that acceptable compliance is not a beginning stage or a plan on paper - compliance is consistent implementation and has been requested for three years with ongoing support. Beginning on July 30, 2025, LCSD and SVS have increased communication (monthly, weekly, then daily) to determine progress and compliance in the areas of concern, with additional areas being added throughout the process. The teacher licensure area has been removed from non-compliance updates at this time. Because LCSD's Board did not terminate the agreement, additional compliance measures must be put in place.

In the Public Hearing, SVS staff commented that the lack of consistent leadership is the reason for non-compliance; however, while many leaders have been in and out of leadership positions, several have remained, and all have been notified of the need for compliance. It is the belief of LCSD that full implementation is mandatory, and failure to comply may result in an additional 60-day termination letter.

1. SVS stated that an ELL plan was not applicable; however, all schools should have an ELL plan ready in case a student enrolls who qualifies for services. ELL students now attend SVS and the current ELL plan implementation must be monitored.

Progress Update: On May 27, 2025 in correspondence with ODE's Kim Miller, we confirmed that SVS would need to submit their own plan. On January 26, 2026, Lenora confirmed that Debra Barnes is working with ODE as part of a cohort to get this plan in place by June, 2026. SVS charter states that they will implement all statutes that comply with the education of English Learners. ODE's guidance is that charters will submit their own plan but can reference the district's plan, process, and support should they choose to. Currently, they do not have an older ELD plan in place and stated that the Siletz Charter School never has. They do not have a temporary plan and on January 26, 2025 asked to review LCSD's ML/EL plan for temporary suggestions for support. We are in the process of scheduling a meeting to review. On January

12, 2026 our district trained a test coordinator at their site. In addition, we submit all required data and documentation related to EL collection to the state.

April 25, 2026: Having a lack of an ELL plan is unsatisfactory. The draft submitted to ODE was not approved. An approved plan is still not in place. **Not Compliant**

2. Bylaws need to be updated. While this has been in process, it is unclear whether it has been completed and if bylaws and policies are maintained and publicly accessible. A copy of the updated bylaws must be provided to LCSD, and all bylaws and policies must be updated and accessible to the public.

Progress Update: Bylaws are posted on the school website.

April 25, 2026: Bylaws were found to be non-compliant by LCSD's legal counsel. **Not Compliant**

3. Facility concerns reported to LCSD by the SVS Board on May 5, 2025 included: Leaking ceilings, old pipes throughout the building, football grandstands are nearly condemnable, gyms are badly out of repair and need new siding (and likely more), ADA access needed, rusty fences, old heating (boiler needs to be replaced), single pane windows, doors that don't properly lock if active shooter protection is needed, bathrooms throughout need upgrading (like in LCSD schools). Pursuant to the charter and lease agreements, SVS is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the facility. In 2024, LCSD provided SVS with a long-term facility study. It is SVS' responsibility to develop, implement, and monitor its own long-term facility maintenance plan.

Progress Update: Lenora Hall submitted a Facility Plan on 10/30/25. This plan was discussed and approved to move forward on 11/3/25 to access \$250,000 of construction excise tax funds voted on by the LCSD Board. On the 12/18/25 monthly update, Lenora Hall said they had not made any movement because of needing help with the RFP Process. Majalise Tolan connected LCSD Facility Department staff and Lenora Hall to support the RFP process. During the January 21st check-in, Lenora said she had not connected with LCSD staff for help. Majalise Tolan again connected Lenora and LCSD staff for support. Although a plan is submitted, there is unsatisfactory progress in building maintenance and repairs.

April 25, 2026: Interim-Superintendent Barnes was unable to answer financial questions related to the estimated \$15,000,000 needed in repairs and SVS's plan for facility improvements. An RFP may have been released to access Construction Excise Tax Funds. A 1, 5, and 10-year plan with a funding plan must be submitted to LCSD within 30 days of this letter. In addition, the last 20 years of facility improvement and maintenance invoices must be submitted to LCSD by May 30, 2026. LCSD has submitted property concerns to legal counsel about the deferred maintenance. **Not Compliant**

4. Deliverables and required reporting (federal and state grants, and district programs) continue to be untimely, necessitating repeated reminders from LCSD staff. All reporting deadlines must consistently be met and documented.

Progress Update: On 9/26/25, Sandy Mummey met with Debra Barnes and LCSD staff to outline the process for 6th-grade Outdoor School budgeting and application submission. As of 1/21/26 the Outdoor School Portal has not been updated. Business Director Kim Cusick met with Lenora on 11/19/25. Charter documents were re-sent, and charter budgeting was explained. On 11/25/25, Elementary Director, Sandy Mummey, met with Lenora Hall about High Dosage Tutoring (HDT) funds. Bambi VanDyke attended the required Oregon Department of Education meeting, however, on 1/21/26 Lenora was notified that the HDT budget is needed

ASAP or it will be reported to ODE and the funds will be reallocated to another school. On 1/23/26, Lenora Hall replied to the need for HDT budget information and said their materials had already been ordered and wanted information about spending money on non-approved expenses. In addition, as of 1/21/26, LCSD has not received any invoices for SVS' other passthrough funding. Lenora has also again asked for clarification on who to direct budget questions to in the future. Kim Cusick and Sandy Mummey replied. Although Title I quarterly progress report needs are up-to-date, other deliverables and required reporting on other passthrough funds are unsatisfactory. LCSD confidence is lacking on budget understanding at the building level.

April 25, 2026: Siletz Valley School is able to respond after multiple requests. However, it has been found that SVS has been allowed by ODE to misuse Federal School Improvement funds for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years. Although previous SVS leadership is blamed for the lack of understanding of compliance issues, this is not the case with business services or the last two years of funding. **Not Compliant**

5. Although a comprehensive plan to improve academic performance is in place, focused particularly on the areas that caused the State to designate SVS as a Targeted Support and Improvement School (TSI), most results have remained at Level 1, based on 2023-2024 ODE reporting. TSI results must show adequate improvement either through an increase to a Level 2 in all categories or similar progress on a nationally normed, locally administered, internal assessment (EasyCBM, Acadience, SBAC, DIBLES, iReady, etc.) Benchmarking and progress monitoring from local assessments must be reviewed with LCSD administration quarterly.

Progress Update: LCSD and SVS Title I staff met on 9/24 to review the Title I plan, data, and process. Benchmark reviews will happen on February 5, 2026. SVS is again identified as a TSI school. The School Improvement Plan submitted on 11/2/25 was the 2023-2024 plan but projected out until 2026. At the 1/21/26 check-in, there was no evidence that Lenora Hall had read the plan or made any progress in academic improvement. It is evident that although a comprehensive plan document is in place, its implementation is unsatisfactory and is not relevant based on current data or monitoring.

April 25, 2026: SVS must review and monitor Section 5: Evaluation of Student Performance and Procedures for Corrective Action in the LCSD and Siletz Valley School Charter agreement to understand the agreed-upon expectations for implementation. SVS has submitted an unsatisfactory and incomplete School Improvement Plan for the 2025-2026 school year that is different than the one presented to the LCSD Board in the fall of 2025-2026. The funds for school improvement have also been misused. LCSD is requiring SVS to contract with Oregon Department of Education to begin a Customized Coaching & Professional Learning program tailored to the needs of the school's identified student groups, provided by ODE for no cost. LCSD will reimburse SVS allocated TSI funds for the 26-27 school year used by SVS for school improvement measures that support the targeted student groups as deemed appropriate through collaboration with their Customized Coaching and Professional Learning plan and ODE. ODE will also begin monitoring SVS weekly updates to LCSD as well as support the school in 30, 60, and 90 day planning. **Not Compliant**

6. SVS previously established a goal to increase attendance. However, as of June 2025, SVS' regular attendance rate was 39.9%. An improvement plan must be drafted and submitted to LCSD. The plan must be comprehensive and may include strategies such as specific parent outreach, modification of the school day and/or school year calendar, and dedication of resources to ensuring that students are attending school. The plan must include specific dates for implementation of each component, as well as specific quantitative targets and dates for meeting each of those targets.

Progress Update: In the initial response, SVS responded to working together during the in-service week to create a plan to meet the 57% goal for 25-26. Staff met on 8/18 to review data and gather input. SVS will continue with grade-level band meetings to discuss a 1st quarter plan and annual goal. SVS is working with ODE to receive coaching in Equitable Mindsets, Systems and Practices. SVS also works directly with the TAPP program to increase attendance and work with tribal families. Although this was sent to LCSD, its evidence of implementation is lacking. LCSD and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians TAPP staff met with SVS administration on 12/15/25 to discuss attendance. Attendance systems are not yet in place. Implementing bi-weekly attendance meets, daily unverified monitoring, and athletic and activity attendance requirements were discussed. On 12/15, Assistant Superintendent Belloni connected Lenora with Waldport High School Principal Amy Skirvin to discuss attendance plans (athletics, etc). Amy replied on 12/17 to set up a Zoom. On 1/13/26, Amy emailed that she had not yet heard from anyone. LCSD is scheduling a meeting with TAPP CTSI, LCSD, ODE, and SVS staff. SVS must attend and bring all relevant school data and a plan to fully integrate TAPP services. On 1/21/26, Majalise Tolan reviewed the attendance plan that was submitted on 11/3/25, and it was confirmed that the plan has not been implemented, and attendance teams do not meet regularly. The lack of progress on improving student attendance is unsatisfactory.

April 25, 2026: An attendance team is in place; however, there are documented concerns that attendance is not taken accurately. This poses an attendance data concern as well as a safety concern. Attendance training for all staff must take place to begin the 2026-2027 school year. Attendance was at 38% regular attender rate at the April Board meeting. This is a decrease since the 60-day notification letter was issued. **Not Compliant**

7. While the SVS graduation rate had been reported by ODE at 100%, due to other metrics reported and the fact that SVS has been designated as a Targeted Support and Improvement School, the accuracy of this information needs to be verified, and any supporting evidence must be cited and documented. The 2023-2024 graduation rate reported by ODE was 67%. The 9th Grade On Track rate was 78% (an improvement from the 2022-2023 rate of 28%). Both of these data points need monthly monitoring and documentation.

Progress Update: Records reflecting grades are difficult to track on a timely basis. When TAPP pulled December data, some students had yet to have any grades entered. This was reported to the Oregon Department of Education. If this information is incorrect, SVS is improperly using the Synergy data entry system. This system is used to pull student information for state reporting, progress monitoring, academic information, graduation planning, and academic or behavior team analysis. Either this information or the lack of purposeful use of the system is unsatisfactory. This lack of data accuracy makes it difficult to monitor or trust student progress in areas LCSD is directly responsible for: Special Education, Tribal Attendance Promising Practices (TAPP), and Title VI (Indian Education).

April 25, 2026: Although teams and data review have started, they are not fully or consistently implemented. SVS will need to work closely with ODE and High School Success measures for improvement in this area. Data-based decisions must be reflected in the School Improvement Plan with specific goals and measures and established progress monitoring. See Section 5 and Appendix A of the Charter Agreement. **Not Compliant**

8. SVS must ensure that financial reporting is timely. Long-term financial health indicators continue to need to be examined. It is uncertain if grant funds, Siletz Tribal Charitable Trust (STCT) and Charter Equity are budgeted accurately for the 2025-2026 school year. Updated budget documents must be submitted with a narrative providing clarity around anticipated funds.

Progress Update: Lenora is working with Kim Cusick on budgeting. HDT and ODS grant budgets and reports are unsatisfactory. STCT reporting is not required at this time, however,

SVS did accept and cash a check from CTSI for a new wrestling room that was unauthorized by LCSD and a violation of the charter lease agreement. The funds were returned to CTSI.

April 25, 2026: Christina Bushnell recently clarified reserve amounts at SVS. How SVS spends its money is at the discretion of school leadership and the SVS School Board; however, the 2026-2027 budget due to LCSD on June 15th must account for the directed use of ODE Targeted School Improvement funds to support ODE's Customized Coaching and Professional Learning Plan. Use of funds for building maintenance and improvement projects must also be specific and highlighted in the SVS Board's adopted budget. Frequent reminders have been made for the last three years to SVS. The need for corrections regarding allowable uses of grant funds continues to need explanation, causing a burden on LCSD, and is still unsatisfactory. **Not Compliant**

9. Oregon Public Meetings Laws must be followed, including but not limited to timely meeting notice and agenda publication, public posting of minutes, and recordings of meetings. From this point forward, SVS must document its compliance for every board meeting and submit this documentation to LCSD on a monthly basis.

Progress Update: As of 1/25/26, regular minutes and required recordings have not been posted. The last meeting recording was 5/27/25. A reminder was given on 12/18/25 and 1/21/26. Compliance with Oregon Public Meeting Laws is unsatisfactory.

April 25, 2026: LCSD Legal Counsel found this to be unsatisfactory. SVS has reached out to OSBA for additional training. **Not Compliant**

10. SVS staff have demonstrated a lack of understanding in student management and discipline procedures, including up to suspension and expulsion. Immediate concerns have been raised in understanding manifestation needs, Oregon weapons laws, the ability to investigate complaints about student behavior, and due process. Monthly discipline data and investigation notes must now be reviewed by building administration and LCSD district staff.

April 25, 2026: Based on staff and parent report as well as data review, there are concerns that disciplinary incidents are not completed consistently by staff, that both informal and formal removals for disciplinary incidents are not being recorded, and that student incident reports completed by staff have not been processed by administration in a timely manner. LCSD's Carol Stock and Natalia Aguilar will work with leadership to ensure staff understand the student incident reporting process and that the administrative support team understands their role in responding to these incidents. Response includes timely processing of incidents, contacting parents, assigning disciplinary consequences when appropriate and recording all decisions in Synergy. Carol Stock will also work with leadership to ensure staff are continually tracking removals for students in Special Education or 504 plans and aware when a student is approaching thresholds that warrant further assessment or manifestation determination review. **Not Compliant**

11. Although LCSD provides the Special Education instructional staff, SVS administration is still responsible for the proper implementation of Special Education processes. LCSD has provided training to SVS administration, but the required manifestation determination information was not provided to LCSD staff running a manifestation meeting, and emails were not responded to in a timely manner to support the team. SVS administrators must attend all Special Education trainings that take place with LCSD administrators. All emails from LCSD Special Education staff must be responded to within 24 hours.

Progress: Deb Barnes attended training on Disciplinary Implications for Students in Special Education on February 26th and has responded to all emails within 24 hours since this time.

April 25, 2026: This area is currently compliant, but due to uncertainty with leadership for the 2026-2027 school year, this area will remain for weekly monitoring. **Compliant**

12. **Cybersecurity:** SVS is not compliant with current cybersecurity measures. Although SVS has entered into an MOU with LCSD for technology infrastructure improvement, SVS is responsible for addressing areas of cybersecurity, privacy monitoring, and cybersecurity enforcement. As its own charter entity, SVS should consult with PACE for cybersecurity training and information outside of requesting ongoing meetings and training with LCSD. **Not Compliant**

Originally, SVS was required to comply with all requirements and submissions set forth in items 1-10 above within 30 calendar days of 7/21/25. Although extended time was granted due to summer and continued inconsistent leadership, as of 1/30/26, SVS is unsatisfactory in meeting its educational and management obligations for students and charter compliance. As of April 26, 2026 the above-identified areas are still not compliant and/or are in need of consistent monitoring. This monitoring will be met through a weekly Google Form submitted by SVS leadership and viewable by ODE, SVS Board, and LCSD Board. SVS leadership and LCSD leadership will continue to meet monthly for a full review.

During the 2025-2026 school year, SVS interim superintendent, the superintendent, and then again the interim superintendent met with LCSD administration monthly and at times weekly to review compliance with the requirements set forth above. Throughout the last three years, meetings with SVS administration have lacked follow-through from SVS. LCSD continues to lack confidence that SVS has a cohesive administrative team collaborating to implement any developed plans. It is unclear if SVS administration understands that LCSD wants students to attend a charter school where compliance is a standard and implementation of continuous improvement is what every educator works for every day. Lack of strong leadership, honest reflection, focused, implemented, and monitored plans, and a belief in improvement appear to be missing. LCSD is told and the public is led to believe that compliance is met because drafts or plans with no evidence of true implementation are written and should be trusted. Three years of lack of evidence demonstrates that drafts and plans cannot be trusted. These plans must be implemented, reviewed, revised, and continuously improved for our students.

From February 1, 2026 until April 14, 2026 LCSD provided an 8-hour-a-month coach to SVS but is removing that support. It is the position of LCSD that a Collaborative Learning Plan developed through work with ODE and weekly check-ins with monthly feedback will be a better use of time for both parties. LCSD staff has been willing to help provide additional training, feedback, and support, however, it is met with little to no implementation. LCSD will begin referring SVS to ODE contacts when additional training and support are needed. In addition, LCSD will no longer be a resource for SVS to use for state-required Tribal Consultation on any grants outside of TAPP and Title VI. SVS is responsible for full Tribal Consultation in all areas required by law.

Failure to meet the requirements set forth above, including the submissions required, the timelines imposed, and the mandated meetings, may result in termination of the charter agreement. Please reach out to Majalise Tolan at majalise.tolan@lincoln.k12.or.us for further discussion.

Sincerely,



Dr. Majalise W. Tolan
Superintendent
Lincoln County School District