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August 29, 2025

Board of Education Lane Community College

Chair Folnagy and Members of the Board of Education,

Our community has a vested interest in Lane Community College's mission, reputation, and leadership. Employers across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors view LCC as a trusted partner in preparing a future-ready workforce, an institution worthy of voter-approved bonds, philanthropic investment, and ongoing collaboration through internships, advisory service, and workforce development initiatives.

Our community, our employers, and most importantly, our students cannot afford a distracted, divided board; nor do we tolerate abusive, toxic behaviors of leadership.

The recent independent legal investigation substantiating serious allegations of misconduct by an elected board member and the consequential dysfunction and display of hostility toward the administration cannot be dismissed or ignored.

The abuse of position and power is profoundly troubling and misrepresents both our community's and our college's core values. It conflicts with the expectations we hold for leaders, the principles of sound governance, and the culture of respect required to guide a public institution. Left unresolved, it threatens the College's reputation, public trust, and ability to serve students and employers effectively.

You employ a high-performing chief executive in President Bulger who is exceedingly capable of advancing timely, measurable, and transparent strategies. With a new board in place and a new academic year underway, this is an opportune moment to reset priorities and set a clear course forward.

We call on you as a Board to act firmly and cohesively: hold elected board members accountable, respect the President and authorities delegated to her, recommit to your fiduciary responsibilities, and protect the integrity of our college and the community it serves.

Respectfully,

Deborah Creager

Chair, Board of Directors

Vonnie Mikkelsen

President and CEO