## \$150 cash payments, field trips to Dave and Busters and trips to Disney: Are cyber charter schools playing games with PA tax dollars? What game is Auditor General DeFoor playing by giving them a free pass?

Education Voters of PA has obtained emails, reimbursement forms, and screen shots from a Commonwealth Charter Academy Facebook page that reveal CCA, Pennsylvania's largest cyber charter school with an enrollment of nearly 20,000 students, is using tax dollars to:

- Send every family a cash payment of \$150 (March 25, 2022)
- Provide a \$250 "community class" cash reimbursement for each student enrolled
- Provide a \$200 "personal field trip" cash reimbursement for each student enrolled

Facebook posts in a CCA parent page show families discussing spending tax dollars provided by CCA to:

- Purchase meals and games
  Dave and Busters arcade
- Attend a Motley Crue concert
- Take a trip to Austria
- Buy Eagles tickets
- Take family vacations to Universal Studios and Disney
- Pay for scuba, ski, and horseback riding lessons

So, why won't Auditor General Timothy DeFoor immediately open an audit of CCA to investigate these eye-popping abuses of taxpayer dollars? CCA has not been audited by the state in nearly a decade and with an annual budget expected to top \$250 million in 2022-2023, with no state oversight, and as evidenced by public social media posts the waste, fraud and abuse of tax dollars is extraordinary.



## Dear CCA Families:

As a student- and family-centered organization with an expertise in education, CCA recognizes that, due to current economic conditions, many students and families are facing challenging times and uncertainty in their daily lives. From unexpected and increased expenses to reduced income and job losses, we know that many families are struggling, now more than ever, to make ends meet.

Being a family-focused school and in recognition of the difficulties confronting many families, the CCA Board of Trustees has authorized an additional, one-time Instructional Technology Subsidy (ITS) payment of \$150 for March. This is in addition to the regular March ITS payment that was communicated via email on March 15, 2022.

Every family enrolled in CCA on or before March 15, 2022 – except families who have an outstanding change of address – will automatically receive this additional, one-time payment. Unless you have an outstanding change of address, there is nothing further you need to do to receive this payment. Checks will be mailed no later than Monday, April 4, 2022. Please allow sufficient time for the United States Postal Service to deliver your check.

If you have not received the regular March ITS payment, or you have an outstanding change of address, please call 717-710-3300 and select option 9 for "Internet Subsidy Check," or send an email to <a href="mailto:itsp@ccaeducate.me">itsp@ccaeducate.me</a>.

On behalf of the CCA Board of Trustees and all CCA staff, thank you for trusting CCA to be a partner in your child's education. We are grateful for the opportunity to provide your child with flexible and customizable high-quality educational programs and services.

Take care and stay well.

Sincerely,

Thomas D. Longenecker President and CEO

If you need the information in this email provided in another language, please contact Jessica Dynda at <a href="mailto:idynda@ccaeducate.me">idynda@ccaeducate.me</a>.

Arabic

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى المعلومات أن المرققات لهذا البريد الإلكتروني المقدمة Jessica Dynda, jdynda@ccaeducate.me " في لغة أخرى، برجى الاتصال







## Are cyber charter schools playing games with Pennsylvania tax dollars?







