

# Timothy D. Goler

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September 16, 2009

## RE: LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

Dear Community, Parents, Students & Teachers,

In light of the recent events over the course of the past few weeks, I felt the need to address some of the issues surrounding my status as the Principal of the 100 Academy of Excellence. I feel that it is my duty and obligation to set the record straight and to provide you with the facts regarding my decision yesterday to sever my ties with Imagine, Inc.

Yesterday, you may have heard that I resigned my position as Principal.... **THIS IS SIMPLY NOT TRUE!!!**

The fact of the matter is that I resigned from Imagine Schools, which is *the management company* that was contracted by the owners of the school- the Governing Board. Imagine is a management company. They are not the school. Period! What makes 100 Academy of Excellence a school is the Charter, which is held by the Governing Board. The Governing Board contracted with Imagine Schools to manage the school. My resignation was with Imagine and not with 100 Academy of Excellence. I know this sounds complicated but this is the structure that is currently in place.

**Why Did I Resign?** Simply Put: I do not believe that Imagine has our children's best interest at heart. As someone that has dedicated my life to advancing the education opportunities for children, I cannot and will not compromise my principles and attempt to serve *Two Masters: Profit vs. Our Children's Future*. I have worked as a teacher, worked as an administrator, served as the Executive Director of the 100 Black Men of Cleveland, OH, and founded a public policy think tank. These experiences have enabled me to see firsthand the importance of integrity and honesty. I will not under any circumstances have my character assassinated because I stand on principle and want what is best for my students and the community. I am an advocate for our children. I was one before I came here and I will remain one after I leave.

However, I do believe that the 100 Black Men, the Governing Board, the Teachers and You are all here to serve and show our children that we are here speaking in a unified voice with one goal. And that is to educate, teach, mentor, and love our Children so that they will become excellent in all they do and so they can grow up to be successful people in their own right! We are the ones that have a vested interest in seeing our children succeed. We shouldn't have to serve two masters.

It is also **NOT TRUE** that Vickie Frazier-Williams and Nancy Hall have met with me several times over that past few weeks. I want you to know that I am still committed to our school, this community, to YOU and most importantly to our Children. I want nothing more than to be your Principal and I'm trying to fight for your interests. This is our school and our community and no outside forces should be allowed to disrupt what needs to be done on behalf of our children.

**\*Please come to the Board Meeting this Thursday, September 17, 2009, at 6:00 PM at the School to learn more (Very Important!).**

I look forward to seeing you.

Still Fighting the good fight,

  
Tim Goler