

August 19, 2022

Dear STRIDE Academy,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter of resignation from STRIDE Academy. I have enjoyed my time at STRIDE and my experiences have taught me so much. I know I am a better educator (and honestly a better person) from my seven years at STRIDE.

As I part from STRIDE, I would like to share my concerns that caused me to look for employment elsewhere. I do this in hopes that these concerns may be addressed so that STRIDE can better retain good teachers/employees.

1. The lack of a salary scale is extremely difficult. People are talking about salaries, and what I find most frustrating is that there are lesser qualified people being paid more than licensed teachers. These people are doing less work due to their lack of training and understanding of their job, and they are being paid more. Salaries should be based on experience and a licensed teacher should not make less than non licensed employees.
2. In my opinion, it seems that there is an abundance of employees being hired that are not qualified to do the work required by their position. This makes gaps in our professionalism and creates extra work for qualified teachers/employees. It causes extra stress and burnout. It is a true disservice to our students, families, and school.
3. This year would have been my eighth year at STRIDE, and it is the fourth set of administration. It is exhausting starting over. We were very strong as a school during my seven years, but I don't feel the same way anymore. This is not a reflection on the new administration. They are just getting started, and I hope that they can regain the school's strength.
4. It is extremely difficult to get the needed support for students. The MTSS program was atrocious last year. I honestly felt like I had to fight to get my students the needed resources last year. It is wrong to have to fight so hard to help your students learn.

Please know that the decision to leave STRIDE was extremely difficult for me. I love this school; the students, families, and my colleagues. I just feel that the most healthy thing for me is to seek employment elsewhere because I feel so strongly about the issues noted above. I appreciate all of the opportunities STRIDE has given me, and I will miss this school very much.

Sincerely,



Jenifer Geisler