



**Kim Holmes**

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January 29, 2021

Paso Robles Press  
Hayley Mattson, Co-Editor  
Via email:  
[editor@13starsmedia.com](mailto:editor@13starsmedia.com)

Dear Ms. Mattson,

I write to offer my humble apology for a grave error made today in preparing and transmitting a letter as part of my work with Paso Robles Jt. Unified School District. I am currently serving as an interim executive assistant to help the district through a period of turnover and vacancy in this key position.

The letter was prepared in response to both radio and print articles from KPRL Radio and Paso Robles Daily News (*NOT Paso Robles Press*). Their stories contained misinformation that we felt needed to be retracted and corrected immediately as the Board will be meeting in the morning regarding the recent Grand Jury Report, the subject of their allegations.

The content of the letter was prepared by Superintendent Dubost, and this is where his attention was focused in reading what I prepared. It was MY error to confuse the two media names when I was searching for contact information, as the day was coming to a close and I needed to get the letter out. I did not take the time to review background where I might have seen my error in time. None of these factors excuse my mistake.

I feel especially bad given the context of the letter and the current situation. As the school district felt the need to defend itself and its employees against perceived defamation, my error placed your newspaper in a position to also feel defamed – by misleading readers to think the “bad press” against the district came from you, when it most certainly did not.

Please accept my deepest and sincere apology. We have revised the letter and retransmitted it to our staff and to the correct recipients. Anyone listening to or reading about these current events should be assured that the Paso Robles Press never disparaged the district, nor did we intend to disparage the Press through this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KIM HOLMES