



FAQ's Woodland Lawsuit

March 24, 2015

In an effort to answer questions on our communities' minds, we will continue to compile and update these FAQ's and answers to the best of our ability, based on the most recent information as it becomes available.

Will School be open on Monday?

Yes, PCCS will be in session for the remainder of the year and, at a minimum, remain open until the Appellate Court rules on the case. Our expectation is that we will continue with our current 5-year charter agreement through 2019 and once again renew our charter after that. We will be focusing on improving our education and outreach initiatives and will not let this lawsuit thwart our charge of providing a free quality education to all students that reside in the Woodland and Fremont Districts that choose to attend our public school.

What did the Court actually do?

After much preparation and thorough briefing alongside the Illinois State Charter School Commission ("Commission") and the Illinois State Board of Education ("ISBE") (both agencies of the State of Illinois), the Court ruled against the Commission, ISBE and PCCS and in favor of Plaintiff with respect to its request to reverse the Commission's decision to grant PCCS a renewal charter for its school (see attached).

PCCS and the Commission contend that the process was thorough and complete and that there is no evidence that supports that the School violated any charter school law.

What is the next step in the process?

The case before Judge Allen was unprecedented and considered in legal terms a *case of first impression* (defined as a new legal issue or interpretation that is brought before a court). Therefore, it was anticipated that whichever ruling the Judge sided on, the Plaintiff (Woodland) or Defendants (ISCSC, PCCS and ISBE) would have most likely filed for an appeal with the Illinois Appellate Court.

This is exactly what PCCS will do.

Although the Judge's decision has been ordered – it has not been enforced. PCCS will be filing its appeal within 30 days of the Judge's decision. Similarly, the Commission and ISBE have expressed the same interest in also filing an appeal. Additionally, our legal team is preparing a motion to stay the enforcement of the order so that the appeal can proceed without there being repercussions on the School. No dates have been set, as of yet, for the motion to stay.

Will PCCS keep us informed?

The Administration will provide updates on a regular basis and will add a discussion item to each of its Board meetings (held on the 4th Tuesday of each month). As this process continues, it may take more time than we would prefer and there will be times when the School will not have any further updates during the appeal process as the legal teams prepare their briefs and responses.

As additional questions surface we will continue to update this list and do our best to provide clarity. We would appreciate the sharing of these responses to other families whom may inquire along the way.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BOARD OF EDUC. OF WOODLAND DIST. 50

v.

No. 2014 CH 08573

SCHL.

IL STATE CHARTER COMMISSION, et al.

ORDER

This matter coming before the Court for hearing on Plaintiff's ADMIN. REVIEW LAW claim (Count I), all parties represented by counsel in court, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

① For the reasons stated on the Record, this Court finds and it is ORDERED that the Final Decision of the IL Charter School Commission was clearly erroneous and is reversed ~~school~~ with judgment for Plaintiff on Count I, effective ~~2015-2016~~ ~~2011~~

~~② Defendants' oral motion that this Court's ruling be stayed is denied, but defendants are given leave to file a motion to stay in writing~~

③ Plaintiff's request for attorneys fees and court costs is stayed pending appeal, if any, by Defendants.

④ Counts II, III and IV are dismissed as moot in light of this Court's ruling on Count I. ⑤ This ~~order~~ is a

Atty. No.: 39554

Name: SCARANO, HINES & PETRARCA/JAP

Atty. for: Plaintiff

Address: 180 N. STETSON, SUITE 3100

City/State/Zip: Chicago, IL 60601

Telephone: 312-565-3100 x. 257

ENTERED: final and appealable order.

Dated: _____

[Signature]
Judge

Judge's No. _____

