

**Illinois State Charter School Commission**

Michael A. Bilandic Building  
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Chicago, IL 60601  
312.814.1258

March 24, 2015

Dear Prairie Crossing Charter School Community,

Last spring, the State Charter School Commission voted to renew the charter of Prairie Crossing Charter School for five years. The Commission was impressed by the strong academics, innovative curriculum and supportive environment of Prairie Crossing. For more than 15 years, Prairie Crossing has been a school that hundreds of families of the Woodland and Fremont school districts have chosen for their children.

Yesterday, in a lawsuit brought by the members of the Woodland school board, a Cook County Circuit Court judge reversed the decision of the Commission to renew the charter of Prairie Crossing. In doing so, he ignored the academic success of Prairie Crossing, the careful deliberations of the Commission, the wishes of hundreds of families and the plain language of Illinois' charter school law.

Worse, the members of the Woodland school board have pursued months of costly litigation in order to take away an educational option now enjoyed by their constituents.

As Chairman of the State Charter School Commission, I write to let you know that the Commission believes in the worth of Prairie Crossing just as much today as we did last spring. We will be appealing the judge's decision and do not expect this case to be decided for perhaps a year or more. In the meantime, we will work tirelessly with you and the staff and leadership of Prairie Crossing to keep this wonderful school open for years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg Richmond".

Greg Richmond  
Chairman, State Charter School Commission