

## Legal Action Updates

### Update of Woodland Lawsuit

Since our last communication and our Town Hall meeting, our legal team has submitted to the Court two (2) additional motions in our ongoing legal battle with Dist. 50. The first motion filed in the Cook County Courts was a *Motion to Stay* the enforcement of the Judge's March 23<sup>rd</sup> decision to reverse the SCSC's decision to renew PCCS's charter through 2019. The second motion was a *Motion to Reconsider*. In essence, a motion arguing that the Cook County court had no jurisdiction to hear the Woodland complaints due to Woodland erroneously filing the complaints in a manner that is not allowable under the Administrative Review Law procedure.

Woodland has since filed responses to our motions and the Court is scheduled to hear the oral arguments on June 11, 2015. Again, as this is a case of first impression in Illinois, it is anticipated that regardless of which way the Judge rules on the case, either Plaintiff or Defendants in the case will appeal this to the Illinois Appellate Court.

### New Legal Action from Woodland and Fremont against ISBE

As recently reported in a Chicago Tribune affiliated newspaper, there is another legal complaint filed by both feeder districts of Woodland and Fremont against the Illinois State Board of Education.

The lawsuit contests the way ISBE determines the funding formula that provides PCCS our Per Capita Tuition Costs for each child that attends our school.

It is worth noting that in the filed complaint of Woodland and Fremont that they state explicitly ***"Prairie Crossing is named as a defendant in this suit only as a necessary party. Plaintiffs allege no violation of law against Prairie Crossing and seek no relief from Prairie Crossing in this suit."***

In short, PCCS is named in the lawsuit only because it is a as a recipient of the PCTC funds and we expect to incur no legal costs in having to defend our school in the matter. At the heart of the complaint is whether ISBE should (or shouldn't) count the students that attend PCCS in the Average Daily Attendance numbers reported to the State by the Woodland and Fremont districts. If the Plaintiffs (Woodland and Fremont) are correct and the students should be counted then the PCTC costs for students that attend PCCS will decrease. If the Defendant (ISBE) is correct - that they shouldn't be counted, then PCCS will receive a more equitable funding amount for those children who choose to attend PCCS.

As of today, there has not been a schedule set to hear the merits of this case in Court. In both cases, the root of the issue is the way Charter Schools are funded. In each, our stand is that there should be no discrepancy in whether a child chooses our school or another - the costs of reimbursement to educate that child should be equal.

PCCS will continue to abide by the Charter School Law and continue to operate under the guidance and protocols of the State Charter School Commission and the State Board of Education.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Deigan  
Executive Director