



CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent

232 West 9TH Street

Chester, Pennsylvania 19013

www.chesteruplandsd.org

January 28, 2021

Dear Learning Community:

I trust you and your families are safe and healthy during this time.

On Monday, January 11, 2021, the Chester Upland School District appeared before the Honorable Judge Barry C. Dozor at the Delaware County District Court. Below please find highlights of what occurred during the court hearing.

- The Chester Upland School District and Receiver, Juan R. Baughn, Ed.D., through their legal counsel Fox Rothschild, LLP presented four witnesses to The Honorable Barry C. Dozer:
 - Dr. Leroy Nunery, Strategic Advisor
 - Jack Pund, CPA, Esq., Strategic Advisor
 - Dr. Carol Birks, Superintendent
 - Dr. Juan Baughn, Receiver
- Dr. Nunery presented the Request for Information and Request for Proposal (“RFP”) objectives, processes, methodology, bidders’ document room, timeframes, review process, and outcomes to be recommended to the Receiver and the Court.
- Mr. Pund presented the current finances of the District with comparative financial performance and fund balances for school years 2017-2018, 2018-2019, and 2019-2020, as well as budgeted amounts for school year 2020-2021.
- Dr. Birks presented the current educational model, technology support to all students for remote learning, planned hybrid on-site learning as safety permits, and enhanced educational performance models and objectives.
- Dr. Baughn presented the priority objectives of the Receiver and the Receivership, status of the objectives, communication with the community, parents, the School Board and PDE, and members of the RFP Review Committee.
- The Honorable Barry C. Dozor was appreciative of the four witnesses and was pleased with the tangible progress in executing the Recovery Plan. However, he was not pleased that the June 30, 2019 audit was not yet complete. Judge Dozor was also not pleased with the academic performance of students in the District and expressed concerns about the pandemic’s impact on that performance.
- Legal counsel for other parties questioned the witnesses. In addition, The Honorable Barry C. Dozor had to rule on five motions had been filed by the attorneys representing either the Chester Community Charter School or the Parent Representatives.

- The parties stipulated to three minor changes to the RFP and The Honorable Barry C. Dozor directed the RFP deadline to be 30 days after the June 30, 2019 audit is released, posted in the bidders' document room, and on the CUSD website.

Best,



Dr. Carol D. Birks
Superintendent