## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS WESTERN DIVISION

LITTLE ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLAINTIFF

VS.

Case No. 4:82cv00866DPM

PULASKI COUNTY SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, ET AL.

DEFENDANTS

MRS. LORENE JOSHUA, ET AL.

**INTERVENORS** 

KATHERINE W. KNIGHT, ET AL.

**INTERVENORS** 

## JOSHUA INTERVENORS REPORT TO THE COURT

- 1. The parties have met in person on at least four separate occasions over the past three months to discuss facilities as directed by the Court. The last face to face meeting was held on November 17, 2015 in the JNPSD offices.
- 2. Discussions regarding PCSSD have been fruitful. The parties agree on siting decisions regarding the new Mills and a considerably refurbished Fuller Middle school. They continue to discuss construction and design related matters that relate to student achievement.
- 3. PCSSD and Joshua discussions also involve Harris and College Station elementary schools. The decisions regarding either or both Harris and/or College Station stand to be adversely affected by the decision of the Arkansas Department

of Education to locate a charter school in the Scott community to accommodate between 200 to 300 students. Final approval by the State Board of Education is pending. This new public school has the potential for being racially identifiable. The Arkansas Department of Education should provide the parties in this case a full opportunity to review the application for this school and to oppose its approval, if deemed appropriate, prior to considering whether its operation should be approved.

- 4. PCSSD and Joshua counsel meet regularly regarding facilities.
- 5. The JNPSD plans have been rather vague in that the district has no budget and until several days ago had no Facilities Master Plan. On November 30, 2015, a 93 page Facilities Master Plan was presented to Joshua for review. The plan follows a meeting held on November 17, 2015 dealing exclusively with Jacksonville issues. On that date, Joshua agreed on the location of a new high school. It did not agree on any other issue pending the written plan.
- 6. Joshua has been unable to have one on one discussions with the JNPSD's consultant, Dr. Charles Stein, regarding the master plan or any other plans. Joshua was informed today that Dr. Stein will be made available at a mutually convenient time or times regarding the JNPSD facilities plan.
- 7. JNPSD and Joshua disagree on the breadth of the JNPSD's facilities undertaking and the quality of the schools contemplated. Last evening, however, JNSPD counsel Richardson indicated that the two facilities contemplated for the present, a new high school and a new elementary school replacing two facilities,

will be comparable to the new Mills and Maumelle High Schools and the Chenal Elementary school. Joshua awaits further documentation and discussions regarding the facility plan for JNPSD.

- 8. The parties appear to be working together more cooperatively.
- 9. Exhibit A is attached regarding the Charles W. Donaldson Scholars

  Academy. Dr. Donaldson will be available at the status conference for such use as
  the Court deems necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby state that a copy of the foregoing has been served on all counsel of record wherein a copy was sent by utilizing the CM/ECF system on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

/s/ John W. Walker