

**FILED**  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT ARKANSAS

DEC 23 2013

JAMES W. MCCORMACK, CLERK  
By:   
DEP CLERK

Sharon Whitehurst  
13120 Clinton Road  
North Little Rock, AR 72118

December 19, 2013

James W. McCormack, Clerk of Court  
United States District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas  
Richard Sheppard Arnold United States Courthouse  
600 West Capitol Avenue, Room A149  
Little Rock, AR 72201

To whom it may concern:

I totally object to the wording of the proposed settlement agreement for Pulaski County Special School District. Who is the State of Arkansas to oppose, the creation of any other school districts from PCSSD's territory. Dr. Guess has had an agenda from the very beginning to create a Jacksonville District. It is unfair the state to tell other cities they cannot control the schools in their community. PCSSD has become too large and parents no longer have any say in how things are handled. Which is why, so many students in the city of Maumelle are in private schools. Parents feel it is better to pay, in order to have a voice in their child's education.

PCSSD has grown into a monster. State control has not made any difference, other than the parents have to foot the bill for anything the schools need. Tax payer's dollars are spent to support these schools, and the tax payers should have a voice in what goes on. The district is solvent now and should be removed from State control. So I do not understand how the state

can tell us we cannot have our own district, if we vote for one. The state of Arkansas is trying to dictate the future for our schools, by tell us, we cannot have community supported schools. I feel that if a community can afford to support its own district it should have its own district. I am not opposed to Jacksonville having their own district, they have worked long and hard for this goal, I applaud them for their success. But it is unfair for the state of Arkansas to tell a community that is predominantly white, that they do not deserve the same thing because they are white, which is what the wording of this proposed agreement does.

PCSSD is dysfunctional and needs to be dissolved completely; it has not provided a quality education to our children in years, if ever. I feel every child no matter where they live deserve a quality education, and having parent's involvement is key. PCSSD say they have an open door policy, but it is like running into a brick wall, if you want to discuss a problem with anyone. I just feel that the parents (taxpayers) should have more say in what happens in their communities and with their children's education, and not have the future of their children dictated to them by a state that does not have a clue what is need in each individual community.

The wording is unfair and should be removed. The state of Arkansas is trying to help PCSSD to remain in control, but the parents and communities are tired of the inadequate education that all of our children are receiving in this district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Whitehurst". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sharon Whitehurst

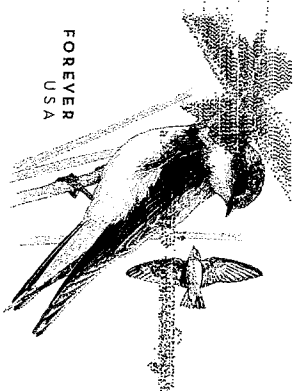
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