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IN THE COMMONWEALTH COURT OF PENNSYLVANIA

WILLIAM PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT, *et al.*,

Petitioners,

v.

No. 587 MD 2014

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, *et al.*,

Respondents.

[PROPOSED] ORDER

AND NOW, this day of

, 2023, upon

consideration of Legislative Respondents' Joint Application in the Nature of a Motion for Post-Trial Relief and the Answer of Petitioners thereto, it is hereby **ORDERED** that the Application for Post-Trial Relief is **DENIED** and final judgment is entered in favor of Petitioners on Counts I and II of the Petition for Review.

BY THE COURT:

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PETITIONERS' ANSWER TO LEGISLATIVE RESPONDENTS' JOINT APPLICATION IN THE NATURE OF A <u>MOTION FOR POST-TRIAL RELIEF</u>

Although the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure do not require a response to Legislative Respondents' Joint Application in the Nature of a Motion for Post-Trial Relief, in the interest of efficiency Petitioners answer as follows:

1. Paragraphs 1-120 of Legislative Respondents' Joint Application are

denied. By way of further response, these paragraphs contain characterizations of the factual record, which speaks for itself, and conclusions of law to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Petitioners refer to the extensive record in this case, including Petitioners' previously submitted Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law; Petitioners' Post-Trial Briefs; and the Court's well-reasoned findings and rulings throughout the tenure of this case, including the Court's February 7, 2023 Memorandum Opinion; and deny anything inconsistent therewith. By way of further response, to the extent that Legislative Respondents failed to properly preserve any of the grounds asserted for relief, those claims are waived.

WHEREFORE, Petitioners respectfully request that the Court deny Legislative Respondents' Joint Application in the Nature of a Motion for Post-Trial Relief, and enter final judgment in favor of Petitioners on Counts I and II of the Petition for Review. Dated: February 22, 2023

By: <u>/s/ Katrina Robson</u> Katrina Robson (*pro hac vice*) Anne T. Marchitello (*pro hac vice*) John F. Dermody (*pro hac vice*) O'MELVENY & MYERS LLP 1625 Eye Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006 Telephone: (202) 383-5300

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Attorneys for Petitioners William Penn School District, Panther Valley School District, The School District of Lancaster, Greater Johnstown School District, Wilkes-Barre Area School District, Shenandoah Valley School District, and Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools. Respectfully submitted,

By: <u>/s/ Daniel Urevick-Ackelsberg</u> Mary M. McKenzie (Bar No. 46434) Michael Churchill (Bar No. 04661) Daniel Urevick-Ackelsberg (Bar No. 307758) Claudia De Palma (Bar No. 320136) PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER 2 Penn Center 1500 JFK Blvd., Suite 802 Philadelphia, PA 19102 Telephone: (215) 627-7100

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Attorneys for Petitioners Jamella and Bryant Miller, Sheila Armstrong, Tracey Hughes, Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small Schools, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – Pennsylvania State Conference.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

I certify that this filing complies with the provisions of the Public Access Policy of the United Judicial System of Pennsylvania: Case Records of the Appellate and Trial Courts that require filing confidential information and documents differently than non-confidential information and documents.

/s/ Daniel Urevick-Ackelsberg

Daniel Urevick-Ackelsberg