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Boards of Education of City of Bridgeton,
Burlington City, City of East Orange,
City of Perth Amboy,
Town of Phillipsburg and
City of Trenton

RAYMOND ARTHUR ABBOTT, ET AL.,

Plaintiffs

v.

FRED G. BURKE, ET AL.,

Defendants

SUPREME COURT OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO. 42,170

CIVIL ACTION

CERTIFICATION OF MARK MILLER

Mark Miller, of full age, hereby certifies as follows:

1. I am the Superintendent of the Town of Phillipsburg School District ("District"), an Abbott district under this Court's Abbott rulings. I make this Certification in support of the Motion of the Movants-Intervenors to intervene in this action in support of the Education Law Center's motion in aid of litigants' rights and to provide the Court with information on the specific impact of the severe reduction in State aid on the Phillipsburg School District's programs, services and

positions in the 2010-2011 school year.

2. I have overall responsibility for implementing the programs and reforms in the District to enable all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards ("NJCCCS").

3. Phillipsburg has a total student enrollment of 3,568 students. The student population is 72% White, 13% Hispanic, 12% Black, and 2% Asian. 46% of the students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

4. Because of the steep cuts in State formulaic aid in the FY2011 budget, the District will receive a reduction of State aid in the amount of \$2,667,133 below the formulaic amounts required by the School Reform Act of 2008 ("SFRA") and deemed necessary under the SFRA to provide our disadvantaged students with a Thorough and Efficient Education.

5. As a result of this reduction in SFRA aid, for the 2010-2011 school year the District had to eliminate ten (10) professional teaching staff positions; one (1) curriculum director; one (1) technology technician; and the entire middle school sports program. In addition, the District had to reduce the high school athletics program and significantly reduce technology funding.

6. The District had also intended to hire back 62 teachers and 29 paraprofessionals, positions that were eliminated in the prior two school years as the result of funding reductions. However, because of the additional steep funding cuts for the 2010-2011 school year, the District not only has been unable to hire back these teachers, but also has had to eliminate additional teachers.

7. The reduction in teachers in 2010-2011 will cause an even greater increase in class size at every grade level and will prevent the District from meeting Department of Education regulations on class size.

8. The elimination of a technology technician and reductions in technology funding will have a severe impact on the opportunities for our students to be adequately trained in the use of technology, an essential component of a 21st century education, since many of our students do not have access to computers at home.

9. The reduction in formulaic aid has also forced the District to severely reduce the number of extracurricular activities and athletics that will be offered this school year. Cutting these types of programs will reduce or eliminate the opportunities for our students to be engaged in the school and in positive, supervised after school activities.

10. The District understood that the Abbott remedies had been eliminated by the Court because the SFRA, when fully funded, would provide adequate funding to enable the former Abbott districts to provide a thorough and efficient education to our students and to provide the additional programs, services and positions needed for our at-risk disadvantaged students.

11. Without the required formulaic aid under the SFRA to ensure sufficient funding to meet the requirements of the Thorough and Efficient Education Clause, the District will not have adequate funding for programs, staff and positions to enable our students to meet New Jersey's academic standards.

12. Without the required formulaic aid under the SFRA, the District will lack funding to provide the supplemental programs our students need and that SFRA was designed to enable us to deliver to address those needs.

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

Mark Miller

Dated: August 3, 2010

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

George Chandos

Dated: