Coatesville Area School Board of Directors Statement on Commonwealth Court Ruling on Collegium Charter Payment Dispute

As we continue to work our way through this extremely challenging school year, our attention is focused on the very important work of returning more of our students to our schools on a consistent basis. This is our primary focus and our first priority, and we are very much looking forward to seeing our students in our buildings.

In the interest of full transparency, however, we also want to share with our community the next step in a legal dispute between the Coatesville Area School District and Collegium Charter School. The Coatesville Area School District Board of Directors has authorized an appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, as it feels the recent ruling of a single Commonwealth Court Judge, ordering Coatesville to make tuition payments to Collegium Charter School in a certain manner, is both unlawful and unfair.

The Coatesville Area School District joins with hundreds of public school districts and public education advocacy groups across the Commonwealth in lobbying the legislature to <u>reform the state's system of charter school funding and oversight</u>. We share the strong belief that Pennsylvania's outdated charter funding laws are among the worst in the country, unfairly syphoning public tax dollars, weakening public systems, and ultimately undercutting millions of students in our state.

As these court proceedings continue, we will keep our community informed.