



Contact: Aaronda Beauford
Mobile: (610) 789 7200
E-Mail: abeauford@upperdarbysd.org

For Immediate Release
Wednesday, July 3, 2019

**UPPER DARBY SCHOOL DISTRICT PREPARES FOR PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE
TO PROTECT ITS RIGHT TO BUILD A SCHOOL**

Upper Darby School District and Clifton Heights Borough to meet in court on August 14, 2019

On June 27, 2019, Upper Darby School District filed in court a challenge to protect their property rights and to ease classroom overcrowding by building a new 21st Century Middle School on District-owned land in Clifton Heights. The District filed this procedural challenge in response to the four (4) ordinances adopted by the Clifton Heights Borough on May 28, 2019, some of which contain provisions that appear designed to thwart the District's intent to build the new middle school. The action was filed because of a 30-day deadline to appeal defective ordinances.

The District remains open to working with the Borough and its constituents to come to a mutually beneficial resolution regarding the District's middle school project. "It is our hope that all parties involved focus on what is best for all of the students and families of our District and to do our utmost to address the adverse effects of overcrowding in classrooms and schools," says Daniel McGarry, Superintendent of Schools.

The Upper Darby School District was set to review the New Clifton Heights Middle School Plan with the Clifton Heights Borough Planning Commission on July 9th at 7:00 p.m. Today, the District received notification from the Chairman of the Clifton Heights Planning Commission that the July 9th meeting will not take place until "...certain issues are resolved."

Yesterday, the District received notice through its legal counsel that a pre-trial conference has been scheduled for August 14, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in courtroom 7 in response to the procedural appeal the District filed. One of the issues to be discussed at that conference is whether or not the court will consider the new ordinances in its review of the plan or the ordinances that were in place at the time of the District's submission of its Plan to build the new school on District-owned property.

A link to Frequently Asked Questions related to the new Clifton Heights Middle School can be found [here](#):

<https://www.upperdarbysd.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=33&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=27283&PageID=1>

A link to the Feasibility Study and the Community Meetings regarding the Clifton Heights Middle School can be found here:

<https://www.upperdarbysd.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=33&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=27387&PageID=1>

A link to the plans can be accessed here:

[https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/udar/Board.nsf/files/BCLPO964CCE6/\\$file/UDSD_2019_05_28%20UPDATE%20opt%20bob.pdf](https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/udar/Board.nsf/files/BCLPO964CCE6/$file/UDSD_2019_05_28%20UPDATE%20opt%20bob.pdf)

A link to the 3D rendering can be found here. Click highlighted areas for 360 degree views:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1i5AcTuVgEOtM9zhDUMDBzYabhtv0RrIF>

###