CACAGNY congratulates Parents Defending Education

CACAGNY heartily congratulates Parents Defending Education (PDE), their legal team Dennis Saffran and the attorneys at Consovoy McCarthy, and the parent members of PDE, over their victory in New York State Supreme Court today, May 25, 2022.

Please view PDE's press release <u>here</u>, and the judge's decision <u>here</u>.

The lawsuit (the first item here) was brought by IntegrateNYC, an antimeritocracy "social justice" group we've confronted many times in our advocacy for our parents, against New York City and New York State. In its complaint, IntegrateNYC repeats the standard Woke/CRT litany: NYC public schools are institutionally and structurally racist, the schools are "among the most segregated in the country," the curricula are "Eurocentric" and "marginalizing" to "people of color," etc. etc., and asks the court to ban G&T programs, ban middle and high school screens, require the CRT-infused "culturally responsive - sustaining education" (CR-SE) curricula, impose racial hiring quotas, etc. etc.

Note that this is very different from New York City DOE implementing on its own any of the things IntegrateNYC asked for; if NYC DOE does them, that's just policy, revisable and reversible any time. If the Court rules for them, they effectively become law. It would take another lawsuit to change or undo them.

Fearing that NYC and NYS may not defend themselves vigorously -- woke administrations have engaged in sue-and-settle conspiracies with their activist allies increasingly often around the country -- PDE requested to intervene in the case as defendant. <u>CACAGNY supported</u> this request in very strong terms, and thankfully, the request was granted by the judge. With PDE now also as defendant and necessary party to a settlement, the sue-and-settle possibility was shut down.

In today's decision, Judge Nervo correctly ruled that the Court is not in the business of making policy (nor making new laws), and dismissed IntegrateNYC's lawsuit in its entirety.

Contrary to what the name might suggest, in New York State, the Supreme Court is the lowest court, and IntegrateNYC may appeal to the Court of Appeals. Still, this victory is very encouraging, and the judge's reasoning is especially compelling.

Congratulations, all you winners!

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