

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

3340 S. Harlem Ave. Riverside, IL 60546
708-447-5007
708-447-3252 fax
www.district96.org



September 2, 2026

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Richard Doty
E-mail: rickldoty@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Doty:

On August 19, 2026, at 10:47 a.m., the District received your correspondence related to your July 29, 2026 request for records pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act*, 5 ILCS 140/et seq., which stated as follows:

Item 5 — In-School Presentation Access Granted to Other Third-Party Organizations

The District denied this item on the basis that it does not identify a public record and would require a search of over 70,000 e-mails. I did not intend, and do not intend, to require a search of the District's entire e-mail system. In the interest of narrowing this request to a readily identifiable record, I request:

Facility use requests, scheduling records, reservation records, sign-out logs, or calendar approvals for the Hauser Junior High School auditorium, or any comparable facility-use record maintained in the ordinary course, reflecting use by any third-party commercial organization other than WorldStrides for a student assembly, presentation, or similar event, for the period January 1, 2023 through the present.

This is the same category of record — facility use and scheduling documentation — that the District was able to identify and produce in response to my prior WorldStrides-specific requests. I do not request a search of correspondence to identify this category.

Item 6 — Preservation and Litigation Hold Compliance

The District denied this item on the basis that FOIA does not compel a public body to answer a question or create a new record. I did not intend to request that the District answer a question; I intend to request existing records documenting the District's own preservation efforts. Accordingly, I request:

Any existing litigation hold notice, IT preservation ticket, internal memorandum, or other record confirming that a search of district-issued or personal mobile devices was conducted in response to my July 2, 2026 preservation notice, including the date such a search was initiated and any record of the search terms used, to the extent such a record already exists in the ordinary course.

Item 3 — WorldStrides Contract, Memorandum of Understanding, or Vendor Agreement

The District denied this item as unduly burdensome, stating that all responsive records, to the extent they exist, were previously provided in response to my June 14, 2026 FOIA request. I request that the District identify, by date and page or Bates reference, which specific record(s) in that prior production are responsive to this item, so that I may confirm the District's position without submitting a duplicate request.

On August 25, 2026, the District informed you of its intention to extend the deadline to respond to September 2, 2026, pursuant to Section 3(e) of the *Illinois Freedom of Information Act* (5 ILCS 140/3(e)). The District now timely responds to your FOIA request, in accordance with the *Illinois Freedom of Information Act* (5 ILCS 140/1, *et seq.*) as follows:

Response

- **Item 5:** See attached responsive records.
- **Item 6:** See attached responsive records. Please note the following information has been redacted from the documents: student identifying information. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 7(1)(a) of FOIA as “[i]nformation specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law” and pursuant to Section 7.5(r) of FOIA as “[i]nformation prohibited from being disclosed by the *Illinois School Student Records Act* [105 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*]. Please note that the following information has also been redacted from the documents: staff signatures. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 7(1)(c) of FOIA as “[p]ersonal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.”
- **Item 3:** You requested “*that the District identify, by date and page or Bates reference, which specific record(s) in that prior production are responsive to this item, so that I may confirm the District's position without submitting a duplicate request.*” Your request is denied because a request under FOIA must reasonably identify a public record and not general data or information, and FOIA does not compel a public body to create a new record or to provide answers to questions posed by the inquirer. See generally *Chicago Tribune Co. v. Department of Financial and Professional Regulation*, 2014 IL App (4th) 130427, 8 N.E.3d 11.

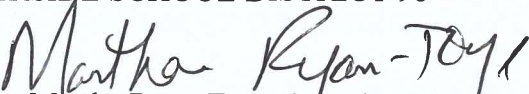
The person responsible for the decisions above is the undersigned. You are hereby notified that you have the right to request a review of the decisions above by the Office of the Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted as follows: Public Access Counselor, Office of the Attorney General, 500 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701, Phone: (877) 299-3642 / Fax: (217) 782-1396, E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us. You also have the right to judicial review of this decision under Section 11 of *FOIA*, 5 ILCS 140/11.

If you have any questions regarding the content of this correspondence, please let me know.

Sincerely,

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

By:


Dr. Martha Ryan-Toye, Superintendent
Freedom of Information Officer