

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 10:57 a.m., the District received your request for records pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/et seq., as follows:

Request 1 — Billing Specific to This Matter

Documents sufficient to identify the matter number, client code, or other internal billing designation(s) ECB&S has used to bill Riverside School District 96 for work relating to Richard Doty, Madeleine Jensen, the WorldStrides program at Hauser Junior High, any FOIA request submitted by Richard Doty, or the Policy 2:260 grievance investigation; and all invoices, statements, or ledger entries billed under any such designation(s), for the period May 15, 2026 through the present. To the extent ECB&S's billing system does not track this work under a discrete matter number or code, I request all invoices, statements, or ledger entries reflecting billing for the same subject matter for the same period.

Request 2 — Billing Related to WorldStrides Since the Inception of the ECB&S Relationship

Documents sufficient to identify the matter number, client code, or other internal billing designation(s) ECB&S has used to bill Riverside School District 96 for work relating to WorldStrides, Lakeland Tours LLC, WH Blocker Inc., or any related entity; and all invoices, statements, or ledger entries billed under any such designation(s), for the period January 1, 2016 through the present. To the extent ECB&S's billing system does not track this work under a discrete matter number or code, I request all invoices, statements, or ledger entries reflecting billing for the same subject matter for the same period. This request specifically includes, but is not limited to, any billing records relating to the parent complaint forwarded by Principal Harvalis on or about September 24, 2025, which was withheld in full in the District's prior FOIA production with no corresponding privilege log entry.

Request 3 — Total Recent Legal Expenditure

A complete, itemized copy of all invoices or statements from ECB&S to Riverside School District 96 for all matters, without limitation to subject matter, for the period February 1, 2025 through the present.

Request 4 — Current Rate Schedule

ECB&S's current hourly rate schedule applicable to its representation of Riverside School District 96, including all attorney, paralegal, and law clerk rates currently in effect, and any document reflecting the effective date of that rate schedule.

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

Request 1: This request is denied because the requested records are exempt pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(a), "Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law"; and *FOIA* Section 7.5(r), "Information prohibited from being disclosed by the *Illinois School Student Records Act* [105 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*]." Please note, however, that we intend to treat this FOIA request as a request for student records of your child. Accordingly, records that meet this description and are subject to disclosure under the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* and the *Illinois School Student Records Act* will be timely provided to you on September 2, 2026.

Request 2: To the extent that responsive records constitute student records of your child, this request is denied because the requested records are exempt pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(a), "Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law"; and *FOIA* Section 7.5(r), "Information prohibited from being disclosed by the *Illinois School Student Records Act* [105 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*]." Please note, however, with respect to such records, we intend to treat this FOIA request as a request for student records for your child. Accordingly, records that meet this description and are subject to disclosure under the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* and the *Illinois School Student Records Act* will be timely provided to you on September 2, 2026.

To the extent that responsive records are not student records of your child, see attached responsive records. Please note the following information has been redacted from the records: privileged communications. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(m) as "[c]ommunications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation." Please note the following information has been redacted from the documents: student identifying information. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(a) as "[i]nformation specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law" and pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7.5(r) as "[i]nformation prohibited from being disclosed by the *Illinois School Student Records Act* [105 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*]."

Request 3: See attached responsive records. Please note the following information has been redacted from the records: privileged communications. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(m) as "[c]ommunications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation." Please note the following information has been redacted from the documents: student identifying information. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7(1)(a) as "[i]nformation specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law" and pursuant to *FOIA* Section 7.5(r) as "[i]nformation prohibited from being disclosed by the *Illinois School Student Records Act* [105 ILCS 10/1 *et seq.*]."

Request 4: See attached responsive records.

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:

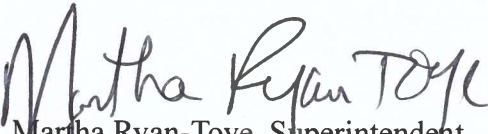
Public Access Counselor, Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701
Phone: (877) 299-3642 / Fax: (217) 782-1396
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

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