

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

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October 21, 2026

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Richard Doty

E-mail: rickldoty@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Doty:

On October 8, 2026, the District received your requests for records, pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act*, 5 ILCS 140/et seq. On October 13, 2026, the District informed you that it was extending the timeline for its response to October 23, 2026. The requests are as follows:

Each item below concerns records not previously requested, or identifies with new specificity a record described in the findings of the District's own investigator, enclosed with the Board's October 8, 2026 decision on my Uniform Grievance Procedure complaint as "Attachment A – Investigator's Findings and Conclusions" ("Attachment A").

Item 1 — Investigator's Report and Exhibits

The complete written investigation report submitted by Lauren Lowe under Board Policy 2:260 in connection with my Uniform Grievance Procedure complaint, of which Attachment A forms part, together with the exhibits cited in Attachment A as Exhibits 1 through 14. I do not need Exhibit 7 (Section 504 Plan) or Exhibit 9 (my own May 16–18, 2026 email exchange), which I already have. I specifically request:

- (a) Exhibit 4: the complete September 24, 2025 e-mail chain, including the parent e-mail to Mr. Harvalis that Attachment A (p. 2) states was not provided in response to my earlier FOIA request;*
- (b) Exhibit 5, with personal financial and tax identification information redacted;*
- (c) Exhibit 6: the February 18, 2026 Board meeting minutes cited in Attachment A;*
- (d) Exhibit 10;*
- (e) Exhibit 14: the document titled "2026 WorldStrides Program Leader and Chaperone Payment Details."*

If any exhibit is withheld in whole or in part, I request a list identifying each exhibit by number, date, and author, with the specific exemption claimed for each.

Item 2 — Auditorium Reservation for the May 18, 2026 Student Presentation

Attachment A (p. 4) states that Ms. Venegas "contacted the School secretary about reserving the auditorium" for the May 18, 2026 student presentation, and Attachment A (p. 2) identifies the School's Secretary as Ms. Gentilini. I request any e-mail,

message, form, or calendar entry between Ms. Venegas and Ms. Gentilini (or other Hauser office staff) requesting, confirming, or recording use of the Hauser Junior High School auditorium on May 18, 2026, together with any building calendar or facility-scheduling entry for the auditorium on that date, created between May 1 and May 18, 2026.

This item is narrower than, and distinct from, my earlier requests for facility-use and event-authorization records. It concerns a specific communication described in the District's own investigator's findings. If no record of that communication exists, please state so in writing.

Item 3 — Approval of the May 18 and May 21, 2026 Dates

In a May 12, 2026 e-mail to WorldStrides, Ms. Venegas wrote, "I was able to get some dates confirmed for the meetings" and "Admin will send an email blast to all 7th grade families." I request communications between May 1 and May 21, 2026 among Ms. Venegas, Mr. Harvalis, Ms. Kayastha, Ms. Gentilini, or the Superintendent concerning the approval, confirmation, or scheduling of (a) the May 18, 2026 student presentation or (b) the May 21, 2026 parent meeting, or authorizing the parent e-mail sent May 14, 2026.

Item 4 — Notice to Seventh-Grade Homeroom Teachers

Any e-mail, message, announcement, or schedule change, created between May 1 and May 18, 2026, informing seventh-grade homeroom (Cougar Connections) teachers or the seventh-grade team that students would go to the auditorium during Cougar Connections on May 18, 2026, or instructing them to bring or send students there.

Item 5 — Policy 8:25 Approvals and Procedures

Attachment A (pp. 11–12) finds that the WorldStrides materials were "approved in advance by the Superintendent or designee" under Board Policy 8:25. I request (a) any written approval by the Superintendent or a designee of WorldStrides materials, presentations, or advertising under Policy 8:25 for the period January 1, 2023 to the present; and (b) the procedures established by the Superintendent under Policy 8:25 governing advertising or distribution of materials by community, educational, charitable, or recreational organizations, in effect during 2025–2026.

Item 6 — WorldStrides Trip-Planning Folder

Attachment A (p. 7) refers to "Mr. Muto's Google drive, in which he maintained WorldStrides trip planning information." If that drive is a District-provided account, I request a list of the files in the folder or folders reviewed by the investigator, showing file name and last-modified date. I am not requesting file contents beyond Exhibit 14 at this time.

To the extent any record or portion of a record is withheld, I request a written explanation citing the specific statutory exemption relied upon and identifying the portion withheld, as required by 5 ILCS 140/9, and release of all reasonably segregable non-exempt material.

Request #1: Your request for the investigator's report is denied because such responsive records are exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 7(1)(m) of FOIA: Privileged communications. Such information is "Communications between a public body and an attorney or auditor representing the public body that would not be subject to discovery in litigation" exempt from copying and inspection pursuant to FOIA Section 7(1)(m).

With respect to your request for "*Exhibit 4: the complete September 24, 2025 e-mail chain, including the parent e-mail to Mr. Harvalis,*" your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as the responsive record was produced in response to your June 14, 2026, FOIA request.

With respect to your request for "*Exhibit 5, with personal financial and tax identification information redacted,*" your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as the responsive record was produced in response to your June 14, 2026, FOIA request.

With respect to your request for "*Exhibit 6: the February 18, 2026 Board meeting minutes,*" the responsive record is publicly available on the Board of Education's website at:
<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1668>.

With respect to your request for "*Exhibit 10,*" your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as responsive records were produced in response to your July 13, 2026, FOIA request.

With respect to your request for "*Exhibit 14: the document titled "2026 WorldStrides Program Leader and Chaperone Payment Details,"*" your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as the responsive record was produced in response to your June 14, 2026, FOIA request.

Request #2: See attached responsive records. The responsive records contain redactions of information 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 7.5(r) ("Information prohibited from being disclosed by the Illinois School Student Records Act.")

Request #3: Your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as responsive records, to the extent they exist, were produced in response to your July 13, 2026, FOIA request.

Request #4: Your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as responsive records, to the extent they exist, were produced in response to your July 13, 2026, FOIA request.

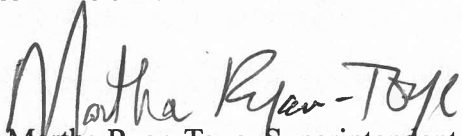
Request #5: Your request is denied as unduly burdensome, as responsive records, to the extent they exist, were produced in response to your June 14, 2026, FOIA request.

Request #6: The District has no such record. Please note 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.

Sincerely,

RIVERSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

By:


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