

RANTOUL CITY SCHOOLS

BROADMEADOW-EASTLAWN-NORTHVIEW-PLEASANT ACRES
PREK CENTER - RISE ACADEMY - JW EATER
1 AVIATION CENTER DRIVE. RANTOUL, IL 61866
217.893.5400 - www.rcs137.org

January 29, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL Mr. Owen Wang Chambana Sun foia@chambanasun.com

Dear Owen Wang:

On January 29, 2025, a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request was received by our school district. A response is due on or before February 5, 2025.

You requested:

Copy or all emails and memos from the past 12 months that contain the following keywords:

"Lucy Calkins"

"Units of Study"

Upon review and collection of the responsive documents, the District has determined that your request constitutes a Voluminous Request and is Unduly Burdensome.

I. Your Request Constitutes a "Voluminous Request" under FOIA Section 3.6

A "voluminous request" means a request that: (1) includes more than 5 individual requests for more than 5 different categories of records; or (2) includes a combination of individual requests for more than 5 different categories of records in a period of 20 business days; or (3) requires the compilation of more than 500 letter or legal-sized pages of public records, unless a single requested record exceeds 500 pages. See 5 ILCS 140(2)(h).

Please be advised that we are treating your request as a "voluminous request" under item (3) above. In searching for responsive documents to your request, a total of 3,255 emails were located. Each email would constitute at least one page, totalling more than 3,000 pages.

As the District is treating your request as a "voluminous request," Illinois FOIA requires that we notify you that:

- o you have 10 business days from the date of this letter to specify whether you would like to amend your request so that it is no longer a "voluminous request;"
- o if you do not reply within 10 business days, or if the request continues to be a "voluminous request," the District will respond in accordance with applicable provisions of FOIA, and will assess any fees permitted by FOIA Section 6;
- the District has 5 business days after receipt of your reply or, if no reply, 5 business days from the last day for you to amend your request, to respond;
- the District may request an additional 10 business days to comply with your request;
- o you have the right to ask the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor ("PAC") to review the District's "voluminous request" designation; and
- if you fail to accept or collect any responsive records, the District may still charge you for its response pursuant to FOIA Section 6, and failure to pay will be considered a debt due and owing to the District, which may be collected in accordance with applicable law.

II. The Unduly Burdensome Nature of Your Request

As set forth above, your request would require the production of thousands of pages. Your request on its face is unduly burdensome. Each document is subject to review and possible redaction for applicable exemptions under Illinois FOIA.

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In view of the above, the District believes that compliance with your request would be unduly burdensome for the District, and that the burden on the District outweighs the public interest in the information which you have asked the District to search for, retrieve, and provide. Therefore, in compliance with FOIA Section 3(g), the District is extending to you an opportunity to attempt to clarify and narrow your request to manageable proportions.

If you do not reduce your request to a manageable scope, the District will exercise its right under Section 3(g) of FOIA to deny your request for these records.

To help us process your request more efficiently, we kindly ask that you narrow its scope. For example, you may consider:

- Specifying a shorter time frame for the requested records.
- Clarifying whether you are requesting records from specific individuals, departments, or groups within the District.
- Indicating if there are additional details or subject matter that could help us focus the search on the information most relevant to your needs.

We value transparency and accountability and are committed to working with you to refine your request to ensure timely and effective access to public records. Please feel free to contact me directly at 217-893-5400 or swoods@rcs137.org if you have any questions or need assistance narrowing your request.

The person responsible for the response to your request is Scott Woods, FOIA Officer for the School District. You may ask the Illinois Attorney General's Public Access Counselor (PAC) to review this response concerning your records request, by submitting a Request for Review to the PAC by electronic mail or U.S. Mail within 60 days after this response, denial, or partial denial of your request. A request for Review by the PAC should be directed to:

Public Access Bureau
Office of the Attorney General
500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield IL 62706
publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

The PAC's telephone number is (877) 299-FOIA.

You also have the right to administrative review by a court of law pursuant to Section 11 of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Scott C. Woods, FOIA Officer Rantoul City School District #137