



River Forest  
Public Schools

Administration Building  
7776 Lake Street  
River Forest, IL 60305  
Phone: 708-771-8282  
Fax: 708-771-8291

November 8, 2023

VIA E-MAIL TO  
[s\\_lefko@hotmail.com](mailto:s_lefko@hotmail.com)

Dear Mr. Lefko:

On October 26, 2023, the School District received your request for records, as follows:

**REQUEST:** *First - I'm specifically requesting District 90 documents, emails, correspondence, or communications otherwise, referring to or containing the districts development and use of "local norms" or "cutoffs" for support referenced by A. Hawley on March 20, 2023.*

**RESPONSE:** See Attached

**REQUEST:** *Second - I am requesting all District 90 documentation indicating the number of children screened for disabilities, and the number of children referred for further evaluation for the school years ending in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.*

**RESPONSE:** See Attached.

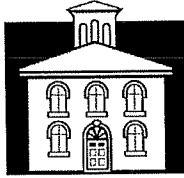
As Superintendent of the District, I am responsible for granting and denying the requests for records under the Freedom of Information Act. Please be aware that this response to your request is pursuant to my understanding of your FOIA request.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Condon, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

/attachments



River Forest  
Public Schools

**Administration Building**  
7776 Lake Street  
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November 2, 2023

VIA E-MAIL TO  
[s\\_lefko@hotmail.com](mailto:s_lefko@hotmail.com)

Dear Mr. Lefko:

On October 26, 2023, the School District received your request for records, as follows:

*First - I'm specifically requesting District 90 documents, emails, correspondence, or communications otherwise, referring to or containing the districts development and use of "local norms" or "cutoffs" for support referenced by A. Hawley on March 20, 2023.*

*Second - I am requesting all District 90 documentation indicating the number of children screened for disabilities, and the number of children referred for further evaluation for the school years ending in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.*

While the School District attempts to process all such requests as expeditiously as possible, we anticipate a delay in processing your request for the reason or reasons checked below:

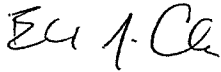
- ☐ The requested records are stored in whole or in part at locations other than the office having charge of the records.
- ☐ The request requires the collection of a substantial number of specified records.
- ☒ The request is couched in categorical terms and requires an extensive search for the requested records.
- ☐ The requested records have not been located in the course of routine search and additional efforts are being made to locate them.
- ☐ The requested records require examination and evaluation by personnel having the necessary competence and discretion to determine if they are exempt from disclosure or should be revealed only with appropriate deletions.
- ☒ The request for records cannot be complied with by the District within the time limits set forth in the Illinois Freedom of Information Act without unduly burdening or interfering with the operations of the District.

- ☐ There is a need for consultation, which will be conducted with all practicable speed, with another public body or among two or more components of a public body having a substantial interest in the determination or in the subject matter of the request.

This extends the response deadline by five (5) business days, to November 9, 2023. If you have any questions regarding the content of this correspondence, please contact the School District's Administrative Office for assistance.

Sincerely,

RIVER FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90



By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Edward J. Condon, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools and  
Freedom of Information Act Officer

**From:** Steve Lefko s\_lefko@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** FOIA request  
**Date:** October 26, 2023 at 11:22 AM  
**To:** Ed Condon condone@district90.org  
**Cc:** Steve Lefko s\_lefko@hotmail.com

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Dear Ed Condon, River Forest District 90 Superintendent

This is a Freedom of Information Act Request of River Forest School District 90 on October 26, 2023.

During the March 20, 2023 board of education meeting administrator Alison Hawley said "We have developed local norms or cutoffs for lack of a better word for when a student would qualify for a tier two intervention or a tier three intervention." This was in reference to the use of multi-tiered systems of support, and her reference was embedded in a discussion of D90's adoption of "Balanced Literacy" and the curriculum Units of Study by Lucy Calkins.

First - I'm specifically requesting District 90 documents, emails, correspondence, or communications otherwise, referring to or containing the districts development and use of "local norms" or "cutoffs" for support referenced by A. Hawley on March 20, 2023.

Second – I am requesting all District 90 documentation indicating the number of children screened for disabilities, and the number of children referred for further evaluation for the school years ending in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Superintendent Condon, there are now multiple reports of families conducting their own neuropsychological exams to identify and understand developmental delays in skills District 90 has responsibility for teaching. At least one parent has gone on record this month to describe exam results showing a delay not identified and supported by D90. The courage of that parent to share a problem so that others might understand D90 shortfalls was truly remarkable.

Dr. Condon, you probably understand it is not the responsibility of any parent to report to D90 their scheduling neuropsychological exams, findings, or otherwise. It is the responsibility of District 90 to teach the skills and simultaneously find these cases. This process is consistent with the receipt of funds originating with the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Child Find mandate. Your transparency on the matter is appreciated.

You're welcome to provide this information digitally or in hard copy.

Much thanks

Steve Lefko

River Forest, IL