

Shawna Rule

From: Todd Hellrigel
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 9:27 AM
To: Shawna Rule
Subject: Fw: FOIA Request – Emails Referencing Steve Lefko

Please include in the BOE packet.

From: Todd Hellrigel <toddh@midwestcentral.org>
Sent: Friday, April 10, 2026 9:26 AM
To: foia@peoriastandard.com <foia@peoriastandard.com>
Subject: Re: FOIA Request – Emails Referencing Steve Lefko

Hello Jules,

Midwest Central has conducted a search of Office 365 email as well as their Google mail. We found no emails referencing “Steve Lefko” except for the FOIA below and my email to my tech department requesting they conduct a comprehensive search of our systems. I have not attached that email, but can send if you would like to have a copy.

Thank you,
Todd Hellrigel
Superintendent

From: foia@peoriastandard.com <foia@peoriastandard.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 9, 2026 12:07 PM
To: Todd Hellrigel <toddh@midwestcentral.org>
Subject: FOIA Request – Emails Referencing Steve Lefko

To whom it may concern,

I am a news reporter from Peoria Standard, a media organization committed to providing comprehensive and accurate news coverage on local governmental affairs. I am requesting the following records under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, preferably in electronic format:

Specifically, I request all emails and email attachments sent or received by any district employee, official, or board member that reference or mention “Steve Lefko” within the following date range:

1/1/2023 - the date that this request is processed.

This request includes, but is not limited to:

- Internal (intra-district) emails
- Emails between district personnel and third parties
- Attachments to any responsive emails

For clarity, please search email accounts of district administrators, board members, communications staff, and any other employees reasonably likely to have responsive records.

This is **not** a commercial request.

As a member of the media, I am involved in gathering and reporting news to the public. Access to public records is essential for me to fulfill my professional responsibilities, which include holding public institutions accountable and providing transparency to the public. Given my role in disseminating information, I believe I am eligible for a fee waiver as a media professional.

Please Note: The requestor is a member of The Coalition Opposing Governmental Secrecy, a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Missouri Corporation which assists news media companies, publications, and public advocacy groups investigate state and federal governmental agencies and leverages Freedom of Information and Sunshine Laws to pull back the curtain on government actions and help inform the American electorate. For more information, please visit <https://stopsecrecy.org/about/>

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Jules Goonewardena,

Peoria Standard