

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 96

3340 S. Harlem Ave. Riverside, IL 60546

708-447-5007

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www.district96.org



February 12, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Michael Henry
michaelfhenry@live.com

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Mr. Henry:

On February 5, 2026, the School District (“the District”) received a Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) request from you. Your request and the District’s response are below:

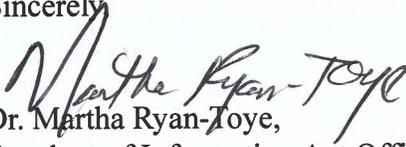
Request: From 2019 through the present, please provide Documentation the District Complied with Illinois law and performed the Background checks that the District Superintendent is supposed to perform of who ever is designated to perform. The Background Checks for Board members Prior to them being Goven the Oath of Office.

Response: There are no records responsive to your request. The absence of records does not establish a violation of Illinois law because criminal history screening of school board members is not required per the Illinois School Code, 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9. To the extent any record exists, it would be exempt from disclosure as the District is legally prohibited from releasing criminal background checks pursuant to the Illinois School Code. The District would have no discretion and is not legally authorized to release such records by State statute. 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(b); 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(a). Any record would be further exempt from disclosure as it constitutes personal information. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c).

If you believe that this response is an improper denial of your request, I invite you to discuss your objections with me. You have the right to have the denials reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to: Public Access Counselor, Office of the Attorney General, 500 South 2nd Street Springfield, Illinois 62701, Fax: 217-782-1396, E-mail: public.access@ilag.gov, Phone: 877-299-3642. If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days after the date of the denial letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original request for documents and the denial letter when filing a Request for Review

with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely


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