



River Forest
Public Schools

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

May 12, 2023

VIA E-MAIL TO
s_lefko@hotmail.com

Dear Mr. Lefko:

On May 5, 2023, the School District received your request for records, as follows:

Please provide a copy of the final survey(s) administered at Roosevelt Middle School to students and teachers regarding block scheduling during the past 12 months. Please also include a copy of all survey results, all raw data and all communications including any mention of survey results or interpretation. Records can be provided digitally or in hard copy.

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 May 19, 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed J. Condon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

By: _____

Edward J. Condon, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools and
Freedom of Information Act Officer

From: Steve Lefko s_lefko@Hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Response Freedom of Information Act
Date: May 5, 2023 at 11:41 AM
To: Ed Condon condone@district90.org
Cc: Tracy Gutierrez gutierrez@district90.org, James McQuaid jmcquaid@libertyjusticecenter.org, board@district90.org



Superintendent Condon,

Please consider this a second attempt at requesting the same public records – second to the first FOIA attempt referenced below that was not responsive to item #2.

The district asked teachers and students for feedback on block scheduling. This could be referred to as survey, a questionnaire etc. Your May 1, 2023 meeting agenda contained the item “Block Schedule Update Spring ‘23”. It’s an interesting agenda item, but incomplete to the casual reader as it were when you consider the associated slide presentation title reads “SCHOOL SCHEDULE UPDATE: SURVEY DATA”. The slides for that meeting can be found at the link below.

<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Agenda/1677?meeting=579704>

Now that we’ve established a “SURVEY” was used at Roosevelt, I’ll re-state my original request edited only slightly to clarify more than one survey may have been used to solicit feedback from both teachers and students.

This is a second attempt at a FOIA public records request on 5/5/2023: Please provide a copy of the final survey(s) administered at Roosevelt Middle School to students and teachers regarding block scheduling during the past 12 months. Please also include a copy of all survey results, all raw data and all communications including any mention of survey results or interpretation. Records can be provided digitally or in hard copy.

Ed, I think it was straightforward in the original request, but I’ll ask again since I know the district may be having some difficulty with transparency and complying with the IL OMA laws. I’ll copy the D90 board and the same OMA attorney here so we avoid any confusion on whether or not D90 will be complying with this request and why.

All, I’m happy to discuss why investigating block scheduling is so important. In short, it stems from a community meeting in 2019 when two disparate answers were given for one question “why block scheduling now”. Ralph Martire, then board president, referenced the law and Principal Garstki said it was due to new curricula. The schools have been in decline ever since and people in the community want to know how and why the all new curricula and instructional practices are still better than before.

Much thanks
Steve Lefko

From: Ed Condon <condone@district90.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 4, 2023 9:12 AM
To: Steve Lefko <s_lefko@Hotmail.com>
Cc: Tracy Gutierrez <gutierrez@district90.org>; Ed Condon <condone@district90.org>