



**River Forest  
Public Schools**

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

May 25, 2022

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

Dear Mr. Lefko:

On May 11, 2022, the School District received your request for records, as follows:

*I'm asking for copies of all receipts for all expenditures related to English language arts curricula and instruction, the training of teachers in any area connected to English language arts, consultants hired in any capacity and related in any way to English language arts instruction in District 90, this includes all receipts between January 1, 2015 and May 11, 2022.*

The School District has evaluated your request and has determined that it is unable to comply with your categorical request for information without unduly burdening School District operations. This burden on School District operations outweighs the public interest in the request. In accordance with Section 3(g) of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/3(g), you are notified as follows:

- The records you identified are not easily retrievable. The School District's expenditures are processed through an accounting software managed by the Township Treasurer, and a high-level report documenting the expenditures, which would be the least burdensome approach, would need to be provided by the Township Treasurer. Due to a change in the accounting software during the period encompassed by your request, the Township Treasurer is unable to simply generate a responsive report with the requested information. In any event, it appears that you are requesting more information than would be contained within a ledger of expenditures.
- As a result, and in order to provide the information you have requested, the School District will need to manually compile the responsive records. The actual "receipts" identifying purchases of curriculum materials and training and consultant expenditures are not maintained in a digital, easily searchable format.
- To compile the underlying documentation of the categories of transactions requested, the School District would be required to locate and review seven years of physical files with documentation of purchases that are stored in long-term storage. A conservative estimate of the effort to review, identify and compile the responsive records is two weeks of full-time dedicated staff effort.
- The School District operates with a limited administrative staff, whose time and attention remains under significant strain as the School District continues to work through pandemic-related changes and other compliance matters. Administrative staffing levels are further limited at the end of the school year, adding to the strain on School District operations.

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Pursuant to FOIA, you have an opportunity to confer with us to attempt to reduce the request to manageable proportions. If you would like to do so, I ask that you provide any such reduced request within 10 business days after the date of this letter. Please note that should you not wish to reduce your request to manageable proportions, this response is considered a denial of your request for information. Please note additionally that any modified request remains subject to evaluation under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act to determine whether any modified request is a voluminous request, the timeframe for responding to any request, and what fees may be associated with the request, as well as whether records responsive to the modified request are exempt from disclosure or subject to redaction.

#### Rights Upon Denial

When a request for public records is denied, the requester has the right to seek a review by the Office of the Attorney General's Public Access Counselor, who can be contacted as follows:

Public Access Counselor, Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701  
Phone: (877) 299-3642 / Fax: (217) 782-1396  
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

When a request for public records is denied, the requester also has the right to judicial review under Section 11 of FOIA.

#### Contact Information

Please contact the undersigned if you would like to amend the request to attempt to reduce the request to manageable proportions, or if you have questions regarding this correspondence.

Sincerely,

RIVER FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 90

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