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La Grange, IL 60525  
708.246.4700 Fax: 708.246.4625



Pleasantdale Middle School  
7450 S. Wolf Road  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
708.246.3210 Fax: 708.352.0092

Pleasantdale School District 107 | 7450 S. Wolf Road | Burr Ridge, IL 60527 | 708.784.2013 | Fax: 708.246.0161 | www.d107.org

This email is in response to your e-mailed request under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 ILSC 140/I et seq., dated March 24, 2025. You have requested that Pleasantdale School District 107 produce the following public records:

**Requested by:** [ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me](mailto:ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me)

Request dated: March 24, 2025

***NOTICE:** Please refer to FOIA #1's Notice section (dated March 14, 2025) for detailed instructions on handling this request. In summary, please respond as a "Reply" to this email, removing any "Re: " prefix or other "Reply" abbreviation from the subject line. By maintaining a single thread, we can ensure that all communications are efficiently organized and retained, facilitating compliance and making it easier to track and archive our interaction.*

**March 24, 2025**

Subject: **FOIA REQUEST #4** March 24, 2025 Financial Records Data (5 ILCS 140/2.5)\_ROE Grouping - 06

Dear Superintendent,

This request is submitted for non-commercial purposes under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140). It is similar to FOIA #1, FOIA #2, and FOIA #3, but seeks financial data for different fiscal years. Please refer to FOIA #1 for detailed instructions on handling this request, including the format for the data and the structured communication practice.

**REQUEST #4: FY2021, FY2011, FY2001**

We are requesting the actual electronic data maintained by the district's Treasurer for the annual expenses paid to identified vendors, firms, and individuals for the fiscal years **2021, 2011, and 2001** by the school district, including any predecessor districts that existed at the end of each respective fiscal year and have since consolidated or annexed into the current district. This request specifically excludes salaries, wages, and benefits paid to staff members. We are interested in vendors, firms, and individuals who have received total

payments of \$500 or more for each fiscal year, regardless of whether this total comes from a single payment or multiple payments.

For convenience and organization, we suggest adding the data for fiscal years **2021, 2011, and 2001** as additional worksheet tabs to the Excel workbook delivered to us in response to FOIA #1 (containing FY, 2024, FY2014, and FY2004).

This would result in a single Excel workbook containing multiple "annual" tabs, organizing all responses to date in one file. If this is not feasible, please provide the data for fiscal years **2021, 2011, and 2001** in a separate Excel workbook following the same format as specified in FOIA #1.

We request that each district's Treasurer certify the electronically maintained data. The certification should be similar to the one requested in FOIA #1, stating that the records are true, correct, and complete copies of all relevant records found in the files of the Office of the School Treasurer, official custodian of all district money as well as all investments owned by the district. This certification should cover the data for fiscal years **2021, 2011, and 2001**.

We request a waiver of any applicable copying or processing fees, as this request serves the public interest by promoting transparency and accountability in the use of public funds.

Please add our email address, [ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me](mailto:ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me), to your contact lists to prevent future communications from being flagged as spam.

Under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, all records in the custody or possession of a public body are presumed to be open to inspection or copying, unless the public body can prove by clear and convincing evidence that the records are exempt from disclosure (5 ILCS 140/1.2). We expect a timely response and adherence to the statutory requirements.

The 5-day due date for this request is: Monday, March 31, 2025.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this public records request.

**Email Address:**

[ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me](mailto:ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me)

## **NOTICE:**

This email constitutes a formal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request when the subject line follows a format similar to: **"FOIA Request**

**#X\_Date\_RequestedRecord(s)\_Tags"**. For such emails:

1. *If not already done so in response to a previous FOIA request, immediately add [ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me](mailto:ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me) as a trusted contact in all email accounts maintained by, or otherwise confirm that this email address has been added as a trusted contact in all email accounts maintained by:*
  - a) The designated FOIA Officer(s) of your public body  
*"Each public body shall designate one or more officials or employees to act as its Freedom of Information officer or officers." (5 ILCS 140/3.5)*
  - b) The Head of the public body as defined in **5 ILCS 140/2(e)**
2. Implement appropriate email filtering rules to ensure communications from this address are not diverted to spam, junk, or quarantine folders.
3. Acknowledge receipt of the initial FOIA request email by clicking the **"Send read receipt"** option in your email client on the same date as received or the next business day. This action:
  - a) Confirms the date and time the FOIA request was sent, as stated in the subject line
  - b) Establishes the timestamp for calculating all subsequent statutory deadlines under FOIA
  - c) Initiates an outbound email from your public body to our address, improving future deliverability

**FAILURE TO COMPLY** with these directives may result in:

4. Constructive denial of the FOIA request due to non-response within the statutorily mandated timeframe. **Note: "The FOIA request was routed to a spam folder" will not be considered a valid excuse, as compliance with directives #1 and #2 above effectively eliminates this possibility. The court is unlikely to find "the dog ate the requester's well-drafted FOIA" arguments persuasive, especially when the dog should have been put on a leash (as per directives #1 and #2) when warned via this Notice.**
5. A determination that the public body has *"acted in bad faith"* as contemplated by **5 ILCS 140/11(j)**, potentially subjecting the public body to civil penalties.
6. Immediate legal action to compel compliance with FOIA and to seek all available remedies under Illinois law.

This notice serves as written documentation of your awareness regarding proper handling of

	<p>communications from this email address.</p> <p>Be advised that all actions or inactions related to this FOIA request will be meticulously documented and may be used as evidence in any subsequent legal proceedings.</p> <p><b>Govern yourselves accordingly.</b></p> <p>Created with the assistance of: <a href="https://perplexity.ai">perplexity.ai</a></p> <p>Sent with <a href="#">Proton Mail</a> secure email.</p>
Response Dated: March 31, 2025	<p>Response: To whom it may concern:</p> <p>A purported request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., was received by the Pleasantdale School District 107 via email on March 14, 2025. The request was sent from an unknown source "ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me."</p> <p>We have received a report that this is AI-generated and raises security issues.</p> <p>FOIA only requires the District to respond to requests from a "person" as defined under the statute. Please verify whether this is from a person or is AI-generated. If this is from a person, please provide a more secure email address for the District's response and put the request in the body of the email and not as an attachment.</p> <p>There is no website attached for us to verify that your request is being made for a "commercial purpose." For your reference, FOIA defines "Commercial purpose" broadly to include "the use of any part of a public record or records, or information derived from public records, in any form for sale, resale, or solicitation or advertisement for sales or services." 5 ILCS 140/2(c-10).</p> <p>Please be advised that it is a violation of FOIA for a person to knowingly obtain a public record for a commercial purpose without disclosing that it is for a commercial purpose, if requested to do so by the public body. See 5 ILCS 140/3.1(c).</p>

	<p>Upon receiving your response to all of these inquiries, we will provide further FOIA response(s) within the applicable timeline (21 working days for commercial requests). We will consider all FOIA deadlines to be tolled and start over after your response to our inquiries. Until we receive full responses to our inquiries, the District will not proceed to provide any further substantive FOIA responses or further communications in regards to any requests from "ad.cuius.bonum@proton.me." or any alleged others on behalf of your organization. If we do not hear from you within 30 days, we will consider your request(s) abandoned.</p>
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As the FOIA Officer of the District, Mr. Sonntag is responsible for granting and denying requests for records under the Freedom of Information Act. The District's responses attached to this email intend to be fully responsive to your specific request. If we have misinterpreted your request, please clarify your request to him in writing.

You have a right to appeal a denial of records to the President of the Board of Education by written request directed to the President at the District office 7450 S. Wolf Road, Burr Ridge, IL 60527 within fourteen (14) working days of your receipt of this email.