

Subject: Request For Review

From: Reed Sutman <reed@decaturnote.com>

Date: 10/24/23, 12:31

To: Public Access <Public.Access@ilag.gov>

On August 15th, 2023, I sent a FOIA Request to the Decatur Public School District #61, to Melissa Bradford <MBradford@dps61.org>. On August 23rd, I received an extension letter. On August 29th, I received a response. I am requesting review of the response, regarding the items detailed below. I have attached the initial request email, the full email thread, the response letter, the extension letter and the one document received with the response.

Item #1:

Requested: "The list described by Section 5 of FOIA, as "a reasonably current list of all types or categories of records under its control."

Received: Denial due to "unduly burdensome"

I believe this document should be prepared by the School District and made available, because:

A: 5 ILCS 140, Section 5 states "each public body shall maintain and make available for inspection and copying a reasonably current list of all types or categories of records under its control." Regardless of any burden of preparing such a list, this list is required by Illinois State Law.

B: 5 ILCS 140, Section 3.5 states "Freedom of Information officers shall develop a list of documents or categories of records that the public body shall immediately disclose upon request." Being the District's FOIA Officer, Ms. Bradford is required to "develop a list of documents or categories of records"

Additionally, I have made several requests for this list in the past via email, both to Melissa Bradford and to the District's Attorney Luke Feeney.

Item #8:

I requested: "A list of meetings between District reps & union representatives between October 2022 - August 15, 2023. These should include date, time, location, and description/purpose of the meeting as well as which union is being met with."

I received: "There is no document responsive to this request"

I would like reviewed:

C: Whether this denial is appropriate. Some union meetings have been discussed in the media (once published by me, once on Byers & Co, possibly other times/outlets).

Thanks,
Reed Sutman

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Mx. Reed Sutman (they/them)
DecaturVote.com
217-413-9202

— Attachments: —

RequestEmail.pdf	28.4 KB
EmailThread.pdf	31.5 KB

ExtensionLetter.pdf	1.4 MB
ResponseLetter.pdf	1.9 MB
Union Contact Information.pdf	166 KB