

Decatur Public School District #61 101 West Cerro Gordo Street Decatur IL 62523 – 217.362.3011

Melissa Bradford Freedom of Information Officer

September 13, 2023

Reed Sutman

Phone: 217 413-9202

Email: reed@decaturvote.com

Dear Sutman,

I am in receipt of your Freedom of Information Request (FOIA), which was emailed by you and received by me on Tuesday, August 29, 2023. Decatur Public School's response was due Wednesday, September 06, 2023. **Please note: Monday, September 04, 2023 was a holiday and District offices were closed.** On Wednesday, September 06, 2023, the District extended the time for a response by five business days to Wednesday, September 13, 2023. The FOIA request asked for the following:

Subject: FOIA Request - Bus, August 23 - This request is regarding an August 23 bus incident reported by Herald & Review at https://herald-review.com/news/local/education/decatur-bus-incident-was-false-alarm/article_f2a94dbe-42b1-11ee-a2ad-2fd112c7d188.html, in which the article states "Decatur police, an ambulance and school district personnel were summoned to the scene at North Edward and West Sawyer streets at approximately 4 p.m" I request the following:

- 1. Any and all video footage from the incident
 - a. Response: There is no document responsive to this request.
- 2. Any and all photos of the incident
 - a. Response: There is no document responsive to this request.
- 3. Any and all reports on the incident created by DPS staff or DPS partners/contractors
 - a. Response: There is no document responsive to this request.
- 4. Any and all reports on the incident received from Police
 - a. Response: There is no document responsive to this request.
- 5. Any and all reports on the incident received from Alltown bus service or their partners
 - a. Response: There is no document responsive to this request.
- 6. Name, email, & phone number of the driver involved
 - a. Response: See the attached list titled, "Alltown Seniority List." There is no other document responsive to this request.

- 7. A record of complaints/incidents involving said bus driver. I have a tip that there was a May 19th ticket involving this driver.
 - a. Response: See attached documents titled, "Accident IL Citation Wilbur Felton Bus 16 05.19.23-Redacted and Accident Paperwork Wilbur Felton Alltown 05.19.23-Redacted. There are no other documents responsive to this request.
- 8. A list of district personnel who were "summoned to the scene"
 - a. Response: See attached document titled, "Email Admin at Scene on 08.23.23."
- 9. All texts and emails of those individuals returned by #8, from 2:00pm August 23 to 7:00pm August 23
 - a. Response: See attached document titled, "Emails re Bus on 08.23.23.

This response is intended to comply with your request. Should you feel that the District has misinterpreted your request, or should you wish to clarify your request, please contact the District, in writing, so that it may respond accordingly. Additionally, you are hereby notified, pursuant to Section 9 of the Act (5 ILCS 140/9), of your right to review by the Public Access Counselor:

Ms. Leah Bartelt

Public Access Counselor

Office of the Attorney General

500 S. 2nd Street

Springfield, Illinois 62701

Phone: 1-877-299-FOIA

(1-877-299-3642)

Fax: (217) 782-1396

Email: public.access@ilag.gov

You are further notified that you have the right to judicial review as provided in Section 11 of the Act (5 ILCS 140/11).

Respectfully submitted

Melissa Bradford

Freedom of Information Officer

cc: Dr. Rochelle Clark, Superintendent

Attorney

File