

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

Melissa Bradford  
Freedom of Information Officer

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June 30, 2023

Reed Sutman  
Phone: 217 413-9202  
Email: [reed@decaturvote.com](mailto: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 Friday, June 23, 2023. Decatur Public School's response is due Friday, June 30, 2023. The FOIA request asked for the following:

**Subject:** FOIA Request Under Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, I request:

1. Documents and communications related to the following meetings. I expect a list of attendees, meeting agendas & packets, meeting minutes, audio and video recordings, emails, text messages, memos, chats during the meeting, and any questionnaires or surveys.
  - a. Monday June 19th Webinar meeting regarding the Dennis Schools.  
This should include questions submitted by staff via a question box that was temporarily available as well as the times the question box was available for staff input. This should also include any recordings or notes taken prior to the start of the meeting, and the time each host & attendee joined and exited the webinar.
  - b. Faculty meetings with Dennis Staff for october 24th, 2022; November 2, 2022; February 7, 2023; March 7, 2023; April 17, 2023;
2. All communications related to the Dennis Structural issues (both buildings) between June 1 2022 and June 23, 2023.
  - a. This should include but is not limited to: emails, text messages, facebook messages, phone call records, video call records, and any other communications. This should include all communications with BFW Engineering and Klingner & Associates between September, 2022 and June 22, 2023. This should also include communications regarding purchase orders and contracts. This should include communications with media, including FOIA request & responses to FOIA requests. This should include communications with Kent Metzger's "maintenance foreman and mason," whom he referenced in a May 26th email. This should include emails of administration. This should include emails to and from members of the public expressing opinion or asking questions. Search terms for emails should include "Dennis", "French", "Structural", "Structure", "stair", "parapet", "deteriorate", "mosaic", "kaleidoscope", "damage".  
This request is NOT limited to the search terms I provided.
3. All documents related to the Dennis Structural issues.
  - a. This should include, but is not limited to: purchase orders for any related work, findings from structural inspections performed by BFW, any documentation from

Klingner other than the detailed reports released online, as well as any contracts for work from these or other firms.

4. For both Dennis buildings: Documents and repair records and work records related to the 2013 10-year HLS Surveys, and 2023 annual HLS Surveys performed by the regional superintendent's office for both buildings. As the 10-year surveys are available online, I do not need those.
5. Documents related to inspections and repairs detailed in the Klingner inspections. These should include:
  - a. Dennis: "previous concerns of the basement slab and foundation had led to others drilling two small exploratory holes in the basement floor slab below the lowest portion of the north stair,"
  - b. Dennis: "an [8 inch] steel W-beam was added at some time in the past"
  - c. Dennis: "added brick support pedestals on the east and west ends,"
  - d. Dennis: "it is possible that the columns were added at some time in the past as a repair attempt"
  - e. Dennis: "someone has had to cut the door down to reduce the door height by up to 1" to "allow the doors to be able to swing open."
  - f. French: Previous tuckpointing of mortar joints in the area inspected by Klingner
  - g. French: "The inside face of parapet appears to have been coated and painted to attempt to prevent moisture infiltration of the parapet,"
  - h. French: "A few locations of pocketed roof framing on the south end were observed to have steel straps or shims added in an attempt to prevent the wood framing from pulling out of the pocket"
  - i. French: "Previous attempts to sister some of the water deteriorated roof joists was observed near the north wall bearing."

P.S. I am also seeking the list of records available i.e. "a reasonably current list of all types or categories of records under its control, and the list should be reasonably detailed in order to aid persons in obtaining access to public records."

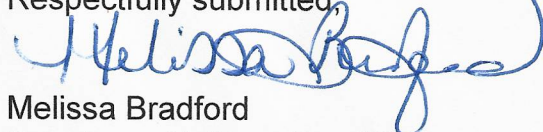
Please be advised that the District is extending the time-period for a response by an additional five business days from the original due date of Friday, June 30, 2023.

We are unable to comply with the request within the five-day time-period without unduly burdening or interfering with the operations of the District and because of the following:

- A substantial number of documents must be searched and/or collected.
- The requested records must be examined and evaluated to determine if they are exempt from disclosure or should be disclosed only with appropriate deletions.

A response to your request will be provided no later than Monday, July 10, 2023. **Please note: Tuesday, July 04, 2023 is a holiday and District offices were closed.**

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Bradford  
Freedom of Information Officer

cc: Dr. Rochelle Clark, Superintendent  
Attorney  
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