

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

Melissa Bradford
Freedom of Information Officer

August 29, 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 15, 2023. Decatur Public School's response was due Tuesday, August 22, 2023. On Wednesday, August 23, 2023, the District extended the time for a response by five business days to Tuesday, August 29, 2023. The FOIA request asked for the following:

Subject: FOIA Request – Unions Under Illinois FOIA, I request the following. Note that voluminous request & recurrent requester do not apply because this is a request made by a news organization to access and disseminate information & for articles in the public interest.

1. The list described by Section 5 of FOIA, as "a reasonably current list of all types or categories of records under its control."
 - a. **Response: Per 5 ILCS 140/3(g), requests calling for all records falling within a category shall be complied with unless compliance with the request would be unduly burdensome for the complying public body and there is no way to narrow the request and the burden on the public body outweighs the public interest in the information. Therefore, the aforesaid review would be unduly burdensome to the District. Please contact the District to confer as to whether your request can be narrowed to a manageable proportion.**
2. A list of union representatives for each of the following unions. Each rep should include name, phone number, title, and email address, and which union they're responsible for. Send as a .csv or .xlsx
 - a. DEA
 - b. DESPA
 - c. DFTA
 - d. SEIU A
 - e. SEIU B
 - f. SEIU C

- g. Teamsters
 - **Response: See the attached document titled, Union Contact Information.” There is no other document responsive to this request.**
- 3. A list of union negotiation committee members for each of the following unions. Each member should include name, phone number, title, email address, and which union they're responsible for. Send as a .csv or .xlsx
 - a. DEA
 - b. DESPA
 - c. DFTA
 - d. SEIU A
 - e. SEIU B
 - f. SEIU C
 - g. Teamsters
 - **Response: There is no document responsive to this request.**
- 4. A list of district representatives responsible for negotiating / communicating with unions for each of the following unions. Each rep should include name, phone number, title, email address, and which union they're responsible for. Send as a .csv or .xlsx
 - a. DEA
 - b. DESPA
 - c. DFTA
 - d. SEIU A
 - e. SEIU B
 - f. SEIU C
 - g. Teamsters
 - **Response: There is no document responsive to this request.**
- 5. Emails from district representatives (#4 above) to union representatives (#2 & #3 above) AND emails from union representatives to District representatives from October 2022 - August 15, 2023, just for the following unions.
 - a. DFTA
 - b. SEIU A
 - c. SEIU B
 - d. SEIU C
 - **Response: Your request, as currently formulated, (emails from district representatives (#4 above) to union representatives (#2 & #3 above) AND emails from union representatives to District representatives from October 2022 - August 15, 2023, just for the following unions DFTA, SEIU A, SEIU B, SEIU C) yields the following hits: DFTA “136,693,” SEIU A “7,603,” SEIU B “7,189,” and SEIU C “3,799” hits. The number of records identified as responsive to your request is unduly burdensome as each individual record must be reviewed and redacted to prevent applicable FOIA exemptions. Again, the aforesaid review would be unduly burdensome to the District. Please contact the District to confer as to whether your request can be narrowed to a manageable proportion.**

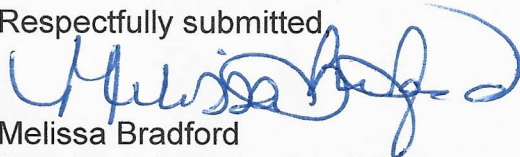
6. Proposed union contracts or any documents requesting modifications to or negotiations about union contracts from October 2022 - August 15, 2023 for any of the unions
 - a. **Response: The 5 ILCS 140/7 (1)(p) includes the following exemption – (p) Records relating to collective negotiating matters between public bodies and their employees or representatives, except that any final contract or agreement shall be subject to inspection and copying. Therefore, there are no documents responsive to your request.**
7. A copy of the current contract with SEIU A, Custodians & SEIU B, Maintenance. I received a tip that the copies posted online may be incorrect, so please send copies & do not link me to the online copies.
 - a. **Response: Decatur Public Schools current union contracts are located on our website by entering the following link:**
<https://www.dps61.org/Page/167>
8. 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.
 - a. **Response: There is no document responsive to this request.**

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
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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
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