Rec'd 6/5/2013

Freedom of Information Office
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001
ATTN: FOIA Request

Re: Illinois Freedom of Information Act Request

Dear Matt Vonover,

This is a request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140.

I am requesting an opportunity to obtain copies of public records of all student grade and course history from 2000 and on. The best format of the data requested would be in an electronic format (CSV, excel, or similar), containing a set of raw data files from the public school systems of Illinois pertaining to all information after the year 2000 or whichever earliest year electronic records are readily available, for the history of all individual grades issued for each class from each Illinois school, grades K through 12. This data would ideally include School District, School, Class Code, Class Name, Teacher, Student ID (no names in order to protect identity, however an anonymized ID in order to track progress over time would be ideal), grade given for the course 0-4 or A-F, grade level K-12, session of the class (Q1/Q2/Q3/Q4) and year of the class, course subjects/categories if available (science, math, english, arts, pe, etc) and any other collected information pertaining to individual records on a non-individually identifiable basis (race, gender, age).

This dataset could be sent either via a mutually agreed to upload to a FTPS site which I can coordinate with your IT team, or via CD/DVD.

I understand that the Act permits a public body to charge a reasonable copying fee not to exceed the actual cost of reproduction and not including the costs of any search or review of the records. 5 ILCS 140/6. If there are any fees for searching or copying these records, please inform me if the cost will exceed $250. However, I would also like to request a waiver of all fees in that the disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest and will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the public education system.

I look forward to hearing from you in writing within seven working days, as required by the Act. 5 ILCS 140(3).

Thanks,

Martin Zych