July 10, 2014

Rose Joshua
Chicago Southside NAACP

Dear Ms. Joshua:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Your request was received on June 25, 2014.

On June 26, ISBE’s Megan Griffin assisted you in locating the SIG applications and award amounts for 2010-2011 through 2014-2015 via the ISBE website. You also indicated you are interested in obtaining information regarding Gresham Elementary School specifically. On July 2, our agency requested a five-day extension until July 10, 2014.

You have requested the following:


Response 1: As previously mentioned, all applications and award amounts for 2010-2011 through 2014-2015 are located on the ISBE website at the following link: http://www.isbe.net/sos/htmls/sip_1003.htm.

In FY 08 (2007-2008), ISBE did not hold a SIG competition.

In FY 09 (2008-2009), the competition was labeled under a different title known as SIP(g). Two District 299 schools were awarded in FY 09: Harper High School and Fulton Elementary School. Please see the attached documents (14-391-joshua-doc1.pdf and 14-391-joshua-doc2.pdf) to view their applications.

Gresham Elementary was on the list of schools in federal status in 2007, but according to the list of applications, Gresham did not submit an application.

For FY 09 and FY 10, our agency has retained applications for schools that were awarded, but has not retained applications for all schools that applied for the grant.
In FY 10 (2009-2010), a total of 23 District 299 school applications were received, of which eight new awards were given: Brunson Math and Science Specialty Academy, Copernicus Elementary, Earle Elementary, Fenger Academy High School, Fulton Elementary, Harper High School, Jackson Elementary, Julian High School, Yale Elementary and Youth Connections Charter School. Please see the attached documents (14-391-joshua-doc3.pdf through 14-391-joshua-doc12.pdf) to view their applications.

Once again, Gresham Elementary was on the list of eligible schools, but did not submit an application.

In FY 11, funding for previous awards was zeroed out, and SIG 1003(g) came to be as we know it today. A new RFP was released at that time. In FY 11 through FY 14, only high schools were eligible for the grant.

Please note we have withheld signatures in the documents as unique personal identifiers pursuant to 5 ILCS 14017 (1) (b).

Request 2: "The State of Illinois applications for SIGs under Title I for District 299 for the above stated years."

Response 2: The district applications for 2010-2011 through 2014-2015 can be viewed on the ISBE website via the above link. Prior to FY 2011, districts were not required to submit applications for the grant, only schools were required to apply.

Request 3: "The amounts of grant awards, if any, for the above years."


Request 4: "Copies of any and all contracts for the above years awarded to Lead Partners and other professionals to assist District 299, specifically the Academy for Urban School Leadership."

Response 4: Our agency does not maintain contracts for Lead Partners. If the schools chose to include a Memo of Understanding (MOU) with a Lead Partner, it is located within the provided applications. For additional information regarding Lead Partners and/or the Academy for Urban School Leadership, we recommend contacting District 299 directly.

If you have questions, please contact Megan Griffin at (217) 782-4648 or mgriffin@isbe.net.
Sincerely,

Marcilene Dutton  
Deputy General Counsel

Attachments