

From: Crystal Ritzenthaler ()
To: John Meegan
Date: Monday, March 23, 2009 2:26:30 PM
Subject: Re: Open Records request-Urgent

John,

Per your request, the e-mail communication is enclosed in the body of this response. Mr. Mortimer and Mr. Maxwell have both been notified that this information has been released. Crystal

Crystal Ritzenthaler, Ed. D.
District Administrator
Baraboo School District
101 Second Avenue
Baraboo, WI 53913

"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision is just passing time. Vision with action can change the world." ~Joel Barker~

>>> Judd Maxwell 03/21/09 12:28 AM >>>
Hello Ed,

I have always wondered why you make so darn many requests for information, when most of your questions and/or concerns could be handled by having a direct conversation with the District Administrator. Sometime, anytime, at least once during the course of your first full year on the Board. (Personally, I believe you are afraid of Crystal:) But now it all makes sense. The information requests were not just for you, but instead for other(s) in the public, so they may use them as their resources for writing mailbag letters. Pretty clever Mort. Now I am finally beginning to fully understand how your accountability game works. Nice job!

Sincerely,
Judd

PS - Please do me a favor in your next round of requests from the administration: Ask them how many public tax dollars were spent copying each board member a full ream or more of paper, so we can have the same vitally important information as you . Oh yeah, you might want to ask for records of all the staff time it takes our employees to gather these requests, as you and I both know they probably have nothing better to do. Keep up the good work!

>>> John Meegan <[redacted]> 3/23/2009 10:59 AM >>>

The sender was Judd Maxwell. The subject line would contain the words: Now it finally makes sense.

I trust this is reasonably specific. Thanks for your help.
John Meegan

From: Crystal Ritzenthaler
To: John Meegan <
Sent: Monday, March 23, 2009 9:02:52 AM
Subject: Re: Open Records request-Urgent

Mr. Meegan:

Thank you for the email. As the records custodian for the District, I have reviewed your request and am taking steps to respond.

At the outset, however, I am hoping that you can narrow the scope of your request. Specifically, I am hoping that you can identify both the subject matter of the email and the sender of the email. By narrowing the scope of the request, it will help me to locate the document quickly. You may also be aware that the Public Records Law also states that requests must be reasonably limited in subject matter and time in order to be sufficient under the law.

Please also be aware that, pursuant to the Public Records Law, I intend to charge for any costs associated with this request, including location costs if they exceed \$50 and prepayment for any costs that exceed \$5. As a result, the time involved in locating the records and seeking prepayment may make it difficult for me to respond within your identified time frame. Also, depending on the content of the email, I may be required to give notice to certain employees or local public officials before disclosing the records. If so, I will not be able to respond within the time frame that you identified.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience whether you are able to narrow the scope of your request. If do not hear from you by the end of the business day, I will proceed with processing your request as stated below. Let me know, however, whether you still want me to proceed with this request, considering that I may not be able to provide you with the records by the school board meeting tonight. Again, if I do not hear from you by the end of the business day, I will proceed with processing your request. Thank you. Crystal

Crystal Ritzenthaler, Ed. D.
District Administrator
Baraboo School District
101 Second Avenue
Baraboo, WI 53913

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>>> John Meegan <[redacted]> 3/22/2009 2:13 PM >>>
Hi Crystal,

Please consider this an open records request for all email received by Baraboo School Board member Ed Mortimer at: [REDACTED] for the period 6PM 3/20/09 through 6AM 3/21/09 where the sender of the message was another Baraboo School Board member. This is relevant to a topic to be considered at tomorrow night's board meeting, so time is of the essence. Thank you.

John Meegan
S4436 Johnson Rd.
Baraboo, WI 53913