June 15, 2010

Larry Gavin
Evanston RoundTable
1141 Florence Avenue
Evanston, Illinois 60201

Dear Mr. Gavin:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Your request was received on 6/1/10.

You have requested documents concerning ISAT and ISAT-SAT 10.

Request 1 - "In a November 9, 2009 email (pasted below), ISBE said, "Each SAT 10 form begins as a full length form composed of more than 50 items. A subset of items from the full length form is selected as an abbreviated version that conforms to SAT 10 rules." Please provide us with a copy of the SAT 10 rules that are referred to, and documents reflecting how the questions selected for the 2009 ISATs conform to the rules."

Response 1 - ISBE has no documents responsive to this request. This inquiry should be directed to Pearson. The appropriate contact person at Pearson is:

Adam Gaber
212-641-6118
adam.gaber@pearson.com.

Request 2 - "Please provide us with a copy of documents that reflect the correct response rate to the questions on the 2009 ISAT-SAT 10, and the correct response rate to all other questions on the non-abbreviated form of the SAT 10 used during the same time frame."

Response 2 - See Attachment 2. Note that ISBE does administer the non-abbreviated SAT 10.

Request 3 - "Please provide us with a copy of any documents reflecting whether Illinois students have the same relative amount of time to take the abbreviated form of the SAT 10 as students taking the full version of the test, and documents that explain how that is monitored and determined."
Response 3 - The SAT10 is not a “speeded” test (i.e., students are given as much time as needed). See Attachment 3, which was provided by Pearson. It lists proposed times for purposes of planning.

Request 4 - “In the November 9, 2009 email (pasted below) ISBE says, "Scores on the abbreviated form are equated to those from the full length form so that the norms from 2002 can be used." Please provide us with a copy of documents that set out the methodology or equating procedure, and that reflect its application for the 2009 ISAT-SAT 10.”

Response 4 – See Response 1.

Request 5 - “Please provide us with a copy of any study that ISBE, Pearson or any other entity conducted which specifically reports on, analyzes or discusses whether the abbreviated form of the SAT 10 embedded in the 2006 ISATs, the 2007 ISATs, the 2008 ISATs or the 2009 ISATs generates reliable normative data on a national basis.”

Response 5 – See Response 1.

Request 6 - “Please provide us with any documents, including emails, memoranda, letters, and handwritten notes that discuss, analyze or comment on the difference in the normative results reported on ISAT-SAT 10 and the normative results of Illinois students on the National Assessment of Education Progress, the Measure of Academic Progress Test, or EXPLORE.”

Response 6 – ISBE has no documents responsive to this request.

Request 7 - “Please provide us with copies of all emails, documents, and memoranda (including all drafts) that relate in any way to or refer to or were prepared, sent or received by ISBE or Pearson in connection with the RoundTable’s request for information set out in the May 4, 2010 email pasted below.”

Response 7 – See Attachment 7.

If you have questions, contact Mark Wancket at 217-782-4648.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Matt Vanover
Director of Public Information

Enclosures