Rec’d 6/1/10

Request Under Freedom of Information Act

Dear Sir or Madame:

The Evanston RoundTable, L.L.C. (RoundTable), publishes the Evanston RoundTable newspaper in Evanston, Illinois. The RoundTable is submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). This request seeks information relating to the abbreviated version of the Stanford Achievement Test, edition 10 (“SAT 10”) that is embedded in the Illinois Standard Achievement Test (the “ISAT”). The abbreviated form of the SAT 10 that is embedded in the ISAT is referred to as the “ISAT-SAT 10”.

Please provide us with copies of the documents or information described below. This request covers documents and all retrievable information in computer storage.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.
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.

If you have any questions concerning this, please contact me at info@evanstonroundtable.com or at 847.864.7741. Please advise me of any duplication costs. Thank you, Larry Gavin, editor, Evanston RoundTable, 1141 Florence Ave., Evanston, Illinois, 60201