RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

April 17, 2011

To: The Board of Education / Chicago Public School

My name is [redacted] and I am the father of a student at Arnold Morales Elementary Academy. As a concerned parent, I would like answers to the following questions in whatever form they may be contained in. I'm asking for documents, pamphlets, examples of certificates given to teachers, an index of the State's curriculum, and any other paper that will lead me to narrow any future requests. Please, I'm trying to help everyone involved and answers now will help to make that happen.

1) What are the requirements to become a teacher?

2) Does qualification include certification? If so, what do teachers have to accomplish to become certified?

3) Do teachers at Chicago Public School have to be certified to teach full- or part-time?

4) Do teachers have any say-so in where they teach?

5) What are the determining factors in how State funds are disbursed for educational purposes?

6) Does the Chicago Public School have minimum/maximum student capacity per classroom?

7) Since the "No Child Left Behind" initiative came into existence, is it still possible for students to fail a grade level? Or, are students allowed to go to the next grade level no matter the overall test scores?

8) What effect does the overall test scores of an entire school have on an individual school and those in the district?
9) Are the subjects and learning materials - books, computers, classes, etc. - the same throughout the State? if not, what makes that so?

10) What are the steps in deciding to close or merge a school?

11) What steps are taken to insure the safety of students upon switching schools when there is a merger?

Thank you for your time and cooperation! It is greatly appreciated!

Mr.

P.S. Addresses to all school districts, Chicago Public School, regional superintendents, and any other necessary entity relating to K-12 education will help.