January 5, 2012

Timothy D. Denny
Ferrich/Mager/Green/Ryan Attorneys
2001 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 1570
Carbondale, Illinois 62903

Dear Mr. Denny:

This letter is in response to your recent request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Your request was received on Dec. 28.

You have requested “any and all documents within the possession of the Illinois State Board of Education regarding the petition to form an optional elementary unit district within the territory of Lick Creek District 16, Anna District 37, Jonesboro District 43 and Anna-Jonesboro Community High School District 81. This request includes any and all documents received by the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent of Education not in the official transcript of proceedings before the Regional Superintendent of Schools, Janet Ulrich. This includes, but is not limited to, any post hearing briefs by the parties, or any and all correspondence to State Superintendent Koch and the State Board of Education.”

Documents totaling 859 pages have been located that are responsive to your request. The duplication cost is $121.35 (809 pages x .15 per page). Note that there is no charge for the first 50 pages. Please direct a check to the attention of Amanda Simhauser – made payable to the Illinois State Board of Education. The agency’s FOIA guidelines can be found at the following location: http://www.isbe.net/htmls/foia.htm.

Please note that certain preliminary and draft documents have been identified that we consider to be exempt from disclosure. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f), documents that the agency believes fall under this exemption are currently being withheld.

Additionally, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7 (1) (m), the release of some portions of the requested records is being denied as disclosure would breach the attorney-client privilege.

Also, note that the responsive documents provided include public hearing appearance slips. Home addresses have been redacted on these slips as the disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c).
If you have questions, please contact Amanda Simhauser at (217) 782-4648 or asimhaus@isbe.net.

Sincerely,

Matt Vanover
Director of Public Information