Rec’d on 1/3/2012

Mary, Matt, Mark,

Below is a request for information that I made on Oct. 31. It was not a formal FOIA, but I expected to receive the information in a timely manner. If you sent the information to me, possibly to a wrong address, please let me know as soon as possible. To my knowledge, I have received only one piece of the information requested – summary statistics for irregularities on the 2011 ISAT. (Mary said summary statistics had only been compiled for the past two years -- 2011 and 2010.)

I am now reiterating my Oct. 31 request, with some additions, and emphasize that this is a request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

Please provide:
/Any available summary statistics of testing irregularities for the PSAE in 2010 and 2011.
/Any records of any kind that would show the type and volume of ISAT and PSAE testing irregularities in each of the testing years between 2002 and 2009. If a summary statistics record was not created each year, there should be some documentation that would reveal the number and types of irregularities over the years.
/Any records of any kind related to the 124 total ISAT incidents reported in 2010 and the 83 total ISAT incidents reported in 2011 (based on the summary statistics for irregularities in both years), including the districts and schools involved and any district fact-finding investigations provided to the state.
/Any records of any kind related to incidents of irregularities reported in connection with the PSAE in 2010 and 2011, including the districts and schools involved and any district fact-finding investigations provided to the state.
/Any additional records or updates on the erasure analysis ordered by State Schools Supt. Chris Koch. Previously some contract documents relating to the erasure analysis were provided. I’m requesting the results of the analysis or any update on the analysis, including any correspondence related to the analysis between ISBE and the contractor involved.

I request a waiver of all fees for this request. As a member of the media, I believe disclosure of the requested information is in the public interest. I also ask that if I am the first to file a FOIA for this information, based on the date and time of this email, that I be the first to receive the responsive documents.

If you have any questions, please contact me,

Diane Rado
Education reporter
Chicago Tribune
708-498-4248 (Office)
drado@tribune.com
3 Westbrook Corporate Center
Suite 800
Westchester, IL 60154