Freedom of Information Office  
Illinois State Board of Education  
100 North First Street  
Springfield, IL  62777-0001  

Attn: FOIA Request  
Mr. Matt Vanover  
Mr. Mark Wancket  

Re: FOIA request for information or documents related to converting raw scores to scaled scores on Illinois Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)  

To Whom It May Concern:  

This is a request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140. I request that the following information or documents be provided to me.  

It is our understanding from documents previously provided to us that a panel was assembled by the ISBE, or under the auspices of the ISBE, to make recommendations about the scores that should be considered to be passing scores for the Basic Skills Test. It is our understanding that the panel recommended the following to be passing scores:  

Reading: 25  
Language arts: 22  
Mathematics: 16  
Writing: 8  

And we understand that the ISBE instead adopted higher scores as required passing scores.  

Scores on the sub-tests are reported to students as scaled scores, with passing scores set at 240. For each of the panel recommended scores, please explain what is the equivalent scaled score.
In other words, if a student scored a 25 on the Reading portion of the exam, how would that be recorded as a scaled score? If a student scored a 22 on the Language Arts portion of the exam, how would that be reported as a scaled score? If a student scored a 16 on the Mathematics portion of the exam, how would that be reported as a scaled score? And if a student scored an 8 on the Writing portion of the exam, how would that be reported as a scaled score?

If you are unable or unwilling to answer these questions in a narrative format, please provide those documents in your possession that show how scores on the respective sub-parts of the Basic Skills Test are converted into scaled scores.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul Strauss
Co-Director of Litigation