To: ISBE FOIA Officer Matt Vanover; FOIA Coordinator Mark Wancket; Fax No. 217 524 8585
From: Rosalind Rossi, Chicago Sun-Times
Re: FOIA ISAT/PSAE irregularities AMENDED for 2004 to present and adding No. 5
Date: Thursday Oct 13, 2011

Dear FOIA Officer,

This is a request for public information, as provided for under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (Public Law 83-1013).

Please send us the following information, AS EACH PIECE OF IT BECOMES AVAILABLE. Please provide data, where possible, in an Excel or other spreadsheet format.

1) From 2004 (amended from 2001) to the present, the number of people, schools and districts investigated each year for ISAT vs PSAE irregularities; who/what agency brought the case to ISBE; the conclusion of the investigation; the names of all schools or districts in which irregularities were substantiated; the name, titles and employer of each person disciplined as a result of those investigations and the discipline meted out.

2) any and all reports, analyses or correspondence, both electronic and written, involving four Illinois school districts that, according to Matt Vanover, came to ISBE in the spring of 2011 with suspicious state test results. This should include, but not be limited to, any documents/results that each district provided to ISBE.

3) Any and all reports, analyses or correspondence, both electronic and written, involving three school districts that supposedly came forward in 2009 or 2010 to say they had discovered suspicious state test results. This should include, but not be limited to, any documents/results that each district provided to ISBE.

4) Any contracts or correspondence, both electronic and written, with any contractor, consultant or outside vendor regarding the cost and protocol for checking for ISAT or PSAE test result irregularities since 2009.

5) The protocol for checking for suspicious 2010 and 2011 ISAT/PSAE test results, including: the number and percent of ISATs vs PSAEs examined; the number and percent of k-8 vs high schools examined; the method of examination.

If there is an easier or more accurate way to get at the same information, or if you have any questions, please call me at 312 321 or email me at rrossi@suntimes.com before filling this request.

Otherwise, please email the information to me at rrossi@suntimes.com AS EACH PIECE OF IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.
If any of this request is denied, please list the specific exemptions on which you are relying to withhold the information.

As the FOIA requires, I will expect to receive the remaining, non-exempt portion within five working days.

I will pay reasonable costs for the materials. However, I request that you waive any such fees under the provision of the FOIA that permits you to do so when release of the requested information would be in the public interest. If you determine otherwise, please notify me of the costs before filling my request.

Thank you for your help in this effort.

Cordially,

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