Rec’d 1/28/2013

Mr. Matt Vanover, FOIA Officer

Dear Mr. Vanover:

The Evanston RoundTable, L.L.C. (RoundTable), publishes the Evanston RoundTable newspaper in Evanston, Illinois. The RoundTable is submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE).

A memorandum from Christopher A. Koch and Susan C. Morrison to the Illinois State Board of Education, subject ISAT Performance Levels, for the January 23-23, 2013 ISBE meeting, states in part:

“Student Assessment Division staff utilized an “equipercentile equating process” to determine the new performance levels. With this process, a cohort-student group analysis was used to backmap performance levels from the Prairie State Achievement Examination (PSAE) to the 8th grade ISAT performance. The results of this process were then used to backmap from 8th grade data to 7th grade data and through 3rd grade data. Subsequent to these analyses, the process was presented to the Technical Advisory Committee for ISBE.”

Please provide us with copies of the documents described below. This request covers documents and all retrievable information in computer storage.

1. Copies of all studies, analyses, reports, memoranda, charts or other documents that were prepared as part of or that refer to the equipercentile equating process, the cohort-student group analysis, and the backmapping referred to in the memo quoted above.

2. Copies of all studies, analyses, reports, memoranda, charts or other documents prepared or reviewed by the Technical Advisory Committee as part of the process referred to in the memo quoted above.

3. All other studies or reports prepared by or on behalf of ISBE that equate goal attempts to equate ISAT scores with PSAE “meet standards” scores or to equate ISAT scores with college readiness benchmarks of the EXPLORE or ACT tests between March 8, 2012 and the present.

If you have any questions concerning this, please contact me at info@evanstonroundtable.com or at 847-864-7741. The information may be provided in digital format by email. Please advise me of any duplication costs. Thank you, Larry Gavin, editor, Evanston RoundTable, 1141 Florence Ave., Suite 3, Evanston, Illinois 60201.

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