Dear Ms. Weiss:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Your request was received on June 20, 2014.

You have requested the following:

Request 1: “I. All records related to Acacia Academy's day program, including, but not limited to, all materials submitted or gathered in connection with or related in any manner to the application of Acacia Academy for ISBE/GPCRB approval status and the ISBE's investigation and response to same.”

Response 1: The attached documents (14-383-weiss-doc1.pdf through 14-383-weiss-doc35.pdf) have been provided in response to this portion of your request.

Please be advised that we have withheld signatures and Illinois Educator Identification Numbers (IEIN) contained in the documents pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7 (1) (b). Additionally, student group sizes of less than 10 have been redacted pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7 (1) (a). Even in the absence of disclosing student names, small group sizes could reveal student identities.

Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7 (1) (a), we are withholding documents prohibited from disclosure by federal or state law, specifically Section 10-2 1.9 (e-5) of the Illinois School Code and the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (ANCRA) pursuant to 325 ILCS 5/11, 5/11.1 (12).

Request 2: “Any and all materials relative to ISBE's post-approval monitoring of this facility.”

Response 2: Our agency has no records of post-approval monitoring of this facility. Therefore, we have no documents responsive to this portion of your request.

Request 3: “Any and all complaints filed in regards to Acacia Academy along with any records documenting the response and outcome of those complaints.”
Response 3: Our agency does not have a formal complaint process for nonpublic special education programs. Therefore, we do not have any documents to provide in response to this portion of your request because complaints are not “filed.”

If a call were taken regarding a concern, ISBE would have followed up with the program to determine whether any findings should be issued. No phone calls were taken that resulted in the issuance of a finding. If there was a complaint regarding special education services, the complaint would have gone through the agency’s complaint department against the district, as the district is responsible for the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and for ensuring that all services are implemented as required by the IEP.

If you have questions, please contact Megan Griffin at (217) 782-4648 or mgriffin@isbe.net.

Sincerely,

Marcilene Dutton
Deputy General Counsel

Attachments