Sept. 15, 2014

Vincent Miles

Dear Dr. Miles:

This letter is in response to your request for information under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. Your request was received on Sept. 8, 2014.

You have requested the following:

Request 1: The 1990 revision of the Illinois State Board of Education publication entitled “Guide to Long- and Short-Term Borrowing for Illinois Public School Districts” which was distributed to the school districts of the state.

Response 1: ISBE’s Megan Griffin contacted you via email in order to obtain your mailing address. Once we receive your address, we will mail the document in response to this portion of your request.

Request 2: The initial publication of the Guide which appears to have been published in May of 1985 by the Illinois Financial Accounting Committee.

Response 2: Our agency does not have a copy of this guide to provide in response to this portion of your request.


Response 3: To our knowledge, no revisions have been made to the 1990 edition.

Request 4: Reproductions of any other guide, handbook, bulletin, publication, etc. published by the Illinois State Board of Education since 1970 wherein the topic of bond issuance is covered with the intended audience again being all of the school districts of the state.

Response 4: The publication known as Mechanics of the School District Budget (2013) can be viewed via the following link: http://www.isbe.net/sfms/budget/mechanics.pdf.
The publication known as *The Illinois State, Local and Federal Financing for Illinois Public Schools (2000-2001)* can be viewed via the following link:
http://www.isbe.state.il.us/sfms/pdf/sff01.pdf.

Our agency has only hard copies of this same publication for each year from 1979-1980 to 1999-2000 and one copy of the 1973-1974 edition. There are approximately 3,000 pages in total. If you would like to obtain hard copies of each yearly edition at $.15 per page (with no charge for the first 50 pages), please contact ISBE’s Megan Griffin for further details and an exact total amount.

Request 5: Any legal opinions (and other publications) published by the Illinois State Board of Education regarding whether or not a school district must hold a referendum before a) Purchasing land upon which a new school building intended to house students will be built and/or b) Building a new school building intended to house students on that newly purchased land.

Response 5: The only records we have in response to this portion of your request are legal opinions. Pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/7 (1) (m), legal opinions have been withheld as disclosure of such opinions would breach the attorney/client privilege.

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

Sincerely,

Matt Vanover
Director of Public Information